

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

[Music Cataloging at Yale \[1\]](#) ? [Preferred titles \[2\]](#)

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works held in the Yale University Music Library

See also [Musical biographical resources on the Web \[3\]](#) and [Music dictionaries in the Yale Music Library \[4\]](#)

See also [Authority tools for audiovisual and music catalogers: an annotated list of useful resources \[5\]](#) from OLAC

[General encyclopedias](#) | [Resources by specific time period](#) | [Women composers](#) | [National encyclopedias and books](#) | [Library catalogs](#) | [By form, genre, or medium of performance](#)

General Encyclopedias

Baker's biographical dictionary of musicians / revised by Nicolas Slonimsky. 8th ed. New York: Schirmer, 1992.
Ref. ML105 B168 1992

Earlier editions of this source sometimes include persons not covered in the current edition.

Brockhaus-Riemann-Musiklexikon / edited by Carl Dahlhaus and Hans Heinrich Eggebrecht. Wiesbaden:
Brockhaus, 1978-1979.

Ref ML100 B864

Eitner, Robert. *Biographisch-bibliographisches Quellen-Lexikon der Musiker und musikgelehrten christlicher Zeitrechnung bis Mitte und neunzehnten Jahrhunderts*. 2. verb. Aufl. Graz: Akademische Druck- u. Verlagsanstalt, 1959.

Ref ML105 E36

Fétis, François-Joseph. *Biographie universelle des musiciens et bibliographie générale de la musique*. 2. éd.
Bruxelles: Culture et Civilisation, 1963.

Ref ML105 F41 1963

A reprint of the second edition of 1875-1883 and the 1878-1880 supplement.

Internationaler biographischer Index der Musik: Komponisten, Dirigenten, Instrumentalisten und Sänger = World biographical index of music: composers, conductors, instrumentalists and singers. München ; New Providence: K.G. Saur, 1995.

Ref ML105 I618+

An index to sources.

Kurzgefasstes Tonkünstler-Lexikon. 15. Aufl. Wilhelmshaven: Heinrichshofen's Verlag, c1971.

Ref ML105 A468

An excellent source for lesser-known German composers, editors, and arrangers, but also occasionally includes the non-German composer who does not appear anywhere else. Three volumes: volume 1 is a new printing of the 1936 edition, volume 2, parts 1 and 2 includes composers who were born or died after 1937 or updates the entries from volume 1.

Grove, George. *Dictionary of music and musicians*, eds. 1 through 5.

Ref ML100 G883 1927 (Yale has 3rd ed. in reference)

A less scholarly work than its successor (see New Grove), but occasionally will include biographical information about lesser-known English composers.

The international who's who in music and musician's directory. Cambridge, Eng.

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Ref ML105 I61 (only the most current ed. in reference; older eds. in stacks)

Published periodically, earlier editions usually include persons not in the current edition.

Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart. Kassel: Bärenreiter, 1949-1986. (MGG)

Ref ML100 M987+

New Grove dictionary of music and musicians / edited by Stanley Sadie. London: Macmillan, 1980. (New Grove)

Ref ML100 G883 1980

Resources by specific time period

[20th century](#) | [19th century](#) | [17th-18th centuries](#) | [Before 1600](#)

20th century

Bull, Storm. *Index to biographies of contemporary composers*. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1964-1974. 3 volumes.

Ref ML105 B935

Contemporary composers / editors, Brian Morton, Pamela Collins. Chicago: St. James Press, 1992.

Ref ML105 C761 M8+

International in scope, but includes only the more well-established composers.

Hermil, Hélène. *Musique: 10,000 compositeurs du XI^e au XX^e siècle: répertoire chrono ethnique*. Paris: Groupe de recherches et d'études musicales, 1983.

Ref ML105 H554 M9+

19th century

Pazdírek, Franz. *Universal-Handbuch der Musikliteratur aller Zeiten und Völker*. Wien: Pazdírek, 1904-1910.

ML113 U58 P3

A good source for determining how many works with a given title a composer wrote. Particularly good for less well-known 19th-century composers.

