

# Charlie Chaplin

16 April 1889 - 25 December 1977

English actor, filmmaker and composer



## Private life

- \* from a very poor family
- \* parents = music hall performers
- \* was sent to a workhouse twice (mother sent to mental asylum.)
- \* married 4 times - 11 children



## Career :

- began performing as a child (music hall, comedian)
- 1908 : moved to America
- developed the Tramp persona and became very popular
- 1919 : co-founded the distribution company United Artists
- 1940s : forced to leave the USA, because of suspicions of communist sympathies
- Settled in Switzerland

## What to remember of his career?



# one of the most important figures of the film industry, especially in the silent era  
# **wrote, directed, produced, starred in and composed the music for most of his films**

& major works : The Kid (1921), The Gold Rush (1925), City Lights (1931), Modern Times (1936), The Dictator (1940) : Chaplin satirized Hitler and attacked fascism

✿ many of his films contain social and political themes as well as autobiographical elements