

# **45 Profiles in MODERN MUSIC**

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J. WESTON  
**WALCH**  
PUBLISHER

Portland, Maine

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# To the Teacher

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This book was designed to add information and interest to music, humanities, and history classes. It can be used independently or to accompany any text or course of study. The major thought behind its construction is the need for additional information about musicians of the twentieth century that your class is interested in or happens to be studying. The information can be used by those students who are reading well below level or by students who want to know basic facts about a musician they are interested in.

The biographies in this collection were selected as the ones most apt to be of importance to music, humanities, and modern history classes. Many of the chosen individuals led lives of high interest. Many of them overcame great problems during their lifetime. Some were accepted as great musicians in spite of their problems. Others spent their lives seeking acceptance for themselves and their music. Familiar names appear in this collection. Other names not so familiar appear as well. All those selected for inclusion in this volume made an impact on the world of music.

How can you best use this book? The pages with a copyright line at the bottom are reproducible. You can make as many copies of them as you need for students in your classes. Since each biography and accompanying puzzle is self-contained, you can start anywhere and hand out one or as many sections as you wish. You can have students use the biographies independently, in small groups, or as a class.

Each puzzle offers a quick review of the biography that precedes it. Included are hidden-word, crisscross, and fill-in puzzles. The answers come directly from the readings, where they appear in bold type. You can find a list of answers to all the puzzles at the back of this book.

Students should be able to do both the readings and the puzzles without supervision. Those who complete a biography and puzzle in one class period are likely to be willing and even eager to repeat the performance when next given the opportunity.

The study of those who made music is often more interesting than the study of musical ideas and works. Students relating to musicians are likely to become interested in studying the music these people produced. This collection allows students of elementary school reading ability to explore the lives of the interesting and great in twentieth-century music without having to fight a reading handicap.

# To the Student

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## Pronunciation Guide

Like any book about music, this one contains names that are hard to pronounce. Some of the most difficult names are listed here. If you have trouble with other names in the book, ask your teacher for help or look the names up in a dictionary.

Sergey Rachmaninoff	Sair-GAY Rock-MON-in-off
Arnold Schoenberg	AR-nuld SHERN-berg
Igor Stravinsky	E-gore Stra-VIN-ski
Count Basie	Kount BAY-see
Mahalia Jackson	Ma-HAY-lee-a JACK-son
Thelonius Monk	Tha-LONE-ee-us Monk
Joan Baez	Jone By-EZ

## Directions for Puzzles

### Hidden Word

Read each clue listed below the puzzle. In the reading, find the word or words answering that clue. Fill in the blank to the left of the clue. Then find the word you chose in the letter maze. Circle each answer as you find it in the maze. Some answers run up and down. Some are spelled backwards. A few overlap each other. Some run diagonally.

### Crisscross

In the reading, find the correct answer for each clue listed below the puzzle. Place the answer in the puzzle, one letter for each square. If there are two words in the answer, do not skip a square. Be sure to put the answer in the squares numbered the same as the clue.

### Fill-ins

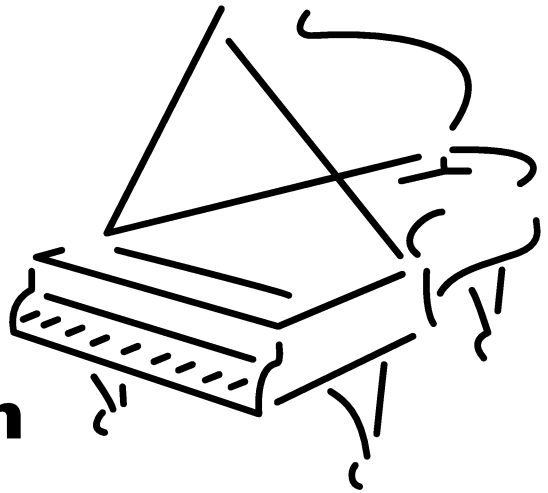
Read the clues given below the puzzle. Then find each answer in the reading. Spell out the answers in the spaces provided. One letter of each answer has already been filled in.



# Arthur Rubinstein

(1889–1982)

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Arthur Rubinstein was born in **Lodz, Poland**. His father owned a textile factory. Arthur's father knew that his son had talent. At four, the boy began to study piano. By six, he performed a charity concert in Warsaw. At eight, he was sent to study with Professor **Rozycki** at the **Warsaw** Conservatory of Music. Professor Rozycki soon realized that Arthur was so good there was little he could teach him.

