



*Negro Spirituals*

**JAZZ IN NEW ORLEANS AND CHICAGO**



# Negro Spirituals

“Swing low, sweet chariot” 

“Deep down in my heart” 

“Jesus leads me all the way” 

“Nobody knows de trouble I’ve seen” 

“I’ve got my ticket” 

“Go Down Moses” 



# Negro Spirituals

Negro Spirituals are songs created by enslaved African Americans in the US during the era of slavery. They were deeply rooted in African cultural heritage and Christian hymnody. While some spirituals were based on biblical stories, others reflected the lived experiences of enslaved individuals.



**Mahalia Jackson**, the "Queen of Gospel." She was one of the most renowned gospel singers of the 20th century. Her powerful voice and emotional delivery brought Negro Spirituals to a wider audience.



Enslaved individuals from diverse African backgrounds collectively composed and sang these songs as a form of communication, resistance, and solidarity within their communities. They provided solace, strength, and a sense of community for enslaved Africans. This genre allowed Jazz to take shape during the 19th century and still leave a lasting impact today.



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From Slavery to Civil Rights: The  
Legacy of Negro Spirituals in  
Georgia



# Negro Spirituals

## JAZZ IN CHICAGO



This genre served as a means of emotional release and communication for enslaved Africans, evolving into gospel music with the Great Migration's arrival in Chicago. Thomas Dorsey played a pivotal role in blending blues influences with religious themes, pioneering gospel music despite initial resistance. Mahalia Jackson further popularized gospel music and used her platform to support the civil rights movement. Today, gospel music continues to influence diverse genres like R&B and hip hop, keeping its spirit of resilience and freedom alive in contemporary Black music culture.

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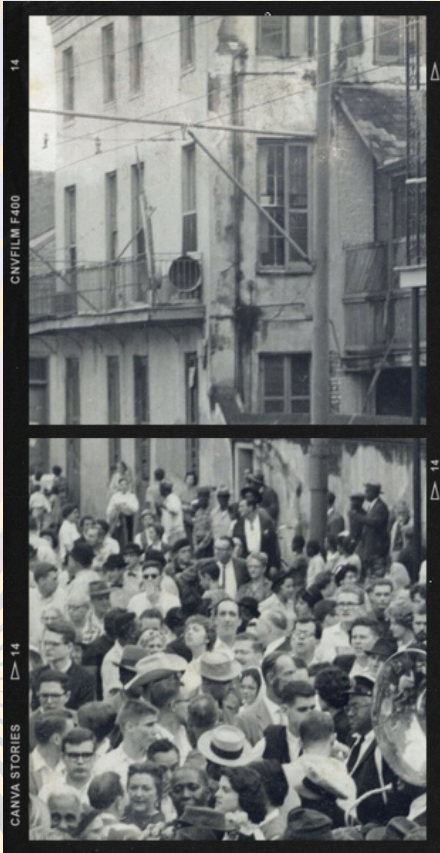
Chicago Jazz



# Negro Spirituals

## JAZZ IN NEW ORLEANS

Negro spirituals provided an aesthetic and thematic foundation for the development of jazz in New Orleans. Musicians like Charles “Buddy” Bolden pioneered the early development of New Orleans jazz by capitalizing on the emergence of ragtime, blues, and energetic brass sounds to appeal to a lively dancing scene. Spirituals also infused New Orleans jazz with a sense of collective identity and social commentary, keeping the African American experience close to heart.



**Charles “Buddy” Bolden**, a New Orleans cornetist, bandleader and one of jazz’s founding fathers.

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**New Orleans Jazz**