

ART BEAT

ENTERTAINMENT

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R.I.P.

Two musicians with ties to the UI recently died.

— Edwin W. London (1929-2013), who founded the Cleveland Chamber Symphony,

chaired Cleveland State University's music department and championed unusual compositions, including his own, died on Jan. 26 near his retirement home in Seattle, according to an obituary by the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"London wrote hundreds of songs, choral pieces, operas and other works. He incorporated kazoos, balloons, computers, nonsense syllables, classical phrases, Tin Pan Alley tunes and more," the Plain Dealer reported.

London was a music professor at Smith College from 1960 to '68 and at the UI the next decade. He joined Cleveland State in 1978 as music professor and chairman.

What I liked best about him, reading the Plain Dealer obit:

"London's two sons followed him as musical performers, and one also serves as a lawyer for musicians. They said their father often gave \$10 or \$20 to street musicians. They asked readers, besides donating to musical and medical groups, to tip the local talent in his memory."

— David Lloyd Jenkins, 92, who was a leading American tenor in his day, died Feb. 8 in New York City. He performed all over the world; his recording of the "Messiah" with Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic is said to be the most popular of the oratorio. He worked in various positions at universities and in opera programs nationwide and was director of the UI Opera Workshop in the 1970s.

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