

In my thesis i analyze the history of jazz, since the time of the slavery, and I follow how the African American people from various locations and tribes were forced to go in America to work.

I divide each period, starting chronologically and explaining how Afro-Americans developed the music which today is called jazz. I analyze the elements from African music that African Americans were using and i move into the era that their style was flourishing in New Orleans.

I then speak about the main genres of their music until jazz appeared, and i write about the different sub-styles and forms that existed, such as spirituals,ragtime, blues and others.

In the work it is also mentioned briefly how Jazz came into the Czech Republic, and i illustrate the contribution of Jaroslav Jezek.

In two chapters i speak about the typical jazz elements and harmony, and i make some comparison with the classical music elements.

In the final chapter i analyze three works from composers of the 20th century that were influenced by jazz, and show how their compositions used elements from the african american music.