Musical Life in Portland in the Early Twentieth Century: A Look Into the Lives of Two Portland Women Musicians

Abstract
This study looks at the lives of female musicians who lived and worked in Oregon in the early twentieth century in order to answer questions about what musical opportunities were available to them and what musical life may have been like. In this study I am looking at the lives of the composers, performers, and music teachers, Ethel Edick Burtt (1886-1974) and Mary Evelene Calbreath (1895-1972). Mary Evelene Calbreath was a prominent Portland musician and composer. Her works were performed frequently in Portland and were written about in newspapers. Ethel Edick Burtt composed piano pieces and songs, and performances of them were advertised in newspapers. Her life was remarkable enough to make it into encyclopedias like the "Who's Who, Cohen," and the "MacMillan." For this study I use archival material, newspaper advertisements and articles, and secondary sources about Portland and Oregon history.
But women are still in short supply, as are most composers of color. The lack of integration between so-called classical and popular forms - a crucial aspect of 20th century musical production - is also a symptom here. I also take e Taruskin's saga continues with the 20th century, with all the same pluses and minuses of his earlier volumes. By the 20th century, his ongoing excuse that women are not included as much because we don't know about them. But that simply isn't true in the 20th century. But women are still in short supply, as are most composers of color.