

# SYNOPSIS



## Silent Night, Holy Night: A Message of Peace

### Stille Nacht - Ein Lied geht um die Welt

When assistant priest Joseph Mohr wrote the text to «Silent Night» in 1816 and teacher Franz Xaver Gruber set it to music two years later, no-one imagined that it would become the most well known Christmas carol in the world, sung today in over 350 languages and dialects around the globe. In a time of acute poverty and political disturbance following the Napoleonic wars, Joseph Mohr and Franz Xaver Gruber wanted to reassure people in their area, many of whom were sailors, by producing a simple Christmas carol with guitar accompaniment for the local sailor's church. This documentary follows the development of the song, by searching out the traces and places of its composition and setting it in the wider historical context. Original documents, re-enactments and interviews with experts shed light on the true origins of «Silent Night», beyond the many legends which surround it.

Available in 1x23 min. / 1x44 min.

**Year:** 2008

**Run-Time:** 1 x 23 min.

**Directed by** Renate Lachinger

**ORF**

**Languages:** German (ORIGINAL)

**Format:** 16:9

» [SCREEN ONLINE](#)