17th-18th centuries

Répertoire international des sources musicales = International inventory of musical sources. Series A/I

Ref. ML113 I61

Known as RISM; useful for finding 1st edition titles.

Before 1600

Brown, Howard Mayer. *Instrumental music printed before 1600: a bibliography*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1965.

Ref. ML128 I59 B8

A good source for individual titles within larger works.

Women composers

Boenke, Heidi M., compiler. *Flute music by women composers: an annotated catalog*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1988.

ML128 F64 B6

Claghorn, Charles Eugene. *Women composers and hymnists: a concise biographical dictionary*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1984.

Ref BV325 C584 W8

Cohen, Aaron I. *International encyclopedia of women composers*. 2nd ed. New York: Books & Music, 1987.
Ref ML105 C678 I6+ 1987

Fuller, Sophie. *The Pandora guide to women composers: Britain and the United States 1629- present*. London ; San Francisco: Pandora, 1994.
ML82 F968 P1

Hixon, Don L., and Hennessee, Don A. *Women in music: an encyclopedic bibliography*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1993.
Ref. ML105 H676 W8 1993

Jezic, Diane. *Women composers: the lost tradition found*. 2nd ed. prepared by Elizabeth Wood. New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, c1994.
ML390 J59 W8 1994

Johnson, Rose-Marie, compiler. *Violin music by women composers: a bio-bibliographical guide*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1989.
ML128 W872 J6

Laurence, Anya. *Women of notes: 1,000 women composers born before 1900*. New York: R. Rosen Press, 1978.
ML105 L379 W8+

LePage, Jane Weiner. *Women composers, conductors, and musicians of the twentieth century: selected biographies*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1980-
Ref ML82 L591 W8

Marx, Eva, Gerlinde Haas. *210 österreichische Komponistinnen vom 16. Jahrhundert bis zur Gegenwart: Biographie, Werk und Bibliographie: ein Lexikon*. Salzburg: Residenz Verlag, c2001.
ML82 M382 Z9

Meggett, Joan M. *Keyboard music by women composers: a catalog and bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1981.
ML128 P58 M4

The Norton/Grove dictionary of women composers / edited by Julie Anne Sadie & Rhian Samuel. New York: W.W. Norton, c1995.
Ref. ML105 G883

Organ and harpsichord music by women composers: an annotated catalog / compiled by Adel Heinrich. New York: Greenwood Press, 1991.
ML128 O68 O68

Olivier, Antje, and Karin Weingartz-Perschel. *Komponistinnen von A-Z*. 1. Aufl. Dusseldorf: Tokkata, 1988.
ML105 O49 K8

Rieger, Eva, Martina Oster, Siegrun Schmidt, editors. *Sopran contra Bass: die Komponistin im Musikverlag: Nachschlagewerk aller lieferbaren Noten*. Kassel: Furore-Verlag, c1989.
ML128 W872 S7

National encyclopedias and books

Encyclopedias that focus on a particular nation usually will contain more in-depth articles about composers of that nationality, but also include better-known composers not of that nationality.

[Argentina](#) | [Australia](#) | [Austria](#) | [Belgium](#) | [Bolivia](#) | [Brazil](#) | [Canada](#) | [Czechoslovakia](#) | [Cuba](#) | [Denmark](#) | [Ecuador](#) | [England/Great Britain](#) | [Estonia](#) | [Finland](#) | [France](#) | [Germany](#) | [Holland](#) | [Hungary](#) | [India](#) | [Ireland](#) | [Israel](#) | [Italy](#) | [Japan](#) | [Latin America](#) | [Netherlands](#) | [New Zealand](#) | [North and South America](#) | [Norway](#) | [Paraguay](#) | [Poland](#) |

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

[Portugal](#) | [Romania](#) | [Russia/Soviet Union](#) | [Silesia](#) | [South Africa](#) | [Spain](#) | [Sweden](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [Ukraine](#) | [United States](#) | [Yugoslavia](#)

Argentina

Arizaga, Rodolfo. *Enciclopedia de la música Argentina*. Buenos Aires: Fondo nacional de las Artes, 1971.
Ref ML106 A691 A7

Australia

Bebbington, Warren, ed. *The Oxford companion to Australian music*. Melbourne; New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.
Ref ML106 A93 O9

