

Victor Herbert (February 1, 1859 – May 26, 1924)

Victor Herbert was a distinguished American composer, conductor, and cellist, celebrated for his contributions to the American operetta and musical theatre. Born in Dublin, Ireland, Herbert moved to the United States in the late 19th century, where he established a prominent career in music.

Herbert was a prolific composer of operettas, a genre that blends operatic and musical theater elements. His notable works include *Naughty Marietta* (1910), *Babes in Toyland* (1903), and *The Red Mill* (1906). These operettas are characterized by their memorable melodies, lively orchestration, and engaging stories.

In addition to his work in operetta, Herbert was an accomplished cellist and served as the principal cellist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic. He was also a founding member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP), which played a crucial role in protecting composers' rights.

Herbert's influence extended beyond his lifetime, impacting the development of American musical theater. His innovative approach to the operetta format and his contributions to orchestration left a lasting legacy in the world of music.