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Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection

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Saturday, April 10th, 2004, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
(2nd Saturday of the month!)

- [John Biggs](#) (b.1932). Symphony No. 1 (1964), 2nd movement, Adagio mesto (Passacaglia). Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Paul Freeman. [Music from the Fleisher Collection, Vol. 4](#), Albany Records, Troy635. 9:46
- [George Lloyd](#) (1913-1998). Symphony No. 4 "Arctic" (1946), 3rd and 4th movements. Albany Symphony Orchestra, George Lloyd. Albany Records, AR002. 24:14

We've heard the *Concerto for Orchestra* of John Biggs on a previous *Discoveries*, and we're happy to return to his music again, especially since today's work, the middle movement from his *Symphony No. 1*, is part of an all-Biggs CD released as Volume 4 of our Music from the Fleisher Collection series on Albany Records. This is an earlier work of John's, and the movement we will hear is a gorgeous example of his handling of counterpoint and color. The passacaglia form allows us to hear repeated bass lines and harmonic flow, and let the beauty of his orchestral writing come through. This is truly a heartfelt work.

The English composer George Lloyd has written a huge amount of music, including twelve symphonies, seven concertos, three operas, and many choral and band works. Most, if not all, of his music is recorded, and today we hear the last two movements from his massive *Symphony No. 4* "Arctic." The subtitle carries great meaning for our appreciation of Lloyd, because it was during his experience on board ship in World War II through an Arctic convoy that he suffered shell-shock and was one of only four of his ship to survive. Lingering effects of his injuries affected him the rest of his life, and he completely stopped composing for two extended periods. But ultimately, his gift for music and his love of life left us with so many wonderful creations.

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](#).