

Ferdinand “jelly roll” morton

Early life

He was born on october 20, 1890 to Edward J. Lamothe and Louise Monettea.. He was exposed to opera at a young age and had a rudimentary education. He got his start at playing piano and immediately rose to be a top young pianist. He started playing piano in a prostitute house for money. When his family found out he played piano he was kicked out the house. He continued to play piano and was regarded as one of the best

Personal life

Morton then continued across the country to find work. He moved to mississippi and was incarcerated for robbery. He then travelled to chicago, houston, and california before eventually returning to new orleans. While there. He travelled around the south, studying music of the different areas. He married mabel bertand, a showgirl, in november 1928. He was a devout catholic his whole life.

Accolades and contributions

Morton signed to the victor talking machine company which helped propel him to success. He went on to make some of the classic early jazz records with his band. Morton also claimed to be the creator of jazz music and the name. While this might not be true he was definitely one of the pioneers of jazz. He also published one of the first jazz records ever.

Career

He then went on tour with his band, creating music and playing songs until the great depression hit which made him get fired from his recording label. He went on to play in a bar in washington D.C.



"Jazz music is to be played
sweet, soft, plenty rhythm."

-Jelly roll morton