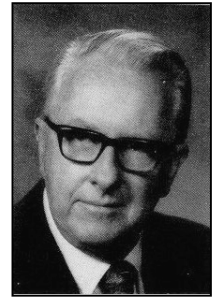


Cecil Effinger (b. 1914, Colorado Springs; d. 1990, Boulder, Colorado)

As a young man in Colorado Springs, Cecil Effinger was exposed to such well-known composers as Igor Stravinsky, who came to the small Western town for its natural springs and dry climate. Effinger became an instructor of music at the Colorado College and the first oboist in the Denver Symphony Orchestra in 1935. In 1939, he studied composition with Nadia Boulanger at the American Conservatory at Fontainebleau, France. During World War II, he served as director of the 506th Army Band, stationed at Fort Logan in Denver. Shortly thereafter he began teaching at the University of Colorado in Boulder, where he chaired the Theory and Composition Department for 33 years. He retired from the University in 1981 and served as composer-in-residence from 1981 to 1984.



Effinger was a prolific composer. He wrote 31 orchestral works, 7 symphonies, 45 chamber works, 49 choral works, 6 quartets, 3 operas, 3 oratorios and 3 cantatas. Effinger's compositions reflect his love for the Western United States, bearing such titles as "The Old Chisholm Trail," "Variations on a Cowboy Tune," "Tone Poem on a Square Dance" and "A Prairie Sunset." In addition to his contributions to American music, Effinger was also an inventor, producing the musical typewriter in 1954 and the "tempowatch," to measure tempi, in 1969.

This composer's works in St. Martin's Chamber Choir's repertoire:

Four Pastorales

The St. Luke Christmas Story