

chicago style bibliography examples for a musical score

Chicago Style Bibliography Examples for a Musical Score

chicago style bibliography examples for a musical score are crucial for academic integrity and proper citation of musical works, especially within humanities disciplines. Whether you're referencing a published score, an unpublished manuscript, or a digital recording, understanding how to format these entries according to the Chicago Manual of Style is essential. This comprehensive guide will break down the intricacies of citing various types of musical scores, from orchestral works to chamber music, and even include examples for citing musical performances and recordings. We will explore the core components of a Chicago-style citation for musical scores, delve into specific scenarios, and provide clear, actionable examples to ensure your bibliography is accurate and compliant.

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Understanding the Core Components of a Musical Score Citation

Properly citing a musical score in Chicago style requires attention to several key details that distinguish it from citing a book or journal article. The primary goal is to provide enough information for your reader to locate the exact source you consulted. This typically involves identifying the composer, the title of the work, the publisher or source of publication, the date of publication, and specific identifiers like opus numbers, movement titles, and page numbers.

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMS) offers flexibility in its citation systems, primarily the Notes-Bibliography system and the Author-Date system. For this guide, we will focus on the Bibliography format, which is commonly used in academic papers and research projects where detailed referencing is paramount. A well-constructed bibliography entry for a musical score should leave no room for ambiguity regarding the specific edition or version of the score being referenced.

Essential Elements for Score Citations

Regardless of the specific type of musical score, certain elements are almost always necessary for a complete Chicago-style bibliography entry. These include:

- Composer's full name
- Title of the musical work (often italicized)
- Edition information (if applicable)
- Publisher's name
- Year of publication
- Specific identifiers such as opus number, key, or catalogue number
- Page numbers or section references

Citing Published Musical Scores

Citing a published musical score is perhaps the most common scenario. This refers to scores that have been officially released by a publishing house, whether in print or as a digital download. The format aims to pinpoint the specific edition used, as different editions can vary significantly in their editorial markings, pagination, and even interpretive suggestions.

When citing a published score, the composer's name typically appears first, followed by the title of the work. If the work is part of a larger collection or series, this information should also be included. The publisher and the year of publication are vital for identifying the specific edition.

Example of a Published Musical Score Citation

Here's a standard format for citing a standalone published musical score:

Composer's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Opus number. City: Publisher, Year.

For instance, if you were citing Beethoven's Fifth Symphony:

Beethoven, Ludwig van. *Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67*. New York: Dover Publications, 1999.

Citing Works with Opus Numbers and Keys

It's standard practice to include opus numbers (Op.) and sometimes the key of the work when available, as these are crucial identifying features. For works without opus numbers, composers' catalogue numbers (BWV for Bach, K. for Mozart) are often used.

Bach, Johann Sebastian. *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F major, BWV 1047*. Edited by Johann Christian Bach. Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel, 1960.

Citing Unpublished Musical Scores and Manuscripts

Unpublished scores and manuscripts present a different set of challenges, as they may not have a standard publisher or a definitive publication date. In these cases, the citation needs to focus on the repository where the manuscript is housed and any identifying marks or collection information.

When referencing an unpublished score, it's important to note its physical form (e.g., manuscript, holograph) and its location. If the manuscript is part of a larger collection, the name of that collection is essential.

Example of an Unpublished Musical Score Citation

For an unpublished score, the format might look like this:

Composer's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Date of composition or creation. Description of format (e.g., manuscript, holograph score). Collection name. Repository, Location.

An example might be citing an early, unpublished version of a work:

Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus. *Piano Sonata in A major, K. 331*. Composed 1783. Holograph manuscript. Music Collection. Austrian National Library, Vienna.

Citing Scores from Private Collections or Libraries

If the score is held in a private collection or a library not typically listed in standard directories, you may need to provide more descriptive information about its provenance.

Citing Musical Scores from Anthologies or Collections

Many musical scores are found within larger anthologies, collected editions, or scholarly works. When citing a piece from such a collection, you need to cite both the individual piece and the larger work it belongs to.

The structure for citing a component of a larger work typically involves citing the specific piece first, followed by the title of the anthology, then the editor (if applicable), and finally the publication details of the anthology itself.

Example of a Score Citation from an Anthology

Here's how to cite a single song from a songbook:

Composer's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Song." In *Title of Anthology*, edited by Editor's First Name Last Name, page numbers. City: Publisher, Year.

For example, citing a Chopin nocturne found in a compilation:

Chopin, Frédéric. "Nocturne in E-flat major, Op. 9, No. 2." In *Masterpieces of Romantic Piano Music*, edited by Harold C. Schonberg, 45-48. New York: Schirmer, 1988.

Citing Multiple Works from the Same Collection

If you cite several pieces from the same anthology, you might consider a shortened entry in your bibliography and a full note in your endnotes or footnotes, referencing the anthology details more extensively there.

