
Helmut KALLMANN



KALLMANN, Helmut Max

Passed away peacefully on February 12, 2012. Born in Berlin August 7, 1922, he lost his mother Fanny, father Arthur and sister Eva in the Holocaust. He was sent to England on the Kindertransport. During the war he was interned as an enemy alien in Canada. He became a Canadian and graduated with a B MUS in 1949. He received an honorary doctorate in 1971 from the University of Toronto.

Helmut worked from 1950 to 1970 at the CBC Toronto Music Library. In 1970, he was appointed as Chief of the newly created music division of the National Library. His many publications include catalogues of Canadian music and composers and A History of Music in Canada 1534 -1941. He co-edited the first and

second editions of the Canadian Encyclopedia of Music, contributing much of their content based on his extensive research.

At the National Library, he developed the plan for the collection and preservation of musical Canadiana, curating several exhibitions including one on Glen Gould. He was the co- founder of the Canadian Music Library Association, and served on many boards including the Canadian Music Council. After his retirement, he continued his work with the Canadian Musical Heritage Society. A Festschrift was published in his honour in 1988.

In retirement he also produced a newsletter for those who were interned with him in Canada. He assisted the Berlin government with its exhibitions documenting the lives of Jewish residents in his neighbourhood. He was honoured by the City of Berlin.

He received many awards including the Order of Canada in 1977. The Canadian Association of Music Libraries named its distinguished service award for him in 2000.

Helmut was predeceased in 1994 by his wife of 37 years Ruth Kallmann. He will be sorely missed by his loving companion of the past fourteen years, Waltraut Weinberg and his daughter Liora Salter. His grandchildren April, Colin and Ammon Salter will ensure that the memory of this gentle, important man lives on through his great-grandchildren Elijah, Kolya, Eva, Giacomo, Sakura and Scarlett. A memorial service was held at Thorncliffe Retirement Home on Tuesday, February 14th. An event commemorating his life and work is planned for April in Toronto. Donations to the Helmut Kallmann Fund at Carleton University are appreciated.

Published in The Ottawa Citizen on February 16, 2012
