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N

N: Abbreviation for *niente*.

nach (Ger., *nahkh*): After, in the manner of.

Nachschlag (Ger., *NAHKH-shlahk*): The notes that end a *trill*.

Nachtmusik (Ger., *NAHKHT-moo-zik*): Night music. A *serenade*.

nach und nach (Ger., *NAHKH oont NAHKH*): Little by little.

naked fifth: See *open fifth*.

NARAS: Abbreviation for the “National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.” This organization is responsible for the Grammy awards.

natural: The symbol \natural that indicates a note is neither sharp nor flat.

natural harmonic: A *harmonic* produced on an open string of a stringed instrument. Also called an *open harmonic*.

natural horn: A *horn* without valves.

natural minor: A scale made up of one whole step, one half step, two whole steps, one half step and two whole steps, in that order. Also see *Aeolian mode*. See p. 218.



natural horn

N.C.: The abbreviation for “no chord.”

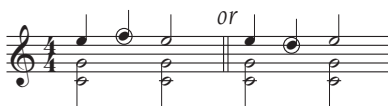
Neapolitan school: A school of composers in the 18th century that originated in Naples.

Neapolitan sixth: A first inversion chord built on the lowered second degree of a scale. A Neapolitan sixth chord in the key of C is F, A-flat, D-flat.

Nebenstimme (Ger., *nay-ben-SHTIM-meh*): A secondary part. As opposed to *Hauptstimme*.

neck: The long thin part of some *stringed instruments* to which the *fingerboard* or *fretboard* is attached.

neighboring tone: A nonharmonic tone one scale step above or below another tone that returns to the first tone.



neoclassicism: A 20th-century revival of forms and ideas of the *classical period*.

Meyerbeer, Giacomo

[real name: Jakob Liebmann Beer]

BORN: September 5, 1791—Berlin, Germany

DIED: May 2, 1864—Paris

HISTORICAL PERIOD: Romantic

COMPOSITIONAL MEDIA: Opera, chamber music, choral, orchestra, songs.

IMPORTANT ITEMS: Notable works include the opera “Les Huguenots.”

Milhaud, Darius

BORN: September 4, 1892—Aix-en-Provence, France

DIED: June 22, 1974—Geneva, Switzerland

HISTORICAL PERIOD: Modern

COMPOSITIONAL MEDIA: Orchestra, chamber music, ballet, keyboard, choral, opera, songs, theatrical, film.

IMPORTANT ITEMS: Many of his compositions use polytonality. Notable works include the ballet “La Création du monde” which incorporates blues and jazz. A member of Les Six.

M

Mingus, Charles

BORN: April 22, 1922—Nogales, AZ

DIED: January 8, 1979—Cuernavaca, Mexico

HISTORICAL PERIOD: Modern (Jazz)

COMPOSITIONAL MEDIA: Songs, instrumental jazz, film.

IMPORTANT ITEMS: Professional jazz bassist whose notable works include “Epitaph” for 30 instruments.

Monk, Thelonious

BORN: October 10, 1918—Rock Mountain, NC

DIED: February 17, 1982—Weehawken, NJ

HISTORICAL PERIOD: Modern (Jazz)

COMPOSITIONAL MEDIA: Instrumental jazz.

IMPORTANT ITEMS: Professional jazz pianist whose notable works include “Round Midnight.”

Monteverdi, Claudio (Giovanni Antonio)

BORN: May 15, 1567—Cremona, Italy

DIED: November 29, 1643—Venice

HISTORICAL PERIOD: Late Renaissance