Broadstock, Brenton. *Sound ideas: Australian composers born since 1950: a guide to their music and ideas*. The Rocks, NSW: Australian Music Centre, 1995.
ML106 A93 B8

Glennon, James. *Australian music & musicians*. Adelaide: Rigby, 1968.
HSR ML106 A93 G55

Austria

Lang, Siegfried. *Lexikon österreichischer U-Musik-Komponisten im 20. Jahrhundert*. Wien: im Auftrag des Österreichischen Komponistenbundes (OKB)/Arbeitskreis U-Musik, 1986.
ML106 A938 L2

Belgium

CeBeDeM et ses compositeurs affiliés: biographies, catalogues, discographie = CeBeDeM en zijn aangesloten componisten: biografieen, catalogi, discografie = CeBeDeM and its affiliated composers: biographies, catalogues, discography. Bruxelles: Centre belge de documentation musicale, c1977-c1980.
ML120 B429 V8

Only those composers published by CeBeDeM.

Levaux, Thierry. *Dictionnaire des compositeurs de Belgique du Moyen Âge à nos jours*. [Ohain-Lasne]: Éditions Art in Belgium, [200-]
Ref ML106 B429 L6

Roquet, Flavie. *Vlaamse componisten geboren na 1800*. Roeselare: Roularta Books, 2007.
Ref ML106 B429 R7

Bolivia

Rojas Rojas, Orlando. *Creadores de la musica boliviana*. La Paz, Bolivia: Producciones CIMA, 1995.
SML ML106 B6 R65 1995 (LC)

Rivera de Stahlie, Ma. Teresa. *Musica y musicos bolivianos*. La Paz, Bolivia: Los Amigos del Libro, 1995.
ML106 B689 R6

Brazil

Enclopédia da música brasileira. 3a ed. rev. e atualizada, 1a reimpr. São Paulo: Art Editora, 1998 (2003 printing).
Ref ML101 B827 E5 2003+

Canada

Kallmann, H., Gilles Potvin, Kenneth Winters, ed. *Encyclopedia of music in Canada*. 2nd ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, c1992.
Ref ML106 C212 E56+ 1992

Czechoslovakia

Gardavsky, Cenek. *Contemporary Czechoslovak composers*. Prague: Panton, 1965.
Ref ML106 C998 G2

Titles of works are in English only, thus this book can be used to determine what the composer has written, but not necessarily what the correct uniform title should be.

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Ceskoslovenský hudební slovník osob a institucí. 1. vyd. Praha: Státní hudební vydavatelství, 1963-1965.
ML106 C998 C4 (currently held in Music Technical Services)

Cuba

Orovio, Helio. *Diccionario de la música cubana: biográfico y técnico.* Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba: Editorial Letras Cubanás, 1981.
SML ML106 C8 O75 (LC)

Denmark

Danske komponister af i dag = Danish composers of today. København: Dansk Komponistforening, 1980.
Ref ML120 D39 D191+

Ecuador

Guerrero Gutiérrez, Pablo. *Enciclopedia de la música ecuatoriana: EMEc.* Quito: Corporación Musicológica Ecuatoriana Commusica: Archivo Sonoro de la Música Ecuatoriana, 2001-2002.
Ref ML101 E19 G9

England/Great Britain

Poulton, Alan J. *A dictionary-catalog of modern British composers.* Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2000.

Estonia

Eesti muusika biograafiline leksikon. Tallinn: Valgus, 1990.
ML106 E81

Eesti tänase muusika loojaid. Tallinn: Eesti Muusikafond, 1992.

ML106 E81 E2
20th-century emphasis.

Finland

Hillila, Ruth-Esther, and Barbara Blanchard Hong. *Historical dictionary of the music and musicians of Finland.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997.
ML101 F511 H6

Suomalaisia säveltäjiä. Helsingissä: Otava, c1994.

ML106 F511 S9

Includes lengthy bios for better-known Finnish composers. Brief bios for other Finnish composers are arranged alphabetically at the end of the volume.

