

limited though to five-part choral writing, & there is no means of getting a knowledge of instrumental technique.

Since "Forest" is my first work for orchestra I expect it to sound rather crude & patchy in places, though the judge seems more confident of the orchestration than I had been. Here again I'm inordinately grateful to you for securing me a public performance & broadcast. It will be by the Wellington Symphony Orch. which Dr. Sargent conducted recently, & should give me considerable publicity. Whether people like it or not is immaterial compared to the practical value to a student of hearing rehearsals & performance. I've had no practical experience whatever of orchestration up to this point. The best one can do here is to follow records with a score, & to have the two simultaneously is rare.

You may have heard that Professor Shelley who held the Chair of Education at Canterbury College is now in charge of the Broadcasting Service. He's a remarkable man & intends to raise the standard considerably, & develop any local talent. They endeavour now to secure great overseas artists, so we may before long achieve a broader, more dynamic outlook, & develop something of value in the way of a national art. It's worth striving for with all one's powers!

Your own visit here is quite fresh in the memory still, particularly for me a delightful Grieg programme & fine rendering of the Chopin B min. Sonata, at Christchurch. Many of your works appeal to me for their sincerity & rather personal charm in this age of sensation & cerebral effusions. The local societies have done a number of them since your visit, with real success.

There's not much discrimination amongst modern works here as yet. An inordinate amount of enthusiasm has been wasted over Lambert's Rio Grande & the inevitable Gershwin Rhapsody.

To conclude, I thank you again for your public-spirited & generous action. To me I feel the full benefit will be far greater than is even now apparent. I hope in the future to do far more to justify your initiative, & I hope too, to have the pleasure & honour of meeting you personally some day. My kindest regards to Mrs. Grainger & yourself. Yours sincerely, D. G. Lilburn.

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The link between Percy Grainger and New Zealand may appear at first glance to be a little remote. Grainger's biographers⁴ note only his concert tours of New Zealand as accompanist and solo pianist, his long-distance walks between concerts here, and his collecting of Maori and Rarotongan music from one Alfred J. Knocks of Otaki. Grainger was a complex character both musically and in his personal life. Of particular importance here is his interest in folk music.