

"Essentially, I'm a composer who plays the piano or I'm a pianist who is a composer."

—Dave Brubeck

THE TIMES OF DAVE BRUBECK

Dave Brubeck is a giant in the world of jazz. For over sixty years, Brubeck has performed his unique brand of music around the globe. He is widely acclaimed for pioneering the use of unusual rhythms and extended harmonies.

David Warren Brubeck was born in Concord, California, in 1920. The third son of a mother who was a classical pianist and a father who was a cattleman, he long assumed he would follow in his father's footsteps. But at the College of the Pacific in Stockton, he succumbed to the lure of music. He played with various bands in Northern California, and after World War II led groups in the San Francisco area. In the late 1940s he began to make his name as an innovative jazz bandleader.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the Dave Brubeck Quartet personified the West Coast jazz sound, and became one of the most popular groups in jazz history. Since the late 1960s, Brubeck has concentrated more on composing choral and orchestral works. But he still makes time to perform both jazz and classical concerts throughout the world.

Come explore the times of Dave Brubeck.



Compare your hands to Dave's.

In 2000, the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, Dave and Lola Brubeck's alma mater, established the Brubeck Institute in conjunction with the Brubeck Collection. Housed in the Special Collections of the University of the Pacific Library, the Brubeck Collection contains over 350 linear feet of recordings, musical scores, correspondence, photographs, clippings, concert programs, business records, and other materials that document Dave Brubeck's life and career. Together, the Brubeck Institute and the Brubeck Collection form a "living archive" that builds on Dave Brubeck's legacy through performance, education, and research. Unless otherwise noted, all images in this exhibit are from the Brubeck Collection.