Arthur's older sister went to **Berlin** to get married. She took Arthur with her. In Berlin, Arthur performed for Joseph **Joachim**, a well-known violinist. Joachim was impressed with Arthur. He made plans for the boy's future study. He became Arthur's part-time teacher. And he arranged for Heinrich **Barth** to teach him piano. Robert Kahn and Max Bruch gave him lessons in harmony and arranging music. At 12, Arthur made his formal debut in Berlin, playing a **Mozart** piano concerto.

Later, Arthur moved to Paris. In Paris, he learned about modern music. He got to know many artists and writers. He became known as one of the most promising young musicians of the time.

At the age of 17, Rubinstein came to the United States. In New York, he played at **Carnegie Hall**. He got some good reviews. But he played in a way Americans were not used to hearing. After 75 concerts, Rubinstein returned to Europe. He was upset because Americans didn't seem to like his playing. He decided to "retire" and take some time to grow up and

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study. At 21, Rubinstein returned to the concert stage. Within four years, he became Europe's top-ranking concert pianist.

When World War I broke out, Rubinstein was in **London**. He offered to help the Allies. He had a skill they needed. He could speak *eight* languages. He was so angry at the Germans that he promised never to perform in **Germany** again.

In 1916, Rubinstein went to **Spain** to play four concerts. He was so popular he ended up playing 125 concerts. He was invited to perform in South America. As in Spain, the people of South America didn't want his tour to end. He came to the United States again and performed. But as before, North American audiences did not respond warmly.

Rubinstein returned to Europe. At the age of 43, he married **Aniela** Mylarski. After the wedding, Rubinstein took time off to think about his work. He spent a whole summer practicing and reviewing his style. He added a great deal to his playing technique. He persuaded his manager, **Sol Hurok**, to try the United States once more. Again, he opened in Carnegie Hall. This time he got great reviews. Some writers even apologized for the bad reviews that had appeared earlier.

When World War II began, Rubinstein was in France. He moved his family to the United States. He set up a home in California. He became a United States citizen in 1946. In his later years, Rubinstein donated his talents to charity. The money from the ticket sales was given to a good cause. Sometimes he gave a half dozen concerts in a 10-day period. Rubinstein was one of the truly great concert pianists of this century.



### *Arthur Rubinstein*

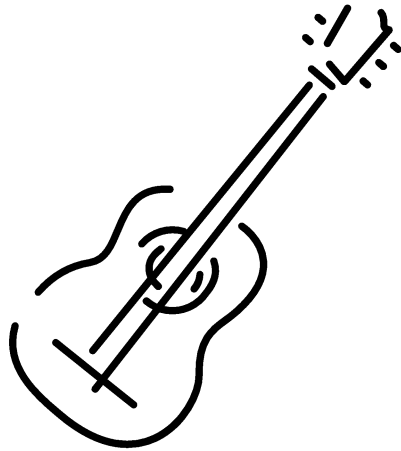
1.            — — — **C** — — —
2.                   — **O** — —
3.            — — **N** — — —
4.                   **C** — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
5.                   — **E** — — — — —
6.            — — **R** — —
7.            — — — **T** —
  
8.                               **P** — — — — —
9.   — — — — — — — **I**
10.                   — **A** — — — — —
11.           — — — — — **N** —
12.                   — — **I** — — — —
13.                               **S** — — — — —
14.           — — — — — **T**

1. Joseph \_\_\_ made plans for Arthur's training.
2. The town in which Arthur was born.
3. Rubinstein was in this city when World War I broke out.
4. Rubinstein's American debut was held at \_\_\_ \_\_\_.
5. Arthur's sister took him to this city.
6. Sol \_\_\_ was Rubinstein's manager.
7. Heinrich \_\_\_ was Arthur's piano teacher in Berlin.
8. The country in which Rubinstein was born.
9. Professor \_\_\_ taught eight-year-old Arthur.
10. Rubinstein studied at the \_\_\_ Conservatory of Music.
11. Rubinstein vowed never to play another concert in this country.
12. First name of Rubinstein's wife.
13. In 1916, Rubinstein went to \_\_\_ for a concert tour.
14. For his Berlin debut, Arthur played a piece by \_\_\_.

# Woody Guthrie

(1912–1967)

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Perhaps more than any other singer in America, Woody Guthrie spoke for common people. He traveled around the country, singing for his food and keep. The songs he wrote are a firsthand account of what life was like for the poorer classes in America.

**Woodrow** Wilson Guthrie was born in **Okemah, Oklahoma**. His grandmother was one of the first log cabin schoolteachers in that state. His father, who came from **Texas**, was a prizefighter and a very good guitarist. There were five children in the Guthrie family. The family liked to sing songs and ballads together. Woody sold newspapers and sang for pennies.

Woody's family was hit with one disaster after another. His father's business folded. The family's house burned down. Woody's sister, **Clara**, was killed in an oil stove explosion. His mother had a mental breakdown and later died in a state hospital.