France

Dictionnaire de la musique. Les hommes et leurs œuvres. Nouv. éd. Paris: Bordas, 1986.
Ref ML100 D554 1986

Encyclopédie de la musique. Paris: Fasquelle, 1958.

Ref ML100 E56

Germany

Deutsches Musiker-Lexikon. Edited by Erich H. Müller. Dresden: Wilhelm Limpert-Verlag, 1929.
Ref ML106 G37 M9+

Good for really obscure Germans; includes work lists for most.

Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart: allgemeine Enzyklopädie der Musik. Kassel: Bärenreiter-Verlag, 1949-1986.

Ref ML100 M987+

Holland

Algemene muziek encyclopedie. Haarlem: De Haan, 1979-1984.
Ref ML100 A394+

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Bunge, Sas. *60 years of Dutch chamber music = 60 années de musique de chambre néerlandaise = 60 Jahre niederländische Kammermusik*: 1913-1973. Amsterdam: Stichting Cultuurfonds BUMA: Stichting Nederlandse Muziekbelangen, 1974.
ML106 N469 B9+

Hungary

Contemporary Hungarian composers. 4th rev., enl. ed. Budapest: Editio Musica, 1979.
ML106 H936 C9 1979

Ki kicsoda a magyar zeneéletben? 2., bov. kiad. Budapest: Zenemukiado, c1988.
ML106 H936 K4 1988

Zenei lexikon / Szabolesi Bence, Tóth Aladár. Budapest: Zenemukiadó Vállat, 1965.
Ref ML100 Z54

India

Sambamoorthy, P. *A dictionary of South Indian music and musicians*. 1st ed. Madras: Indian Pub. House, 1952-
ML106 I39 S1
v. 1. A-F -- v. 2. G-K -- v. 3. L-N.

Ireland

Klein, Axel. *Irish classical recordings: a discography of Irish art music*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2001.
ML156.2 K64 I6

Israel

Tischler, Alice. *A descriptive bibliography of art music by Israeli composers*. Warren, Mich.: Harmonie Park Press, 1988.
ML120 I85 T6+
This source does not use LC transliteration.

Italy

Enciclopedia della musica. Milano Ricordi, 1972.
Ref ML100 E5+ 1972

Dizionario encyclopédico universale della musica e dei musicisti. Le biografie. Torino: UTET, 1985-1990.
Ref ML100 D622 B6

Japan

Matsushita, Hitoshi. *A checklist of published instrumental music by Japanese composers*. Tokyo: Academia Music, c1989.
Ref ML128 I59 C5 M4+
In parallel Japanese and English; includes birth and death dates.

Latin America

Compositores de América. Washington, D.C.: Uniõn panamericana, 1955.
Ref ML105 P187 C7+

19 volumes with an index. The index serves as a locator for the set, since this source is not arranged alphabetically. To find a composer, you must know the composer's country of residence, and consult the index, which is arranged by country. This set is particularly good for Latin American composers.

Diccionario de la música española e hispanoamericana. [Spain]: Sociedad General de Autores y Editores, c1999-
REF ML101 S733 D5+

A guide to the Latin American art song repertoire: an annotated catalog of twentieth-century art songs for voice and piano. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, c2010.
REF ML128 S698 G9

Latin American classical composers: a biographical dictionary. Compiled and edited by Martha Furman Schleifer and Gary Galván. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016.

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Ref. ML105 F44 2016

Mayer-Serra, Otto. *Música y músicos de Latinoamérica*. México: Editorial Atlante, 1947.

SML ML230 M3 M39 (LC)

Scores and recordings at the Indiana University Latin American Music Center. Compiled and edited by Ricardo Lorenz with Luis R. Hernandez and Gerardo Dirie. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995.

Ref ML136 B655 I3 L3

New Zealand

Norman, Philip. *Bibliography of New Zealand compositions*. 2nd ed. Christchurch: Nota Bene Music, 1982-
ML106 N567 N8+

Thomson, John Mansfield. *Biographical dictionary of New Zealand composers*. Wellington: Victoria University Press, 1990.

ML106 N532 T4

North and South America

Compositores de América. Washington, D.C.: Uniōn panamericana, 1955.

