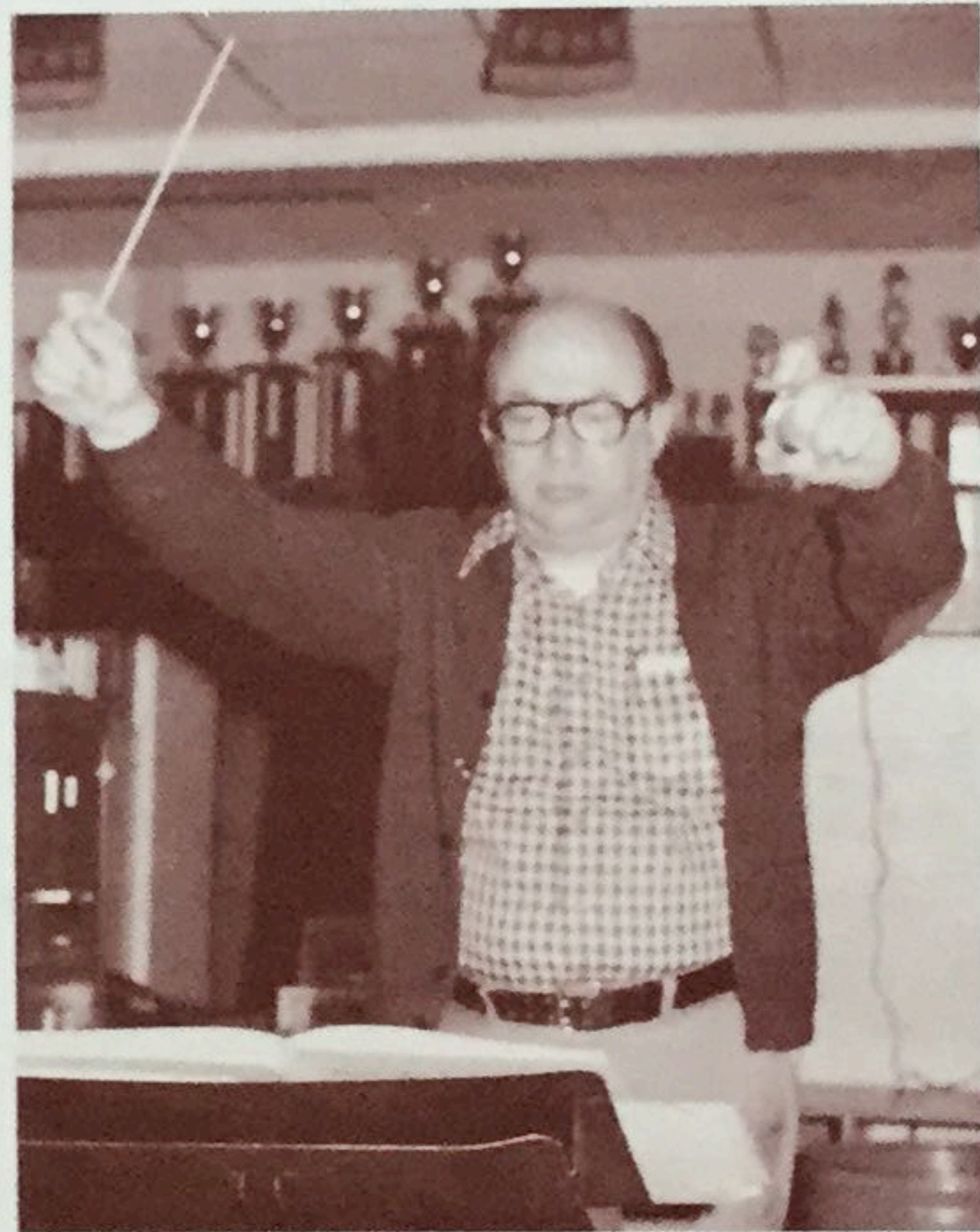


HM 88

Heritage of the March

Volume 88-The Strausses
Foeller's Illinois State Alums and Friends
George Foeller, Director



Foeller's Illinois State Alums and Friends

SIDE 1 MARCHES OF EDUARD STRAUSS

Österreich's Völker—Treue, op. 211—Translated as "Loyalty of the Austrian Peoples", and composed in 1883, this march marked the 600th anniversary of the unification of the crown lands under Habsburg's sceptre. Loren Geiger made this arrangement.

La Gloire du Brésil, op. 63—This triumphal march includes the "hymne national" of Brazil in its trio. It was dedicated by Strauss to His Majesty the Emperor Dom Pedro II. Before World War II French was considered the language of diplomats, so a composition with intended international significance was frequently titled in French.

Lanciers—Marsch, op. 44—This march was composed for His Highness Prince Nikolaus Grand Duke of Oldenburg, which was a grand duchy in northern Germany. The title is French for "Lancers"; the arrangement is by Liz Lehnhausen.

Bahn Freil, op. 45—This is a famous galop, also called a fast-polka.

MARCH OF OSCAR STRAUSS

Nibelungen—Marsch—The themes included in this march are from the operetta "Die lustigen Nibelungen".

MARCHES OF RICHARD STRAUSS

Königsmarsch—This "King's March" was composed January 6, 1906, in Berlin.

Parade—Marsch—(des Regiments Königs-Jäger zu Pferde Nr. 1)—This march was written on January 23, 1905, in Berlin, and was intended for the Royal Mounted Rifle Regiment No. 1.