At 13, Woody was not a good student. He got into gang fights and wanted to leave school. He worked at whatever he could to make a small living. Finally, he left for Houston and the Gulf of Mexico. He lived by working at odd jobs and playing the **harmonica** in pool halls. Traveling was not as much fun as he thought it would be. So he returned to Okemah and worked at a gas station for a while. He soon grew unhappy with that job. So he traveled to **Pampa**, an oil town where his father was working.

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In Pampa, Woody's **uncle** taught him to play the **guitar**. Woody became so good on the guitar that his uncle found him a job in a dance band. Woody stayed with the band for a few years. Then he began to change the songs he was playing. He wrote his own words to go with the old music. The Great **Depression** caused widespread hardship in the United States. The Dust Bowl made the times even worse in Oklahoma and other southwestern states: The farmland had been overworked; and a dry spell turned the topsoil into dust. Jobs were very hard to find. Guthrie decided to go on the road again. He rode on freight trains. He worked at odd jobs along the way. When he arrived in California, he teamed up with his cousin **Jack** Guthrie. They did a 15-minute **radio** show. Guthrie worked in radio in both California and in Tijuana, Mexico.

Guthrie could not stop thinking about the poor people he had seen as he traveled. He sang in many migrant worker camps and knew how badly the Depression had hurt the average people. He and Will **Geer** toured and sang for the farmworkers. When the workers went on strike, Guthrie helped in any way he could.

Meanwhile, Guthrie wasn't getting paid. His audiences were too poor. Finally, his money ran out. He borrowed \$35 from his **brother**. And he headed for New York City. There, he met Alan **Lomax**. Lomax realized that Guthrie had a priceless collection of folk songs in his head. He got Guthrie to record all he could remember for the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library of Congress in **Washington**, D.C. Later, Guthrie recorded two albums of **Dust Bowl** ballads for Victor Records.

After completing the recordings in Washington, Guthrie returned to New York City. In New York, he worked on radio. He was making money. But he wasn't happy. The radio stations would not let him sing the songs he wanted to sing. There were rules of  **censorship** that he wasn't allowed to break. So he decided to leave New York.

Again he traveled west. The **Oregon** Department of Interior asked him to write songs about the work of the builders of the Bonneville and Grand Coulee dams. He made up 26 ballads about the **dams**.

Guthrie wanted to do more than sing. He wrote a book called ***Bound for Glory***, which was published in 1943. It told of his travels and of the hard life and trouble he had seen on the road. He illustrated the book with his own sketches.

In 1955, Guthrie was hospitalized for an incurable disease of the nervous system. He remained in the hospital until he died in 1967. Guthrie left two great gifts to the American people. One is a wealth of folk music that would have been lost had he not collected and recorded it. The other is his touching tribute, in songs and stories, to the working class.

### *Woody Guthrie*

Y R O L G R O F D N U O B  
 W H K I A R A L C G N D R  
 O A L J D T M T X R C E O  
 R R A O A A E A I E L P T  
 D M H R M J R X P U E R H  
 O O O E S A P M A P G E E  
 O N M G E C X B R S K S R  
 W I A O O K E M A H O S E  
 H C E N S O R S H I P I E  
 O A A L W O B T S U D O G  
 B J W A S H I N G T O N P

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Guthrie's book.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Woody's real first name.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Town in which Woody was born.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Instrument Woody first played.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Guthrie worked on \_\_\_ in California.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Will \_\_\_ and Guthrie tried to help the migrant farmers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Guthrie disliked the \_\_\_ on radio in New York City.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Guthrie composed 26 songs for the \_\_\_ Department of Interior.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. State in which Woody was born.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. State Woody's father came from.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Woody's sister \_\_\_ died in an explosion.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The instrument Woody learned to play from his uncle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Oil town.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The Great \_\_\_ in the United States brought hard times to many people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. The \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Ballads were songs recorded by Guthrie.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Guthrie recorded songs about the Grand Coulee and Bonneville \_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Alan \_\_\_ got Guthrie to record his folk songs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. At one point, Guthrie borrowed \$35 from his \_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. The Library of Congress is located in this city.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. \_\_\_ Guthrie and Woody had a radio show.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. Woody's \_\_\_ taught him the guitar.

# The Beatles

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The Beatles took the world by storm. The music, clothes, hairstyles, and mannerisms of this singing group greatly influenced the young. Some older people didn't understand the appeal of the Beatles. They were alarmed by the effect the group had on their children.

The Beatles were four young men. Paul **McCartney**, John **Lennon**, and George **Harrison** played guitars, and Ringo **Starr** played the drums. McCartney and Lennon were probably the most musically talented. The two of them wrote most of the songs the Beatles sang.