Ref ML105 P187 C7+

19 volumes with an index. The index serves as a locator for the set, since this source is not arranged alphabetically. To find a composer, you must know the composer's country of residence, and consult the index, which is arranged by country. This set is particularly good for Latin American composers.

Norway

Cappelens musikkleksikon. Oslo: Cappelens Forlag, 1978-1980.

Ref ML100 C247+

Paraguay

Szarán, Luis. *Diccionario de la música en el Paraguay*. [Asunción, Paraguay: S.n., 1997]

ML101 P222 S9

Poland

Encyklopedia muzyczna PWM. Krakow: Polskie Wydawn. Muzyczne, 1979-

Ref ML100 E565+

Slownik muzyków polskich. Kraków: Polskie Wydawn. Muzyczne, 1964-1967.

Ref. ML106 P76 S6

Portugal

Encyclopédia da música brasileira popular, erudita e folclórica. 3a ed. rev. e atualizada, 1a reimpr. São Paulo, SP : Art Editora : Publifolha, c1998 (2003 printing)

Ref ML101 B827 E5 2003+

Harper, Nancy Lee. *Portuguese piano music : an introduction and annotated bibliography*. Lanham, Md. : Scarecrow Press, 2013.

REF ML128 P58 H2+

Romania

Cosma, V. *Muzicieni români: compozitori si muzicologi: Lexicon*. Bucuresti: Editura muzicala Uniunii Compozitorilor, 1970.

Ref ML106 R758 C8

Popescu, Mihai. *Repertoriul general al creației muzicale românesti*. Bucuresti: Editura Muzicala, 1979-
ML106 R758 P8+

Russia/Soviet Union

Jüdische Musik in Sowjetrussland Berlin: E. Kuhn, 2002.

ML300.5 J93

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Includes biographies and work lists for the following composers: Joseph Achron, Mikhail Fabianovich Gnesin, Aleksandr Abramovich Krein, Grigorii Krein, Moshe Milner, Leonid Leonidovich Sabaneev, Lazare Saminsky, Aleksandr Veprik

Muzykal'naia entsiklopediia. Moskva: Izd-vo. "Sovetskiia entsiklopediia", 1973-1982.
Ref ML100 M9942+ 1973

Biographical dictionary of Russian/Soviet composers. New York: Greenwood Press, 1989.
Ref ML106 R96 H6

The transliteration of the names of composers and titles of work is not according to the LC style of transliteration.

Silesia

Schlesisches Musiklexikon. Augsburg: Wissner, 2001.
Ref ML101 S342

South Africa

South African music encyclopedia. Cape Town: Oxford University Press, 1979-1986.
Ref ML106 S726

Spain

Diccionario de la música española e hispanoamericana. [Spain]: Sociedad General de Autores y Editores, c1999-
REF ML101 S733 D5+

Musicos españoles de todos los tiempos: diccionario biográfico. Madrid: Tres, 1984.
ML106 S735 M9

68 compositors catalans. Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya, Departament de Cultura, 1989.
ML106 S735 S4+

Sweden

Sohlmans musiklexikon. Stockholm: Sohlmans förlag, 1975-1979.
Ref ML100 S682+

Switzerland

Schweizer Musiker-Lexikon, 1964. Zurich: Atlantis, c1964.
Ref ML106 S979 S4

Ukraine

Sonevys'kyi, Ihor, and Palidvor-Sonevys'ka, Nataliia. *Dictionary of Ukrainian composers.* L'viv: Union of Ukrainian
composers, 1997.
SML ML390 S66 1997 (LC)

United States

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. *The ASCAP biographical dictionary of composers,
authors and publishers.* 4th ed. New York: Bowker, 1980.
Ref ML106 U5 A5+ 1980

Brief biographical information; includes ASCAP members only.

Anderson, E.R. *Contemporary American composers.* 2nd ed. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1982.
Ref ML106 U58 A549 C7+ 1982

On occasion, a person in the first edition is not found in the second edition.

Butterworth, Neil. *Dictionary of American composers.* 2nd ed. New York: Routledge, 2005.
Ref ML106 U3 B9 2005

Claghorn, Charles Eugene. *Biographical dictionary of American music.* West Nyack, N.Y.: Parker Pub. Co., 1973.
Ref ML106 U58 C58

A good source for obscure nineteenth-century composers.