Citing Musical Scores in Digital Formats

With the advent of digital music libraries and online archives, citing musical scores in digital formats is increasingly common. These citations need to include information about the digital source, such as a stable URL or DOI (Digital Object Identifier), if available.

When referencing a score accessed online, it's crucial to note the platform or website where it was found. This helps your reader locate the exact digital file you consulted, which can be subject to change or removal.

Example of a Digital Score Citation

A digital score citation might look like this:

Composer's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Year. Medium (e.g., PDF file). Publisher or source. Accessed Date. URL or DOI.

Example of a score accessed via a digital archive:

Debussy, Claude. *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*. 1894. Digital image of score. IMSLP, accessed March 15, 2024.

[https://imslp.org/wiki/Pr%C3%A9lude_%C3%A0_l%27apr%C3%A8s-midi_d%27un_faune_\(Debussy,_Claude\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Pr%C3%A9lude_%C3%A0_l%27apr%C3%A8s-midi_d%27un_faune_(Debussy,_Claude)).

Citing Scores from Online Music Databases

Many academic institutions provide access to specialized music databases. Always check the database's own citation guidelines if they are available.

Citing Recordings of Musical Scores

Often, research involves referencing a specific recording of a musical score rather than the score itself. In such cases, the citation should focus on the recording artist(s), the conductor, the ensemble, the album title, the record label, and the release year.

The Chicago Manual of Style treats recordings similarly to other media, requiring details that allow for precise identification of the sound recording. This includes not only the performers but also the specific track if it's part of a larger album.

Example of a Recording Citation

Here's a typical format for citing a musical recording:

Composer's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. Performed by Performer(s) or Ensemble. Album Title. Record Label, Year.

An example of citing a specific performance on an album:

Mahler, Gustav. *Symphony No. 9*. Performed by Berliner Philharmoniker, conducted by Herbert von Karajan. Deutsche Grammophon, 1981.

Citing Specific Tracks or Movements from a Recording

If you are referencing a specific movement from a symphony or a particular song from an album, ensure that this is clearly indicated.

Citing Musical Performances

In some research contexts, you might need to cite a live musical performance you attended. This is less common for a bibliography focused on scores but can be relevant when discussing interpretive aspects or historical events.

Citing a live performance requires documentation of the date and location of the event, the performing artists or ensemble, and the program presented.

Example of a Musical Performance Citation

A citation for a live performance might appear as:

Title of Program or Concert. Performed by Performing Ensemble or Artist. Venue, City, State. Date of Performance.

Example:

An Evening of Chamber Music. Performed by the Juilliard String Quartet. Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York, NY. October 27, 2023.

Distinguishing Between Live Performances and Recordings

It is crucial to differentiate between a citation for a recording of a work and a citation for a live, in-person performance.

Frequently Asked Questions about Chicago Style Bibliography Examples for a Musical Score

Q: What is the difference between citing a score and citing a recording in Chicago style?

A: Citing a score focuses on the written musical text, including composer, title, edition, and publication details. Citing a recording focuses on the audio version of the work, including performers, album title, record label, and release date.

Q: Should I always italicize the title of a musical score?

A: Yes, generally, the titles of complete musical works (symphonies, operas, concertos, sonatas, etc.) are italicized in Chicago style. Titles of individual movements or songs might be enclosed in quotation marks, depending on the context and the overarching work they belong to.

Q: How do I cite a multi-volume collected edition of a composer's works?

A: You would cite the specific volume containing the work you are referencing, along with the overall title of the collected edition, the editor(s), and publication details for the edition. For example: Composer's Last Name, First Name. *Title of Work*. In *Complete Works*, vol. X, edited by Editor's First Name Last Name, page numbers. City: Publisher, Year.

Q: What if the musical score I am using has no opus number?

A: If the score lacks an opus number, use any available catalogue number (e.g., BWV, K., D.) or other identifying markers. If none are available, rely on the title, key, and publication details to differentiate the work.

Q: How specific should I be with page numbers when citing a score?

A: You should be as specific as possible. If citing a particular passage, provide the exact page number. If referencing an entire movement, you might list the starting and ending page numbers of that movement.

Q: Is it necessary to include the location of the publisher (city) in a Chicago style bibliography entry for a musical score?

A: Yes, according to Chicago style, the city of publication is generally included for published works to help identify the specific edition.

Q: How do I cite a score that I found on a personal website or blog?

A: Treat it like any other online source, providing as much bibliographic detail as possible: composer, title, website name, author of the post (if different from the composer), date of publication or last update, and the URL. Note the accessed date as well.

Q: What if the composer is unknown for a musical score I need to cite?

A: Begin the citation with the title of the work. If there is an editor or compiler, list them next. Provide all other available publication information. For example: *Anonymous Songs of the Renaissance*. Collected and edited by John Smith. New York: Music Press, 2010.

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