

# The Percy Grainger Home

7 Cromwell Place, White Plains, New York 10601

**This historic home** is an exceptionally significant local landmark because of its association with the life and work of Percy Grainger (1882-1961), composer, pianist, collector of folk songs, and writer. For forty years, from 1921 until his death in 1961, Grainger occupied the house at 7 Cromwell Place, White Plains, using it for his residence, practice studio, and laboratory for his avant-garde musical compositions and experimental music machines. After service in World War I, Grainger purchased the single-family residence in White Plains that became his home and studio for the rest of his life; the building is the resource most significantly associated with Grainger in America.

Grainger was a man of many seasons — not only a composer and pianist but a musical folklorist, wind band arranger, polyglot, watercolorist, early music expert, clothing designer, prodigious letter writer, essayist, and philosophical thinker. His popular works like “Country Gardens” and “Molly on the Shore” were best-sellers of the early twentieth century music world, while his experiments in avant-garde music anticipated many artistic developments in the later twentieth century and beyond. Today his music is performed even more widely than during his lifetime.

This historic house, built in 1893, and added to the National Register of Historic Places on April 8, 1993, was originally part of the land of David Cromwell, banker and prominent local citizen. Cromwell served as Westchester County Treasurer and Chief Officer of the then Village of White Plains. He was president of several local banks, most notably the Home Savings Bank. Cromwell built the two streets which connect Maple Avenue and East Post Road. Chester Avenue, parallel and to the east of Cromwell Place, built and deeded to White Plains in 1891, was named after his son John Chester Cromwell. Chester died in 1907, age 30, while fighting a fire on Main Street, only days after he was married.

The Grainger House remains today furnished as it was during Grainger’s lifetime, a dramatic living testimony to the life and times of a multi-faceted genius. It is one of the cultural gems of Westchester County and a site visited by a steady stream of musicians, historians and students from all over the world.

# Concert in the Parlor

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<b>The Sussex Mummers’ Christmas Carol</b>	Percy Grainger (1882-1961)
<b>Youthful Rapture</b>	Percy Grainger
<b>Phantasy, opus 54 (1918)</b>	York Bowen (1881-1961)
<b>Piano Sonata in E-flat (1921)</b>	Arnold Bax (1883-1953)
I. Allegro moderato e feroce-con espressivo	
II. Lento con molto espressivo	
III. Scherzo-Finale	
<b>Violin Sonata No. 2 (1923) (in one movement)</b>	Frederick Delius (1862-1934)
arranged for Viola by Lionel Tertis	
<b>Molly on the Shore</b> (transcribed by Lionel Tertis, notated and edited by R. Masters)	Percy Grainger

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The **International Percy Grainger Society** (IPGS) was formed in 1964 to preserve the music, legacy, home, and artifacts of Percy Grainger. Currently, the Society is restoring the physical structure of the Percy Grainger Home and working on displays of artifacts that render the Percy Grainger a living presence to a new generation of visitors. The IPGS Board of Directors include: Barry Peter Ould, President, Susan Edwards Colson, Eric Culver, Mark N. Grant, Paul Jackson, Vincent Lioni, Mathew McGarrell, and Cora Sowa. **Percy Grainger America, Inc.**, a local fundraising group, shares this mission.

*We are grateful to Tony Russo of Aries Wines & Spirits  
for his support of our concert today. [www.aries-winery.com](http://www.aries-winery.com)*



**Richard Masters** is a soloist, opera coach, chamber musician and orchestral pianist based in Blacksburg, VA, where he is an assistant professor of piano and collaborative piano on the music faculty at *Virginia Tech's School of Performing Arts*.

Significant collaborations include concerts with baritone Donnie Ray Albert, mezzo-soprano Marta Senn, the late mezzo-soprano Barbara Conrad, and many others. As a solo pianist, Masters is an enthusiastic performer of British music from the early 20th century, focusing in particular on the solo piano music of John Ireland.

He holds degrees from the *Eastman School of Music* (DMA), *The Juilliard School* (MM) and the *University of Colorado at Boulder* (BM). For more information, please visit [www.richard-masters.com](http://www.richard-masters.com).

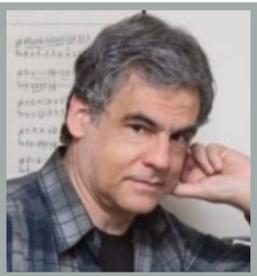


**Vincent Lioni**, viola, is with the *Metropolitan Opera Orchestra* since 1987, and was a member of the *Detroit Symphony Orchestra* from 1983-1987. He is a long time, treasured, board member of the International Percy Grainger Society.

He has been conductor of the *Greater Westchester Youth Orchestras Association* since 1993 and at the *Usdan Center for the Creative and Performing Arts* from 2006- 2017. Since 2005, he has been conductor of the *Downtown Sinfonietta of White Plains* and of the *Merrick Symphony Orchestra* 2008-2017. He is Artistic Director of *The Memling Ensemble* and is a member of the *PBS All-Star Orchestra*, *New England Baroque Soloists*, and the *Westchester Camerata*.

He holds Bachelors and Masters degrees from *The Juilliard School*. For more information, contact [vinlioni@yahoo.com](mailto:vinlioni@yahoo.com)

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**Mark N. Grant** is a composer, author and music commentator. He won a special Friedheim Award in 2006 for his hour-long dramatic cantata *The Rose of Tralee*, premiered by the *Amor Artis Chorus and Orchestra*. He has composed opera and music theater, chamber music, and song cycles, frequently setting his own texts to music. Mr. Grant is the author of two ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award-winning books, *The Rise and Fall of the Broadway Musical* (2004) and *Maestros of the Pen: A History*

of *Classical Music Criticism in America* (1998). His music is recorded by Albany Records. A contributor to the *Revised New Grove's Dictionary of Music*, *New Music Connoisseur*, and other periodicals, he was commissioned by the Kurt Weill Foundation to write new program notes for Weill's American stage works. He has guest lectured at *Eastman School of Music*, *Hartt School of Music*, *Rutgers University*, and the *Westport Country Playhouse*, and appeared on *WNYC's* radio program *Sound Check*.

Percy Grainger



## Concert in the Parlor

Sunday, May 3, 2020

2:00 pm