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Ewen, David. *American composers: a biographical dictionary*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1982.
Ref ML390 E94 A5

The Macmillan encyclopedia of music and musicians. Compiled and edited by Albert E. Wier. New York: Macmillan, 1938.
Ref ML100 W64+

The New Grove dictionary of American music. Edited by H. Wiley Hitchcock and Stanley Sadie. New York: Grove's Dictionaries of Music, 1986.
Ref ML101 U58 N5+

The most well-established American composers are included. Entries for those of foreign birth include works composed after coming to the US.

Southern, Eileen. *Biographical dictionary of Afro-American and African musicians*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982.
Ref ML105 S727 B6+

Who's who in American music, classical. 2nd ed. Edited by Jacques Cattell press. New York: R.R. Bowker, 1985.
Ref ML106 U58 W624+

Yugoslavia

Leksikon jugoslavenske muzike. Zagreb: Jugoslavenske leksikografski zavod "Miroslav Krleza", 1984.
Ref ML100 L536+

Muzicka enciklopedija. Zagreb: Jugoslavenski leksikografski zavod, 1971.
Ref ML100 M994+

Library catalogs

The catalogue of printed music in the British Library to 1980. London: K.G. Saur, 1981-1987. (CPM to 1980).
Ref ML136 L847 B86+

Even though the cut-off date is 1980, CPM to 1980 is valuable for finding first edition titles and ascertaining how many of a given form a composer has written.

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek. *Katalog der Musikdrucke*. München: K.G. Saur, 1988-1990. (BSB-Musik)
Ref ML136 M966 B3 K1+

Music, books on music, and sound recordings (MBMSR). Formerly *Music and phonorecords*.

New York Public Library. Research Libraries. *Dictionary catalog of the music collection*. 2nd ed. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1982.
Ref ML136 N567 D5+ 1982

Good for finding dates for lesser-known composers. Unfortunately, since the catalog itself is old, sometimes only the year of birth is given in the heading.

By form, genre, or medium of performance

[Band](#) | [Cello](#) | [Chamber music](#) | [Double bass](#) [Flute](#) | [Guitar](#) | [Horn](#) | [Opera](#) | [Orchestra](#) | [Organ](#) | [Percussion](#) |
[Saxophone](#) | [Viola da gamba](#)

Band

Rehrig, William H. *Heritage encyclopedia of band music: composers and their music*. Westerville, OH: Integrity Press, 1991.

Suppan, Wolfgang. *Neue Lexikon des Blasmusikwesens*. Freiburg-Tiengen: Blasmusikverlag Schulz, 1988. 3. Aufl.
Ref ML102 W71 S9 1988

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Cello

Lambooij, Henk. *A cellist's companion: a comprehensive catalogue of cello literature*. Netherlands : †b Stichting The Cellist's Companion, c2007.
Ref ML128 V795 L2+ 2007

Gives some birth and death information along with lists of works for or with cello.

Chamber music

Sechrist-Schmedes, Barbera. *Wind chamber music: winds with piano and woodwind quintets: an annotated guide*. Lanham, MD Scarecrow Press, 1996.

Sechrist-Schmedes, Barbera. *Wind chamber music: for two to sixteen winds: an annotated guide*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2002.

Double bass

Planyavsky, Alfred. *Geschichte des Kontrabasses*. 2. Aufl. Tutzing: H. Schneider, 1984.

Flute

Goldberg, Adolf. *Porträts und Biographien hervorragender Flöten-Virtuosen, -Dilettanten und -Komponisten*. Celle: Moeck Verlag, 1987.

A reprint of the 1906 edition. Includes many obscure composers for the flute, but since it is current only to 1906, some entries do not have death dates.

Guitar

Moser, Wolf. *Gitarre-Musik: ein internationaler Katalog*. Aktualisierte Neuausg. in einem Band. Hamburg: J. Trekel, c1985.

