

CARL PARRISH

1904 – 1965

Carl Parrish was a distinguished scholar--an elder statesman among present-day musicologists--who was active and influential in the American Musicological Society. He was a specialist in medieval and renaissance music, and in the music of Haydn. He was well in touch with other areas of research in music, and was interested in the development of music library resources. He had received a Fulbright Grant in 1952-53 and a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1958-59. His books include the "Masterpieces of Music before 1750," "A Treasury of Early Music," "The Notation of Medieval Music," and translations of the "Dictionary of Musical Terms," by Johannes Tinctoris and the "Thoroughbass Method" of Hermann Keller.

He was devoted to teaching in a career which he began as pianist and composer. Before coming to Vassar College, he had taught at Wells College, Fisk University, Westminster Choir College, Union Theological Seminary and Pomona College. While at Vassar he taught during numerous summers at the University of Southern California, Union Theological Seminary and the University of Minnesota. His interest in the problems of students was given particular emphasis in those four years when Carl and his wife served as housefellows in Raymond.

To those who knew him as a friend as well as professionally, he was a quietly compassionate man whose confidence was to be sought and respected. He had a broad range of interests. In recollection, discussions with him concerning fine points of historical analysis in music, and concerning developments in other fields, can be contrasted with afternoons spent with him in Yankee Stadium or in watching him play ball with his son. His sense of humor was perceptive and generous. His contemplation of ultimate concerns marked both his social awareness and his faith.

It was a privilege, not easily gained, to know this man. And it is our privilege, at this moment, to try to call your attention to the whole man.

James B. Coover

Pilar de Madariaga

Earl W. Groves

Donald M. Pearson

Homer Pearson

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