

Max Harmonist

2-10-1864 - 10-16-1907



Max Harmonist (Berlin, 10 February 1864-16 October 1907) was a leading German [chess](#)master. He was probably the only famous chess player to have been by profession a ballet dancer. He often performed in the royal ballet.

He became famous after winning a game at [Frankfurt](#) 1887 against [Isidor Gunsberg](#), widely regarded as one of the strongest masters of that period. In the same tournament he also beat [Joseph Blackburne](#) (who placed 2nd) and [Emil Schallopp](#).

In tournaments, he was 1st-4th at Berlin 1883, took 3rd at Berlin 1883, won at [Hamburg](#) 1885 (Hauptturnier), won at Berlin 1887, took 21st at Frankfurt 1887, tied for 4-5th at Berlin 1888, tied for 4-5th at [Nuremberg](#) 1888, tied for 15-16th at [Breslau](#) 1889, and tied for 5-8th at Berlin 1890.

Max Harmonist

Number of games in database: 45

Years covered: 1885 to 1898

Overall record: +12 -24 =9 (36.7%)*

* Overall winning percentage = (wins+draws/2) / total games
Based on games in the database; may be incomplete.

MOST PLAYED OPENINGS

With the White pieces:

[Ruy Lopez](#) (6)

[C65](#) [C67](#)

[French Defense](#) (4)

[C14](#) [C01](#) [C02](#)

With the Black pieces:

[Ruy Lopez](#) (7)

[C67](#) [C60](#) [C69](#) [C77](#)



NOTABLE GAMES: [[what is this?](#)]

[Gunsberg vs Harmonist, 1887](#) 0-1

[Harmonist vs NN, 1897](#) 1-0

[Metger vs Harmonist, 1889](#) 1/2-1/2

[Harmonist vs Tarrasch, 1888](#) 1-0

NOTABLE TOURNAMENTS: [[what is this?](#)]

[Breslau](#) (1889)

[Search Sacrifice Explorer](#) for Max Harmonist

[Search Google](#) for Max Harmonist

Chessmetrics Player Profile: [Max Harmonist](#)