Ref ML128 G9 M8 1985

Prat, D. *A biographical, bibliographical, historical, critical dictionary of guitars (related instruments), guitarists (teachers, composers, performers, lutenists, amateurs), guitar-makers (luthiers), dances and songs, terminology*. Columbus, Ohio: Editions Orpheé, c1986.

Ref ML102 GT P912+ 1934a

reprint of: *Diccionario biográfico--bibliográfico--histórico--crítico de guitarras (instrumentos afines), guitarristas (profesores, compositores, concertistas, luthieras, amateurs), guitarreros (luthiers), danzas y cantos, terminología*. Buenos Aires: Romero y Fernández, 1934.

Horn

Hornisten-Lexikon. München: Hans Pizka, 1986.

ML955 H816+

Opera and vocal music

Barlow, Harold. *A dictionary of vocal themes*. New York: Crown Publishers, 1950.

ML128 V872 B2

Diccionario de la zarzuela: España e Hispanoamérica. Madrid: Instituto Complutense de Ciencias Musicales, 2006.
2a. ed.

Ref ML102 Z38 D5+ 2006

The Gramophone Shop encyclopedia of recorded music

hsr ML156 G747 G7 1948a

Hamilton, David. *Metropolitan opera encyclopedia: a comprehensive guide to the world of opera*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1987.

Morgenstern, Sam. *A dictionary of opera and song themes, including cantatas, oratorios, lieder, and art songs*. New York: Crown Publishers, c1950.

hsr ML128 V872 B2 1950

New Grove dictionary of opera. London: Macmillan; New York: distributed in the United States of America and Canada by Grove's Dictionaries of music, 1992.

Printed biographical sources for composers and their works

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

Parson, Charles H. *Opera composers and their works*. Lewiston, N.Y.: Edwin Mellon Press, 1986.

Steiger, Franz. *Opernlexikon*. Tutzing: H. Schneider, 1977.

Arranged in three sections, by title, composer, and librettist.

Orchestra

Symphony orchestra of the world: selected profiles. Edited by Robert Craven. New York: Greenwood Press, 1987.

Includes name in the language of country of origin as well as English translation of the name.

Organ

Beckmann, Klaus. *Repertorium Orgelmusik: Komponisten, Werke, Editionen, 1150-2000, 57 Länder*. 3. neu. und erw. Aufl. Mainz: Schott, 2001-

Very good resource; organized by country and then chronologically by date of birth. With work lists. Includes index.

Edson, Jean Slater. *Organ-preludes*. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1970.

Includes composers, with birth and death dates, not found elsewhere.

Henderson, John. *A directory of composers for organ*. Wiltshire, England, 1996.

Includes composers' last names and initials, birth and death dates, and country; lists of works

Vessia, Gian Nicola, and Marco Rossi. *Le firme dell'organo: compositori e repertorio organistico del '900 italiano*. Bergamo: Carrara, 2003.

ML128 O68 V5

Covers 20th-century Italian organ composers.

Percussion

Siwe, Thomas. *Percussion ensemble & solo literature*. Champaign, Ill.: Media Press, c1993.

Siwe, Thomas. *Percussion ensemble literature*. Champaign, Ill.: Media Press, c1998.

Siwe, Thomas. *Percussion solo literature*. Champaign, Ill.: Media Press, c1995.

Saxophone

Londeix, Jean-Marie. *150 years of music for saxophone: bibliographical index of music and educational literature for the saxophone, 1844-1994*. Cherry Hill, NJ, USA: Roncorp, c1994.

Gives brief biographical information for lots of composers whose biographical information cannot be found elsewhere.

Viola da gamba

Dodd, Gordon. *Thematic index of music for viols*. London: Viola da Gamba Society of Great Britain, 1980-

Ref ML128 V785 V7+

Now online at www.vdgs.org.uk/thematic.html [6]

Source

URL:<https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/printed-biographical-sources-for-composers-and-their-works>

Links

- [1] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music> [2] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/preferred-titles> [3] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/musical-biographical-resources-on-the-web> [4] <http://guides.library.yale.edu/content.php?pid=49275> [5] <http://www.olacinc.org/drupal/?q=node/13> [6] <http://www.vdgs.org.uk/thematic.html>