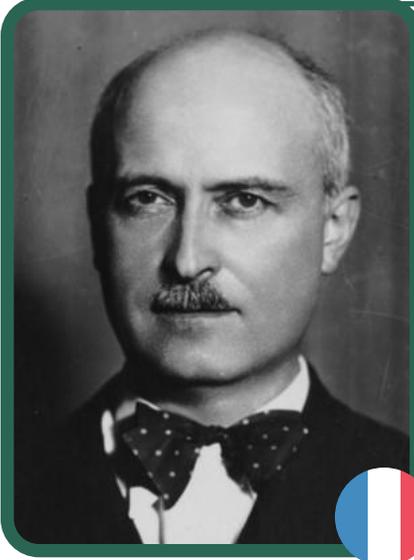




COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

**JACQUES IBERT**

BORN: August 15, 1890

ERA/STYLE: 20th Century Eclectic

DIED: February 5, 1962

HOMETOWN: Paris, France

Jacques Ibert was born in Paris. His father was a successful businessman, and his mother was a talented pianist. She encouraged his interest in music, and he began playing the violin and the piano at the age of 4.

In 1910, Jacques began studying at the Paris Conservatory. Other future well-known composers were also students at the time, and he collaborated with some of them on larger works. Jacques had to pause his musical studies at the outbreak of World War I in 1914. He served as an officer in the French navy.

After World War I ended, Jacques returned to his musical studies and, in 1919, won an important prize from his university. This prize gave him the opportunity to continue his education in Rome, where he composed his first opera in collaboration with his brother-in-law, who was an author and wrote the libretto (or lyrics) for the opera.

Jacques had success as a composer in the 1920s, publishing several operas and orchestral works, as well as many commissioned pieces. He also began a career as an administrator for an important music school in Rome. After Germany invaded France during World War II, Jacques's music was banned, and he went into hiding for a brief time. He returned to the musical life of his country in 1944.

Jacques Ibert was considered an eclectic composer who did not define his musical style within one genre, instead composing a variety of different works in different styles. Over his lifetime, he wrote operas, ballets, orchestral music, chamber music, music for solo piano, as well as many film scores. He is also known for incorporating humor into his music, especially his operas. Aside from composing, he was also a conductor, and continued working as an administrator for a number of important musical institutions until his retirement in 1960.