

Chicago Musical Instrument Co.

Chicago

- 1900 Maurice Henry Berlin (Berlinberg) (1895-1984) emigrates to Detroit from Russia (census).
- 1910 Maurice working as stock boy in store in Chicago.
- 1920 Maurice establishes Chicago Musical Instrument Co. and is naturalized this year.
- 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 (dir).
- 1940 Maurice now living in Glenco, musical instrument exec. (census).
- 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 production.
- 1957 CMIC buys Epiphone guitars.
- 1964 CMIC buys the Reynolds Co.
- 1969 CMIC merges with ECL to form Norlin Corp. with Norton Stevens and Maurice's son Arnold Berlin (1924-?)(photo 1).
- 1979 Norlin sells Reynolds & Olds.
- 1984 Maurice dies.
- 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. These likely all pre-date WWII.

Photos are from Horn-u-copia.net.

