

The conductor and composer Antal Doráti was one of the most distinguished musicians of the 20th century. He was born in Budapest on April 9 1906 and rose to become the youngest ever conductor of the Royal Opera House in his native city soon after graduating at age 18. In 1928 he went to Dresden as assistant to Fritz Busch and subsequently was engaged as conductor at the opera house in Münster/Westfalia, where he stayed until 1933. From 1934-1941 he was first second conductor, later music director of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and, subsequently, of the American Ballet Theater in New York. His American debut as a symphony conductor came in 1937, when he guest-conducted the National Symphony in Washington, D.C. He became an American citizen in 1947. From 1945-1949 Doráti directed and greatly revitalized the Dallas Symphony. He became music director of the Minneapolis Symphony in 1949, where he stayed for 11 years.

In 1963 he was appointed Chief conductor of the BBC Orchestra, a post he held for 4 years. This was followed by a similar position with the Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra (from 1965-1972). Parallel to his European activities he became music director of the National Symphony in Washington in 1970, followed by the same position 1977 in Detroit. At the same time (since 1975) Antal Doráti accepted the Royal Philharmonic's invitation to become their chief conductor. From 1981 he became "Conductor Laureate" for life of 3 orchestras (RPO London, Stockholm Philharmonic and Detroit Symphony).

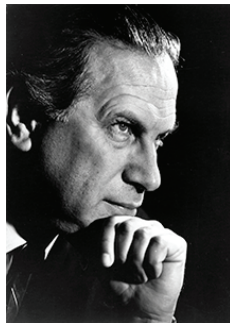
Antal Doráti's recording activities commenced in 1936, his total number of recordings reached nearly 600. Many of them won international prizes, amongst others 32 "Grand Prix". His most important recording project was the complete recording of the 107 Haydn symphonies and 8 of the composer's operas. Antal Doráti's influence in the musical world has been highly significant, not only as a conductor. He has an impressive number of compositions to his credit, which are performed worldwide more and more.

His teaching activities include regular masterclasses at the Royal College of music in London as well as at the Music Academy in Budapest. Both institutions made him their honorary member. Also masterclasses at the Salzburg Festival, Dartington and Bern - Basel are mentionable.

His autobiography "Notes of seven decades" was published in 1975. A second book "For inner and outer peace" - a subject which interested him greatly during his last years- was edited after his death in 1988. In this period he also returned to his other talents, which included drawing and painting.

His distinctions included the post of Honorary President of the Philharmonia Hungarica, four honorary doctor degrees, the rank of Chevalier of the order of Vasa of Sweden, the Cross of Honour, 1st class "Artibus et Litteris" of Austria, the order of "Chevalier des Arts et Lettres" de France and others. The Royal Academy of Music in London honoured Antal Doráti by appointing him an Hon.R.A.M. And in 1983 her Majesty the Queen appointed him an Hon. KBE(Knight of the British Empire) in recognition for his service to music in Britain.

Antal Doráti died in his Swiss home in Gerzensee on november 13, 1988.



HIGH DEFINITION TAPE TRANSFERS

COPLAND

RODEO FOUR DANCE EPISODES

EL SALON MEXICO

DANZON CUBANO

ANTAL DORATI

MINNEAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

For nearly four decades, American composer Aaron Copland achieved a distinctive musical characterization of American themes in an expressive modern style. He is known for works like *Appalachian Spring* and *Fanfare for the Common Man*, among many others.

“Most of ‘Appalachian Spring’ and a good part of my Violin Sonata were composed at night at the Samuel Goldwyn studios in Hollywood. An air of mystery hovers over a film studio after dark. Its silent and empty streets give off something of the atmosphere of a walled medieval town. This seclusion provided the required calm for evoking the peaceful, open countryside of rural Pennsylvania depicted in ‘Appalachian Spring.’”

—Aaron Copland

Aaron Copland was born on November 14, 1900, in Brooklyn, New York, going on to study piano and composition and studying in Europe for some time. He became one of the century’s foremost composers with highly influential music that had a distinctive blend of classical, folk and jazz idioms. Some of Copland’s most prominent pieces included *Fanfare for the Common Man*, *El Salon Mexico* and *Appalachian Spring*, for which he won the Pulitzer. An Oscar-winning writer of film scores as well, Copland died on December 2, 1990.

Composer Aaron Copland was born on November 14, 1900, in Brooklyn, New York to parents of Jewish and Eastern European descent. The youngest of five children, Copland went on to develop an interest in the piano, receiving guidance from his older sister. He later studied under Rubin Goldmark in Manhattan and regularly attended classical music performances. At 20 years old Copland opted to continue his studies in Fontainebleau, France, where he received tutelage from the famed Nadia Boulanger.

Studying a variety of European composers while abroad, Copland made his way back to the U.S. by the mid-1920s. Having been asked by Boulanger to write an organ concerto, Copland eventually debuted *Symphony for Organ and Orchestra* on January 11, 1925 with the New York Symphony Society under Walter Damrosch.

The decade that followed saw the production of the scores that would spread Copland’s fame throughout the world. He was concerned with crafting sounds that would be seen as “American” in its scope, incorporating a range of styles in his work that included jazz and folk and connections to Latin America. Some of his most well-known pieces include *Piano Variations* (1930), *The Dance Symphony* (1930), *El Salon Mexico* (1935), *A Lincoln Portrait* (1942) and *Fanfare for the Common Man* (1942). Copland later composed the music to Martha Graham’s 1944 dance *Appalachian Spring*. The following year Copland won the Pulitzer Prize for the piece.

An author as well, Copland published the first edition of the book *What to Listen for in Music* in 1939, followed by *Our New Music* (1941) and *Music and Imagination* (1952). The latter title was shaped by the composer’s Norton Lectures at Harvard, and he also taught at the institution’s New School for Social Research.

Copland was a renowned composer of film scores as well, working on *Of Mice and Men* (1939), *Our Town* (1940) and *The North Star* (1943)—receiving Academy Award nominations for all three projects. He eventually won an Oscar for *The Heiress* (1949). And more than a decade later, Copland composed a stark, unsettling score for the controversial *Something Wild* (1961). Selections from his various works would be used in TV series and commercials over the years, as well as films like Spike Lee’s *He Got Game* (1998).

In his later compositions, Copland made use of a European derived tonal system. By the 1970s, he had ceased crafting new works, focusing on teaching and conducting.

Copland died on December 2, 1990 in North Tarrytown, New York at 90 years old. Having received an array of accolades in his later years, the iconic composer had also worked with Vivian Perlis on a two-volume autobiography, *Copland: 1900 Through 1942* (1984) and *Copland Since 1943* (1989). A well-received, lengthy biography on his life was published in 1999—*Aaron Copland: The Life & Work of an Uncommon Man*, by Howard Pollack. And an extensive collection of Copland’s works, including his personal letters and photographs, are held by the Library of Congress.



COPLAND

RODEO FOUR DANCE EPISODES

EL SALON MEXICO

DANZON CUBANO

ANTAL DORATI

MINNEAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

- 1 Buckaroo Holiday 8:01
- 2 Corral Nocturne 3:24
- 3 Saturday Night Waltz 4:04
- 4 Hoe-Down 3:21
- 5 El Salon Mexico 9:41
- 6 Danzon Cubano 7:24
- Total Time: 35:55

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