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# A life in music: The contribution of John Ritchie (1921-2014) to the Christchurch musical community as a composer, performer, educator and administrator.

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## Abstract

This thesis is a study of the life of New Zealand composer John Ritchie (1921-2014) from his ancestry and early years, and his development throughout formative teenage years to adulthood. Interviews conducted with Ritchie himself were a significant part of the primary research for the study, and, in conjunction with existing documents and personal papers, reveal a biography in which the musical aspects of Ritchie's life are highlighted. Participant interviews with people associated... [Read more](#)

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More than a musical genre, jazz in the 1920s was viewed by critics and supporters alike as a type of lifestyle, one that frequently led to drinking, dancing, and "petting." Much to the horror of older generations, white young people were particularly drawn to jazz and its "hot rhythms." Secondary school teachers and administrators took up the formidable task of persuading youth of jazz's morally corrupting influences. I argue that, in the first half of the decade, such educators instituted curricular and various informal policies designed to replace jazz, universally associated with black

Despite his short life, Mozart greatly advanced classical period music, contributing over 600 compositions. His compositional style is similar to that of Haydn's, only more flamboyant and, during his lifetime, often criticized for having "too many notes." 03. The second of three sons born to the great composer, Johann Sebastian Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (named in part to honor Georg Philipp Telemann, Bach Sr.'s friend and C.P.E. Bach's godfather), was highly revered by Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven. C.P.E. Bach's most valuable contribution to the classical period (and the musical world as a whole) was his publication, *An Essay on the True Art of Playing Keyboard Instruments*. It instantly became the definitive for piano technique. Musical history during the Medieval Times, Renaissance, Classical Period, Baroque, Early and Romantic Times. This is the first period where we can begin to be fairly certain as to how a great deal of the music which has survived actually sounded. The earliest written secular music dates from the 12th century troubadours (in the form of virelais, estampies, ballades, etc.), but most notated manuscripts emanate from places of learning usually connected with the church, and therefore inevitably have a religious basis.