

# VIOLA

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STUDY GUIDE SERIES

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This study guide is prepared to assist you in locating materials about the viola which are available in the Vanderbilt Music Library. Bibliographies, historical sources, instruction and exercises, periodicals, and videotapes are included on this list; however, this is not intended to be a complete listing of the Library's holdings.

## BIBLIOGRAPHIES

### **Music Reference ML 118 .M825 v.6**

Farish, Margaret K. *String music in print*. 2d ed. New York: R. R. Bowker Co., 1973.

A comprehensive guide to music for violin, viola, cello, double bass, and viols; compiled from publishers' catalogs. Classified according to the number and kind of instrument.

### **Music Reference ML 118 .M825 v.6 Suppl. 1984**

Farish, Margaret K. *String music in print: 1984 supplement*. Philadelphia: Musicdata, Inc., 1984.

A 1984 supplement to update *String Music in Print*.

### **Music Reference ML 128 .V36 W5**

Wilkins, Wayne, ed. *The index of viola music*. Magnolia, AR: The Music Register, 1976.

An index of music for viola, including methods and studies, duets, trios, and larger ensembles. Arranged alphabetically by composer within categories. Includes publishers.

### **Music Reference ML 113 .D477 no.42**

Williams, Michael D. *Music for viola*. Detroit: Information Coordinators, 1979.

The author has attempted to locate every work for viola and provide full bibliographic information for each work. Includes composer's full name and dates, title, key signature, opus or catalog number, date of composition, alternate versions, whether the work is currently available (purchase, rent, or loan) publisher, editor, date of publication, and more.

### **Music Reference ML 128 .V36 Z5 1976**

Zeyringer, Franz. *Literatur fur viola*. Hartberg: Schonwetter, 1976.

A comprehensive catalog in which Zeyringer lists works for viola, viola and piano, viola and orchestra, and viola in combination with other instruments.

## HISTORICAL SOURCES

### **MT 260 .M43**

Menuhin, Yehudi and William Primrose. *Violin and viola*. With a section on the history of the instrument by Denis Stevens. New York: Schirmer Books, 1976.

The first part of this book is about violin technique, repertoire, care and repair of the instrument, and a transcription of lessons with Menuhin. Part two by William Primrose is a short section about playing the viola. Part three includes a history of the instruments as well as repertoire written for the violin and viola by Denis Stevens. Also includes analyses of Bach's Sonatas and Partitas for violin and a selected discography.

### **ML 800 .N44**

Nelson, Sheila M. *Violin and viola*. New York: Norton, 1972.

**ML 900 .R43 v.1-2**

Riley, Maurice W. *The history of the viola*. Ann Arbor: Braun-Brumfield, 1980.

This 2-volume set includes information on those who developed the viola, the composers who wrote for the instrument, teachers of the viola, and the numerous arrangers of viola music. It also discusses violists from the last four hundred years who have been devoted to the cause of elevating the status of the viola to that of the violin and cello. The appendices include brief biographical sketches of some violists; viola makers, and composers; 20th century viola terminology. Extensive bibliography.

INSTRUCTION AND EXERCISES

**MT 280 .B37 1978**

Barrett, Henry. *The viola: complete guide for teachers and students*. University: University of Alabama Press, 1978.

This guide lists transcriptions, original music, methods and studies for viola. The technical and pedagogical aspects of teaching viola, including bowing techniques, music reading, and transferring from violin to viola, are discussed. An appendix lists viola music in print and a directory of music publishers.

**MT 285 .D64**

Dolejsi, Robert. *Modern viola technique*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1939.

Written especially for the violist, techniques covered include development of tonal concentration, fingering, finger manipulation, dexterity, broken chords, and triads. Includes many illustrations and exercises to assist the development of these techniques.

**MT 285 .F53 S2**

Flesch, Carl. *Scale system*. New York: Carl Fischer, Inc., 1942.

Scale exercises in all major and minor keys adapted for the viola by Charlotte Karman. Rhythm, precision and intonation are stressed.

**MT 262 .P75 T4**

Primrose, William. *Technique is memory: a method for violin and viola players based on finger patterns*. London: Oxford University Press, 1960.

Exercises for technique development in all keys. It is advised to practice one key per day and change keys every day, beginning slowly, and building speed gradually.

OTHER BOOKS OF INTEREST

**MT 280 .D34 1988**

Dalton, David. *Playing the viola: conversations with William Primrose*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

This book of conversations with William Primrose covers the basics of learning the viola including practicing, fingering, bowing, tone, and technique and continues through performance, repertoire, programming, competitions, and careers. Includes illustrations, musical examples and photographs.

**ML 749.5 .P686 1993**

Pound, Dwight R. *The American Viola Society: a history and reference*. Provo, UT: American Viola Society, 1993.

A history of the American Viola Society, including listing of literature and participants in the Society's congresses.

**ML 418 .P84 A3**

Primrose, William. *Walk on the north side: memoirs of a violist*. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University Press, 1978.

Autobiography including photographs and discography.

PERIODICALS

*American Music Teacher*  
*American String Teacher*  
*The Consort*  
*Early Music*  
*The Galpin Society Journal*  
*Journal of the American Musical Instrument Society*  
*The Strad*  
*Strings*

Other journal articles about viola and music for the viola may be located in the *Music Index*.

VIDEOTAPES

**Video 2**

*Guide to orchestral bowings through musical styles*. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Extension–Arts, 1984.

**Video 1**

*Making music: the Emerson String Quartet*. West Tisbury, MA: Vineyard Video Productions, 1983.

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