The Beatles began in **Liverpool, England**. They all grew up and went to school in the area. Paul, George, and John all attended a private school, Liverpool Institute, at one time or another.

At 15, McCartney graduated from the institute. That year, he met Lennon, who was still at the school. The two became a team. They were billed as the Nurk Twins. They played clubs around the Liverpool area. In August 1958, they were joined by Harrison. The following year, Stuart Sutcliffe and drummer Peter Best joined. The group became known as the Quarrymen, then the Moondogs, the Moonshiners, and the Silver Beatles. Finally, they became known as the Beatles, because of their four-four beat.

They toured Scotland and Germany with some success. While they were in Germany, Sutcliffe died suddenly of a brain tumor. Later, Best was replaced by Starr. The group that would gain worldwide fame was thus formed.

In October 1961, the Beatles were "discovered." A young Liverpool businessman, Brian **Epstein**, visited the Cavern. The Beatles were playing. Epstein liked what he heard. He figured he could make stars out of

*(continued)*

## *The Beatles*

the Beatles. Epstein became their manager. He got bookings for them at the best nightclubs and concert halls. He got them on television. And he arranged for a record contract.

In America, their records were sold through **Capitol** Records. Soon, songs written by McCartney and Lennon and sung by the Beatles were topping the best-seller lists on both sides of the Atlantic.

Everybody wanted to hear and see the Beatles. They performed at the London Palladium in October 1963. The next month, they played for the royal family at the Prince of Wales Theater.

The Beatles came to the United States in February 1964. They played to packed audiences. There was such excitement at the concerts that some people became hysterical.

The Beatles' music was unusual. McCartney and Lennon used old musical forms set in new patterns. Other **rock and roll** groups began copying the style. Later, even pop musicians used the new patterns created by the Beatles.

Queen Elizabeth II included the Beatles on her birthday honors list on June 11, 1965. She also awarded them membership in the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

The Beatles made their motion picture debut in *A Hard Day's Night*. This movie was made in the style of the old silent slapstick comedies. The film, released in 1964, was a hit. In it, the Beatles made good music. They were funny, too. They followed this success with a second movie. It was called *Help!*

By the spring of 1966, the Beatles had written 88 songs over a three-year period. In the first five years, sales of their records neared \$500 million.

The Beatles' tours took them to all parts of the world. Their popularity spread even to communist countries. Young men everywhere copied their hairstyle and mod English fashions. When the Beatles arrived in the United States, they were met by thousands of screaming fans. Fans bought records, pictures, and T-shirts. They loved the Beatles. Their devotion was called Beatlemania.

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In 1967, Epstein died. He had been the driving force behind the Beatles. He had set up and taken care of all business matters. The Beatles owned a huge corporation, **Apple Corps**, Ltd., which Epstein had run. The Beatles liked to make music. But they were not interested in running this giant company. They hired a new manager. But not everyone was satisfied.

The Beatles made a new album called *Abbey Road*. It was a great success. It seemed they had left their problems behind them. Reports started, however, that McCartney had died. The rumors said that he had been replaced by a double. This strange report was untrue.

About this time, the four young men began to go different ways. Each began to make albums on his own instead of with the group. Personal and legal problems finally pulled the Beatles apart in 1971.

Fans kept hoping the Beatles would settle their problems and get back together. But that didn't happen. It was a shock to the world when Lennon was assassinated in 1980.

The Beatles were leaders in popular music. They brought new ideas to music. They wrote some of the top songs of the time. No other group or single musician was as well loved as the Beatles were during their years together.

### *The Beatles*

1.                    \_\_\_ **B** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
2.                    \_\_\_ **E** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
3.                    \_\_\_ **A** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
4.                    \_\_\_ **T** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
5.                    \_\_\_ **L** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
6.                    \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ **E** \_\_\_ \_\_\_
7.                    \_\_\_ **M** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
8.                    \_\_\_ **A** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
9.                    \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ **N** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
10.                  \_\_\_ **I** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_
11.                  \_\_\_ **A** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

1. One of the last albums by the Beatles.
2. Country from which the Beatles came.
3. George \_\_\_ played the guitar.
4. Ringo \_\_\_ played the drums.
5. John \_\_\_ was one of the Nurk Twins.
6. The Beatles were discovered by Brian \_\_\_.
7. Paul \_\_\_ wrote songs for the Beatles.
8. \_\_\_ Records put out the Beatles' songs in the United States.
9. The Beatles were copied by other \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ groups.
10. The Beatles first played in the area of \_\_\_, England.
11. Their big corporation was called \_\_\_ \_\_\_, Ltd.