Cello Celebrations at UNCG: Cooperation between the University Libraries and the School of Music

Mac Nelson, Cello Music Cataloger
UNCG University Libraries
SEMLA, Jacksonville, FL
October 19, 2007
Why Cooperate?

“The Cello Music Collection and the Celebrations of the distinguished cellists who have donated their libraries to it have put UNCG on the international musical map.” –UNCG Chancellor Patricia Sullivan

“Dude, this place is total Cello Mecca!” –Cello-toting teenager in attendance at the Laszlo Varga Celebration, February 16-18, 2007
Celebrations

The Silva Centennial Celebration

A 100th birthday year celebration of Luigi Silva and his living legacy.
Celebration Director Brooks Whitehouse with a Special Guest
Collection Number Seven

The Bernard Greenhouse Collection
Greenhouse Celebration
March 4-6, 2005

Bernard Greenhouse being welcomed by friends and admirers at the UNCG School of Music as the Celebration begins.
The Cello Music Collection

Luigi Silva (1963)
Elizabeth Cowling (1976)
Rudolf Matz (1986)
Maurice Eisenberg (1989)
Janos Scholtz (1994)
Fritz Magg (2002)
Bernard Greenhouse (2005)
Laszlo Varga (2006)
Cooperation: Easy Theory, Difficult Practice

Cooperative activities are a gamble—and libraries are famous for hating a gamble. They never like to part with the grocery money. No matter how small or large the budget is, librarians will always treat it like grocery money.

Heads in the Sand?

Librarians are famous for resisting looking at the outer world...they tend to be ostrich-like about change.

Paraphrased from Christopher A. Milson-Martula.
Collaboration requires a different breed of librarian… *Change agents* are what you might call such librarians. You can tell who they are by their attitude toward collection development. The key is that they don’t do the job one way simply because that is what they have always done.

Paraphrased from Christopher A. Millson-Martula.
Greenhouse Celebration, Hodges Reading Room
Classes and Presentations

Bernard Greenhouse in the UNCG Alumni House with his famous Stradivarius Cello ("Paganini," 1707) and his son-in-law, the author Nicholas Delbanco.
Delbanco’s book traces the restoration of the “Stanlein” and provides an account of Bernard Greenhouse’s determination “to give back something of value to the world of music that had given him so much.”
Masterclasses

Masterclass Participant and DMA student Brian Hodges in a session at the UNCG Alumni House.
Greenhouse the Teacher
Bach Arias with Timothy Eddy

Improvisation with Eric Edberg

“This was a great experience for cellists of all ages and levels of expertise.”
Young Virtuoso &
Younger Understudy

Qiang Tu of the
New York Philharmonic
with a gifted young
friend.
Cello Celebration Orchestra

*Three Preludes and Fugues* by J.S. Bach (arr. H. Villa-Lobos) and *Sardana* by Pablo Casals.
Greenhouse at 90

Bernard Greenhouse performing the “Song of the Birds” with the Celebration Orchestra.
Laszlo Varga at “Bernie’s Show”
Varga Celebration,
February 16-18, 2007
Varga at UNCG

Varga and UNCG cellist Kendall Ramseur
Masterclasses

A session with Takayori Atsumi of Arizona State University
Hungarian Connection

Janos Starker, Laszlo Varga, and Brooks Whitehouse
Stories

Brooks Whitehouse interviews Varga and Starker
Varga is widely considered to be the father of the multi-cello ensemble.
Cello Quartets
The Youngest Celebrant
Multi-Cello Ensemble: The Youth Movement
Varga Plays
“Five Easy Pieces”
by
Bach, Schubert, Brahms, and Kodaly
Strauss, Don Quixote
Symphonic Cello Repertoire, Vol. III
Tchaikovsky,
Variations
on a Theme
Rococo
Bach, Prelude from *Suite II* for Cello Solo
Beethoven,
Three Scottish Songs
Magg, Christmas Concertino for Royal Typewriter and Stradivari Cello
Magg,

A Birth-Day Greeting...

A BIRTH-DAY GREETING
from the
BERKSHIRE QUARTET

to

MRS. ELIZABETH SPRAGUE COOLIDGE

played on October 30, 1950 over the telephone
from Bloomington, Indiana, to Washington, D.C.

by

URICO ROSSI 1st violinist and tenor

ALBERT LAYMAN 2nd violinist and trumpet

ALFRED KLONDAKE violinist and soulful troubadour of the 2nd variation

FELIX MAGG cellist and arranger of this modern piece

URICO ROSSI