

Helmut Kallmann Award for Distinguished Service Relating to Music Libraries and Archives in Canada: Presented to Robin Elliott on 23 July 2012

Citation

Written by Kathleen McMorrow

Delivered by Janneka Guise on July 23, 2012, at the Grande Bibliothèque (Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec) in Montreal during IAML 2012

The CAML/ACBM award is named in honour of Dr. Helmut Kallmann, who was Chief of the Music Division, National Library of Canada from its creation in 1970 until 1987, a pioneering Canadian musicologist, and a co-founder of our association. This year the award is also in memory of Helmut, who passed away in February.

I am pleased to present it to one of Helmut's closest colleagues in his major scholarly enterprises. As Associate Editor of the second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Music in Canada*, and as board member and editor of the three chamber music volumes in the Canadian Musical Heritage series, Robin Elliott, at the beginning of his career, worked closely with him in the preparation of these monumental publications. I am sure Helmut would agree that Prof. Elliott's contributions to historical research, documentation of sources, and the promotion of Canadian music studies have been and continue to be outstanding.

His publication record includes five books and dozens of articles, reviews, and conference presentations about Canadian concert composers, about significant elements in our popular and traditional musics, and about the cultural milieux in which our musical identities have been created. Since his appointment at the University of Toronto in 2002, he has offered courses on individual Canadian composers, on musical life in Toronto, in Canada, and in North America; he has worked with doctoral students on topics from *A*—Acadian music in P.E.I., *B*—Brazilian music in Canada, and *C*—Canadian opera, to *U*—Udo Kasemets, still leaving a little room at least alphabetically, for further endeavours. As Jean A. Chalmers Chair in Canadian Music, and Director of the Institute for Canadian Music, he has organized and participated in conferences and workshops, sponsored visiting lecturers and performers, and produced a *Newsletter*, one issue of which was an 895-item bibliography on Canadian music.

Previous Kallmann award winners have been at or near the end of their careers, and Robin Elliott could certainly rest on his laurels, or more likely, his maple leaves, at this time. Instead, having just delivered a paper entitled "Negotiating an Identity: Malcolm Forsyth's Canadian Career" at the Canadian University Music Society conference in Waterloo last month, he is hard

at work on more projects, including editing, with John Beckwith, a selection of Helmut Kallmann's writings for publication in the near future, and organizing a conference to celebrate the 100th anniversary of John Weinzweig next March.

In presenting this award, Prof. Elliott, CAML/ACBM offers you its thanks and congratulations, and wishes you every success and many discoveries in your future explorations of music in Canada.

Acceptance Speech by Robin Elliott—On Receiving the Helmut Kallmann Award

(As delivered)

C'est un grand honneur pour moi de recevoir ce prix, et encore plus de le recevoir ici, à la Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec. Helmut Kallmann était fier de sa recherche sur l'histoire musicale du Québec, et j'espère un jour être à la hauteur de l'exemple qu'il a donné dans ce domaine. C'est certes une inspiration de me trouver ici à Montréal et surtout dans cet immeuble, un des principaux centres d'archivage du riche et célèbre patrimoine musical du Québec.

I am honoured to be the first person to receive this award after the death of Helmut this past February. It was a poignant coincidence when I learned that I had won this award just as I was organizing a memorial event in honour of Helmut, which took place this past April. And at the same time, John Beckwith and I were putting together a book of Helmut's writings, which has now been submitted to Wilfrid Laurier University Press; we hope it will be published next year.

Ich bin so erfreut, diese Auszeichnung im Rahmen der IVMB Tagung zu erhalten. Helmut, der seine Heimatstadt Berlin so sehr geliebt hat, pflegte ein großes Interesse an der deutschen Musikkultur bis zum Ende seines Lebens. Er schrieb begeistert über die Verbreitung der Musik von Beethoven, Schubert und anderen deutschen Komponisten in Kanada, und auch über deutsche Musiker, die aktiv in diesem Land waren. Er war eng mit der Zielen und der Arbeit der IVMB verbunden, die diese Auszeichnung bei dieser Gelegenheit besonders unvergesslich für mich macht.

(English version)

It is a great honour to receive this award, and moreover to receive it here in the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec. Helmut Kallmann was proud of his research into the music history of Quebec, and I hope one day to live up to his example in this field. It certainly is

inspiring to be here in Montreal, and especially in this building, one of the main repositories of Quebec's rich and world famous musical heritage.

I am honoured to be the first person to receive this award after the death of Helmut this past February. It was a poignant coincidence when I learned that I had won this award just as I was organizing a memorial event in honour of Helmut, which took place this past April. And at the same time, John Beckwith and I were putting together a book of Helmut's writings, which has now been submitted to Wilfrid Laurier University Press; we hope it will be published next year.

I am so pleased to receive this award in the context of the IAML meeting. Helmut, who loved his native city Berlin so dearly, maintained a keen interest in German musical culture until the end of his life. He wrote about the transplantation of the music of Beethoven, Schubert, and other German composers to Canada, and also about German musicians who were active in this country. He was closely involved with IAML almost from its inception, which makes receiving this award on this occasion especially memorable for me.

(Version française)

C'est un grand honneur pour moi de recevoir ce prix, et encore plus de le recevoir ici, à la Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec. Helmut Kallmann était fier de sa recherche sur l'histoire musicale du Québec, et j'espère un jour être à la hauteur de l'exemple qu'il a donné dans ce domaine. C'est certes une inspiration de me trouver ici à Montréal et surtout dans cet immeuble, un des principaux centres d'archivage du riche et célèbre patrimoine musical du Québec.

Je me sens honoré d'être la première personne à qui l'on décerne ce prix après le décès de Helmut, survenu en février 2012. Touchante coïncidence, j'ai appris que j'en étais le gagnant comme j'organisais un événement commémoratif à la mémoire de Helmut, qui s'est tenu en avril 2012. À l'époque, John Beckwith et moi collignons les écrits de Helmut afin de les réunir en un livre qui vient d'être soumis à la Wilfrid Laurier University Press pour publication en 2013.

Je suis très heureux de recevoir ce prix dans le contexte d'une réunion de l'AIBM. Helmut aimait tendrement sa ville natale, Berlin, et s'est grandement intéressé à la culture musicale allemande jusqu'à la fin de sa vie. Il a écrit à propos de la transplantation de la musique au Canada de Beethoven, de Schubert et d'autres compositeurs allemands, de même qu'au sujet des musiciens allemands qui se sont produits sur la scène canadienne. Il a étroitement collaboré avec l'AIBM presque dès sa formation; aussi, je suis particulièrement touché de recevoir ce prix lors de l'un de ses congrès.