Both marches by Richard Strauss were intended to appeal to Kaiser Wilhelm II, King of Germany. They followed the composition of two operas, "Feuersnot" and "Salome", and may have been intended to counteract the rumored objection of the Empress to these works. The word was that she questioned the morality of these operas; sometime after the "Königsmarsch" was premiered, Strauss was awarded the Order of the Crown, Third Class.

SIDE 2 MARCHES OF JOHANN STRAUSS, JR.

Deutschmeister-Jubiläums Marsch, op. 470—Written in 1894, this march commemorates the 200th anniversary of Austro-Hungarian Infantry Regiment No. 4 (the "Hoch-und Deutschmeister"), which was established in 1696. It became—for various reasons—one of the best known regiments in the monarchy.

Der lustige Krieg—Marsch, op. 397—This march from the operetta, "The Happy War", dates from 1881.

Deutscher Krieger—Marsch, op. 284—Also arranged by Loren Geiger, this title may be translated as "German Warrior".

Kaiser-Jäger-Marsch, op. 93—This march was dedicated to the emperor's most famous rifle unit, the Tyrolean Rifles, which by 1914 consisted of four regiments. It was composed in 1851.

Kriegsabenteuer—Galopp, op. 419—Translated "Adventures of War", this galop (or fast polka) is based on motifs from the operetta "Gypsy Baron".

Einzugs Marsch—This is an "Entry March" from the "Gypsy Baron", which dates from 1885.

Reitermarsch, op. 428—This strictly translates as "Rider March", and is based on motifs of the operetta "Simplicius". It was written in 1888 and was associated with Ulanenregiment Graf Auersperg Nr. 8.

Habsburg Hoch!, op. 408—This march is a salutation to the Habsburg family, which ruled the Austro-Hungarian lands for hundreds of years. It was composed in 1883 to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the Austrian Empire. Like other Strauss marches, the tunes used have long-term association with the Imperial family. The recorded arrangement, along with several others on this side, was scored by Loren Geiger.

MARCH OF OSCAR STRAUSS

Bulgarian March—From the operetta "The Chocolate Soldier", first produced in 1908, comes this stylized march. This particular operetta achieved great popularity in America and England.

Eduard Strauss (1835-1916)

Eduard Strauss, brother to Johann, junior, and Josef, was born in Vienna on March 15, 1835. Although parental desire had intended him for consular service, the family musical obligations had become so intense that his brother Johann prevailed upon him to "front" another Strauss orchestra.

His musical training was thorough, and he acquired dance music experience as a member of Johann's orchestra. With his own ensemble he toured all of Europe, and made his first of several visits to London in 1885. His reputation is mainly that of a conductor, although his compositions—numbering over 250—exhibit fine craftsmanship. There is some evidence he wrote a symphony for wind instruments.

Oscar Straus (1870-1954)

Oscar Straus was not related to the Viennese dance-associated Strausses, although he was born in Vienna on April 6, 1870. He lived much of his early life in Berlin, studied with Max Bruch—among others, and conducted in theatres in various towns. His first stage works were produced in the 1890's and 1900's, and followed an opera format. He became best known for his operettas, however, which began to appear late in the first decade of the Twentieth Century. With these he established an international reputation as a composer of light music.

Straus went to New York after 1927, and died on January 11, 1954.

Johann Strauss, Jr. (1825-1899)

When one casually refers to Johann Strauss, this is the person usually meant. Johann Strauss, Jr., was born on October 25, 1825, in Vienna. He was his father's oldest child, and became the most eminent member of a very musical family. After completing his secondary and collegiate education, he became a bank clerk. His father was against his pursuit of a musical vocation, but his mother—in secret—encouraged his activities. When his parents separated he undertook full-time study, and formed his own band in 1844.

Johann Jr. became his father's strongest musical rival, and with his father's death in 1849, he merged the two ensembles. During 1865 and 1866 he toured Europe and Russia; it was about this time that he was dubbed "the waltz king". In 1863 he was appointed director of the Imperial Court balls, which position he held until 1870. From about 1870 he busied himself with the composition of operettas, as well as continuing to compose in all the light music forms of the day.

He died on June 3, 1899 in a Viennese hospital. In his time, and lasting even until today, he was considered the personification of Austrian light music. His complete works number over 500 compositions, most of which are waltzes. His march output numbers about 45. His music is known and played throughout the world.

Richard Strauss (1864-1949)

Richard Strauss, born in Munich (Germany) on June 11, 1864, displayed musical talent at an early age. His father was prominent as hornist in the Munich opera orchestra, and guided his son's musical education with care. By 1881 Richard had already published a festival march. These early works are basically in a classical vein.

During the winter of his 20th year, Strauss spent time in Berlin, where he worked as a player and conductor. From this point till about 1909 his reputation as a conductor grew, and he produced several compositions. Controversies concerning his compositional style raged on both sides of the Atlantic, and seem to have peaked with the production of "Salome" in 1905.

The histories of Strauss' operas and orchestral works are well documented in standard music reference volumes. That he

composed marches and other works for winds is less well known. He died on September 8, 1949, at Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

Personnel Roster of Foeller's Illinois State Alumni and Friends (The Easter Bunnies 1983)

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Jon Gilliland, Mattoon, Ill.

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