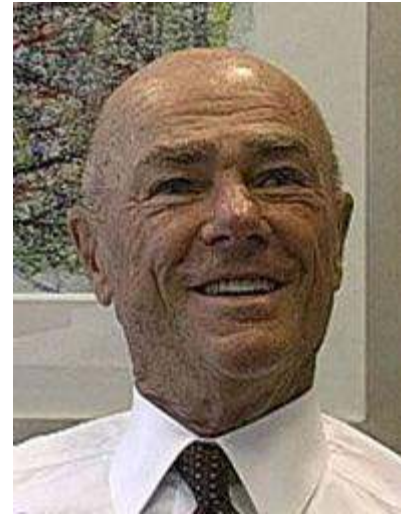


# Chicago Musical Instrument Co.

## Chicago

- 1900 Maurice Henry Berlin (Berlinberg) (1895-1984) emigrates to Detroit from Russia. (census)
- 1910 Maurice quits school and works as a stock boy for Wurlitzer. (Arnold Berlin)
- 1919 After playing cornet in the Navy during WWI then returning to Wurlitzer, Maurice becomes one of two salesmen for the Martin Band Instrument Co. His territory is everything west of the Mississippi. (AB)
- 1920 Maurice establishes Chicago Musical Instrument Co. and is naturalized this year. He also starts a retail outlet for Martin in Chicago. (AB)
- 1921 CMIC at #602 W. North Ave, Chicago. (directory)
- 1930 Maurice Berlin, wholesale musical merchant, home at #7360 Suley Ave, Chicago. (census)
- 1931 CMIC at #311 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago. (directory)
- 1940 Maurice is now living in Glencoe; musical instrument executive. (census) At this time he drops the retail store. (AB)
- 1942 CMIC at #30 E. Adams St. (dir)
- 1944 CMIC buys Gibson guitars.
- After WWII, CMIC buys Olds & Son and hires F.A. Reynolds to oversee the operation.
- 1950 Son Arnold Berlin (b.1924, photo 1) starts working for CMIC. (AB)
- 1957 CMIC buys Epiphone guitars.
- 1960 CMIC goes public and is on the NY stock exchange by 1962. (AB)



- 1964 CMIC buys the Reynolds Co.
- 1969 CMIC merges with ECL to form Norlin Music Corp. with Norton Stevens and Maurice's son Arnold Berlin. Maurice retires.
- 1976 Arnold retires from Norlin. (AB)
- 1979 Norlin sells Reynolds & Olds.
- 1984 Maurice passes away.
- 1986 Norlin sells Gibson to a private company.

Early brass instruments sold by CMIC are the "American Student" models made by B&F in Czechoslovakia. [Horn-u-copia]