



# Little Richard

“Architect of rock ‘n’ roll” who influenced most top recording artists from the mid-1950s to the present day



- **Dec 5, 1932:** **Richard Wayne Penniman** born in Macon, Georgia
- **1955:** Boogie woogie rhythms of **Tutti Frutti** generate first smash hit
- **1957:** Quits at height of his fame to become born-again Christian
- **1962:** Returns to rock music, inspiring **Beatles**, **Rolling Stones**, and **Jimi Hendrix**, among others
- **1970s:** Battles drug and alcohol addiction
- **1984:** Finally able to reconcile roles as evangelist and rock ‘n’ roll artist
- **2012:** Rolling Stone Magazine declares Tutti Frutti’s **A-wop-bop-a-loo-mop-a-lop-bam-boom!** is still most inspired rock lyric on record