

## *Darius Milhaud*

(1892-1974)

- Milhaud was a French composer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- He was born in the southern France in the city Aix-en-Provence to a Jewish family.
- Beginning at age 17, he studied music at the renowned Paris Conservatoire.
- His musical output exceeded 400 works, which included orchestral symphonies, choral works, chamber music, motion picture & radio scores, and piano works.



### *Milhaud's music*

Milhaud heard Jazz in London and also later in the United States. His music is clearly influenced by Jazz and often features saxophone.

After living in Rio de Janeiro for a number of years, Milhaud also was deeply affected by the music of Brazil. The rhythms and melodies of that music impacted his compositional development.

The most commonly discussed feature of Milhaud's music is polytonality (the simultaneous use of multiple tonalities/keys).

Milhaud also wrote in the neoclassical style. This style revisits 18<sup>th</sup> century "classical" balance, forms, tonality, and emotional restraint.