Copyright status in Australia of music by modern composers

14/3/2023

The copyright status of works by some well-known modern composers is shown in the table below. See also the notes that follow.

	Composer	Died	Expires at the end of	Pub Domain?
Leroy	**Anderson**	1975	2045	
Malcolm	**Arnold**	2006	2076	
Samuel	**Barber**	1981	2051	
Arthur	**Benjamin**	1960	2030	
Lennox	**Berkeley**	1989	2059	
Leonard	**Bernstein**	1990	2060	
Ernest	**Bloch**	1959	2029	
Benjamin	**Britten**	1976	2046	
Aaron	**Copland**	1990	2060	
Gerald	**Finzi**	1956	2026	
Alberto	**Ginastera**	1983	2053	
Peggy	**Glanville-Hicks**	1990	2060	
Percy	**Grainger**	1961	2031	
Paul	**Hindemith**	1963	2033	
Jacques	**Ibert**	1962	2032	
Dmitry	**Kabalevsky**	1987	2057	
Aram	**Khachaturian**	1978	2048	
Olivier	**Messiaen**	1992	2062	
Darius	**Milhaud**	1974	2044	
Carl	**Orff**	1986	2056	
Astor	**Piazzolla**	1992	2062	
Francis	**Poulenc**	1963	2033	
Joaquin	**Rodrigo**	1999	2069	
Alfred	**Schnittke**	1998	2068	
Peter	**Sculthorpe**	2014	2084	
Dmitri	**Shostakovich**	1975	2045	
Jean	**Sibelius**	1957	2027	
Igor	**Stravinsky**	1971	2041	
Michael	**Tippett**	1998	2068	
Henri	**Tomasi**	1971	2041	
Ralph	**Vaughan Williams**	1958	2028	
Heitor	**Villa-Lobos**	1959	2029	
William	**Walton**	1983	2053	
Bela	**Bartok**	1945	1955	PD
Mario	**Castelnuovo-Tedesco**	1949	1955	PD
Manuel	**De Falla**	1946	1955	PD
Frederick	**Delius**	1934	1955	PD
Edward	**Elgar**	1934	1955	PD

Julius	**Fucik**	1916	1955	PD
George	**Gershwin**	1937	1955	PD
Gustav	**Holst**	1934	1955	PD
Leos	**Janacek**	1928	1955	PD
Carl	**Nielsen**	1931	1955	PD
Sergei	**Prokofiev**	1953	1955	PD
Maurice	**Ravel**	1937	1955	PD
Max	**Reger**	1916	1955	PD
Ottorino	**Respighi**	1936	1955	PD
Oscar	**Straus**	1954	1955	PD
Richard	**Strauss**	1949	1955	PD
Kurt	**Weill**	1950	1955	PD

Notes:

1. In Australia, music is protected by copyright for 70 years following the composer's death, unless they died prior to 1 Jan 1955.
2. Works by composers who died prior to 1955 are public domain i.e. are no longer protected by copyright.
3. The printed edition of a work is protected by copyright for 25 years from the date of first publication of that edition.
4. Works in copyright can either be purchased or hired at the publishers' discretion. A work only for hire from one source may be available for purchase from another. However complete choral works, operettas etc. covered by "grand rights" copyright can only be hired.
5. "Grand rights" works can usually only be hired, typically from Hal Leonard Australia, who can also hire other copyright works.
6. The APRA performing rights fee paid annually by MaSO permits public performance by MaSO of all works except those covered by "grand rights". For these works, performance rights are purchased from Hal Leonard at the time of hiring scores.

Source: APRA/MCOS

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