Born: **1864-Feb**

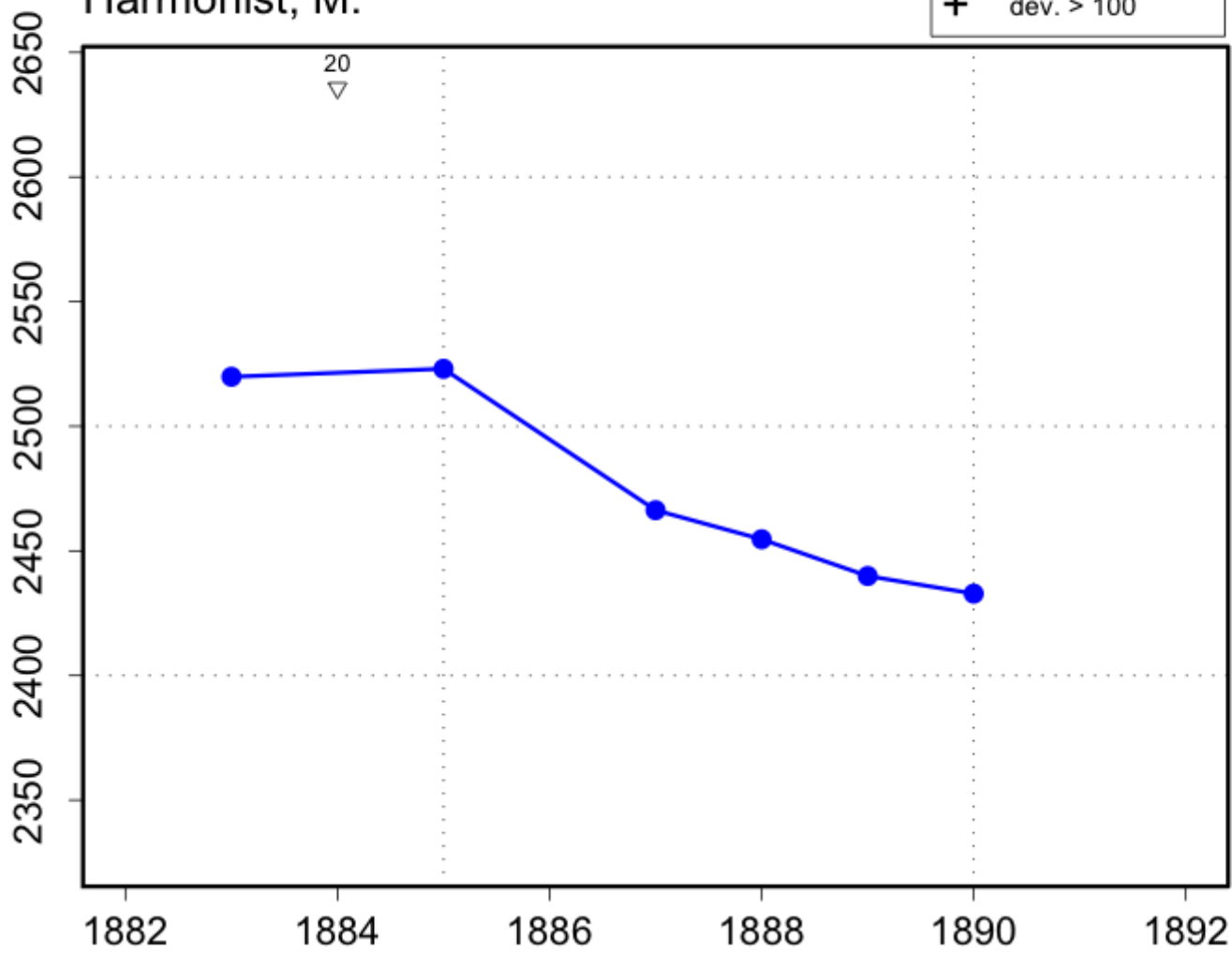
Died: **1907-Oct**

Best World Rank: **#30** (2 different months between the [February 1889 rating list](#) and the [March 1889 rating list](#))

Highest Rating: **2533** on the [July 1891 rating list](#), #33 in world, [age 27y5m](#)

Best Individual Performance: **2570** in [Nuremberg, 1888](#), scoring 4/8 (50%) vs 2584-rated opposition

Edo ratings:
Harmonist, M.



Ratings

Year	Rank	Edo	Dev.	Games
1883	15	2520	(59)	14
1884	18	2521	(58)	0
1885	20	2523	(50)	14
1886	23	2495	(49)	0
1887	35	2466	(38)	28
1888	40	2455	(38)	25
1889	41	2440	(43)	17
1890	48	2433	(55)	6

[Rating table notes](#)

Biographical data

Name: **Harmonist, Max**

Born: 10 Feb. 1864

Died: 14 Oct. 1907

Notes:

Golombek says died 16-10-1907. Gaige says died 14?-10-1907.

References

[Books](#)

Feenstra Kuiper, 100 Jahre Schachturniere, page 262

Forster, Amos Burn, page 311, 960

Gaige, Chess Personalalia, page 163

[Web](#)

Sericano, C. [[Maestri di scacchi dell'800](#)]

Match data (f=formal; c=casual; s=soft)

[Harmonist, M. - Crespi, E. 1888](#) (f) 2.5 - 1.5

Tournament data

Berlin 1883	3rd German Chess Federation Congress - Hauptturnier C Harmonist, M. - von Gottschall, H.	9.5 / 13 0.5 - 0.5
Hamburg 1885 (3)	4th German Chess Federation Congress - Hauptturnier C	5.5 / 7
Hamburg 1885 (5)	4th German Chess Federation Congress - Siegergruppe	6 / 7
Frankfurt 1887 (4)	5th German Chess Federation Congress - Meisterturnier	5.5 / 20
Berlin 1887 (2)	Berlin Chess Club 60th Anniversary Festival - 1st Class Tournament	7 / 8
Nuremberg 1888 (1)	2nd Bavarian Chess Federation Congress - Meisterturnier	5 / 10
Berlin 1888	Berlin Winter Tournament	6.5 / 11
Breslau 1889 (3)	6th German Chess Federation Congress - Meisterturnier	6.5 / 17
Berlin 1890	German Chessmaster Association Tournament	3 / 6