

FREEDOM
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WHO IS VICTOR JARA

The **Chilean singer of political resistance**



FROM REFORM TO DICTATORSHIP

1960s–70s Chile was shaped by stark inequality and political polarisation. **In 1970, Salvador Allende became the first Marxist elected democratically in Latin America.**

His project faced internal opposition and external pressure, notably from the United States.

On 11 September 1973, **Augusto Pinochet led a military coup**, replacing democracy with a **brutal dictatorship.**

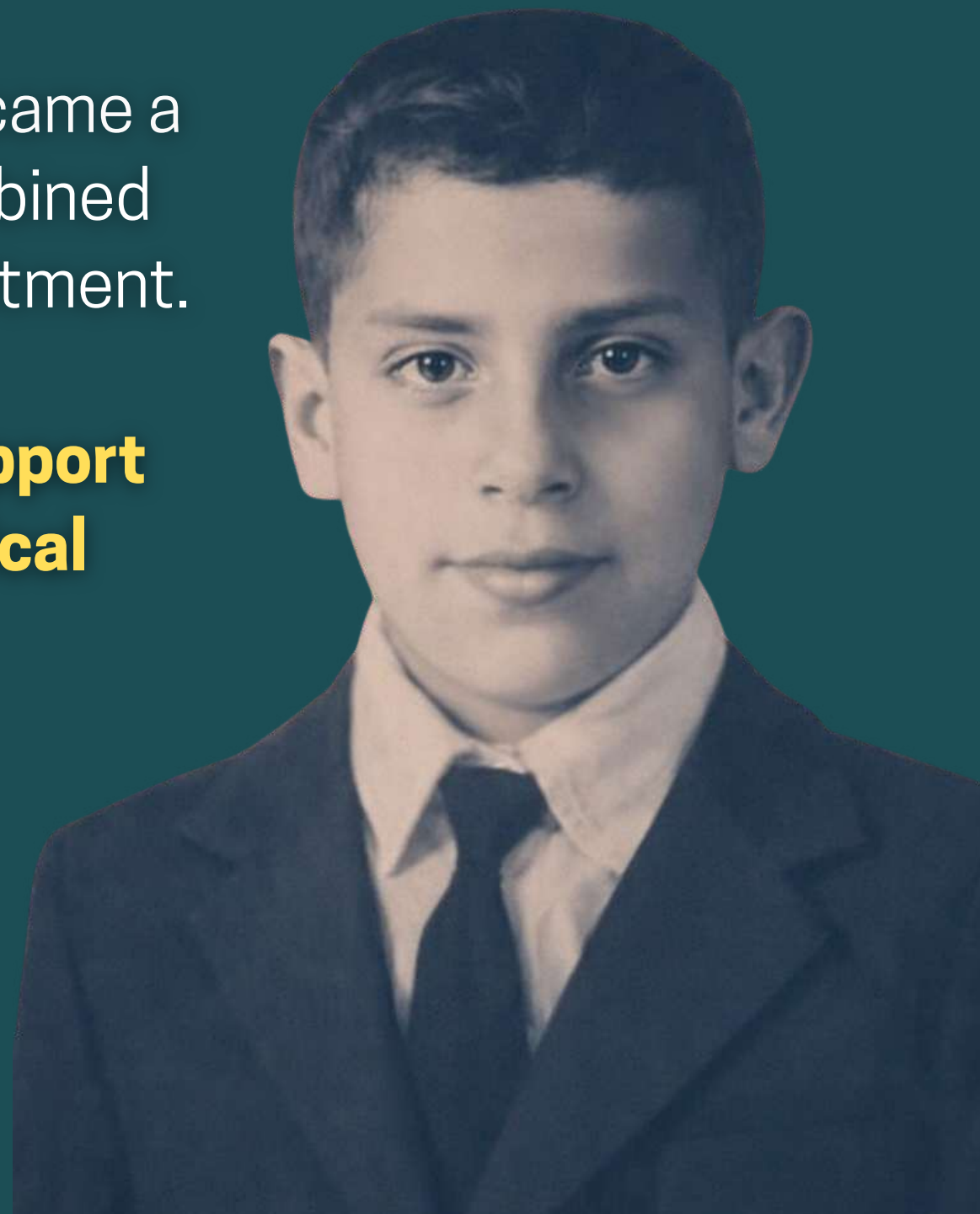


AN ARTIST SHAPED BY RURAL CHILE

Born in 1932 to a peasant family, Víctor Jara was deeply **influenced by rural culture and his mother's folk singing.**

After early work in theatre, he became a singer-songwriter whose art combined music, poetry and political commitment.

He used music and theatre **to support left-wing movements and political education.**



NUEVA CANCIÓN ACTIVISM

Jara was a leading figure of the “*Nueva Canción Chilena*”, a **movement** blending traditional Andean music with political lyrics, alongside artists like Violeta Parra.



Songs such as “*Plegaria a un Labrador*” were widely performed in factories, universities and pro-Allende events in the early 1970s, making it recognisable anthems of **Chile’s popular unity movement.**

ARREST AND EXECUTION

After the 1973 coup, Jara was arrested at the University of Chile and **taken to the Santiago stadium**, where thousands were detained. **He was tortured and executed days later.**

His murder symbolised the systematic **targeting of artists and activists.**

On July 3, 2018, **the Chilean courts recognised the crime and convicted former soldiers** for his murder.



LEGACY THROUGH MUSIC

His song “Te Recuerdo Amanda” exemplifies his ability to convey social struggle through intimate, human narratives.

Through a simple love story between factory workers, Amanda and Manuel, separated by factory work and cut short by Manuel’s death, **Jara highlights exploitation and structural inequality.**



He is then ensuring their experiences remain embedded in **Chile’s collective memory.**

“El derecho de vivir en paz es **el canto universal**, cadena que **hará triunfar el derecho de vivir en paz.**”

“The right to live in peace is **a universal song**, a force that will ensure **the right to live in peace prevails.**”

Victor Jarra,
“El derecho de vivir en paz”

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