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Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection

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Saturday, February 7th, 2004, 5:00-6:00 p.m.


One of the composers of the group known as the Second New England School, Arthur Foote, along with Paine, Chadwick, Parker, MacDowell, and Beach, brought American concert music into its own. Each is a strong composer, well trained, and each has regained some of the popularity among audiences today that was enjoyed a century ago. Foote was known mostly for his choral and organ music, but his forays into the orchestral realm, including his popular Suite in E for String Orchestra, show a mastery with larger ensembles.

Recently named the Director of the School of Music at SUNY Fredonia, Karl Boelter is an accomplished composer with an ear for color and form, his music ranging from contemplative to playful. His works make up the just-released third volume of our growing Music from the Fleisher Collection series on Albany records, joining works of Louis Gruenberg and American music for clarinet and orchestra; more are coming. We hear on today’s program the fascinating Concerto for Violin and Orchestra; also on our CD are the one-movement Dharma and a work for solo horn and orchestra, Images from Goldsmith.

It was almost exactly a year ago that the iconoclastic composer Lou Harrison passed away at age 85. His music appeals directly to our senses, and his joy at making sounds from whatever collection of instruments he chooses (and sometimes makes) is infectious. We celebrate his life today with the Canticle No. 1 for percussion, a joyful, exquisite delight.

Hosted by Kile Smith, Curator of the Fleisher Collection, and Jack Moore, Program Director of WRTI. In Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection we uncover the unknown, rediscover the little-known, and take a fresh look at some of the remarkable treasures housed in the Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music in the Free Library of Philadelphia. The Fleisher Collection is the largest lending library of orchestral performance material in the world. For recording details, please go to our web page. For a detailed list of all our shows, please visit our archives.