Exploring Influences of Folk and Popular Music in Selected Violin Repertoire: from Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) to Paul Schoenfield (b. 1947).

Abstract
Both `folk' and `popular' music genres definitively play a role in the compositional makeup of the following notable composers: Edvard Grieg (1843-1907), Eugene Ysaÿe (1858-1931), Nikolai Medtner (1880-1951), George Enescu (1881-1955), Francis Poulenc (1899-1963), Aaron Copland (1900-1990), and Paul Schoenfield (b. 1947). The incorporation of folk elements such as modal melodies, frequently changing meters, and rhythmic syncopations, and features from popular styles including jazz and ragtime is prevalent and far-reaching in their selected violin repertoire, and serves as an enriching factor in the shaping of their musical voices. For Grieg, Medtner, Enescu, Copland and Schoenfield, infusing music evoking their past with popular styles of their respective time periods aided in fulfilling their quests for self-expression through their compositions. Ysaÿe and Poulenc borrowed from folk traditions as a means of honoring their dedicatees, for whom their works were written. This dissertation was completed by performing selected works of the aforementioned composers programmed across three recitals, held in Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center and Ulrich Recital Hall of the Tawes Fine Arts Building, both located at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. Compact Disc recordings of the recitals are housed in the University's Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library.

URI
http://hdl.handle.net/1903/16686

Collections
Music Theses and Dissertations
UMD Theses and Dissertations
development of Norwegian folk music in his own compositions brought the music of Norway to international consciousness, as well as helping to develop a national identity, much as Jean Sibelius and Bedřich Smetana Edvard Hagerup Grieg (1843-1907) is Norway's greatest composer. Although his style was shaped by the Norwegian folk spirit, it assimilated German romanticism and even anticipated features of French impressionism. Edvard Grieg was born in Bergen on June 15, 1843. His father was a merchant; his mother, a talented musician, gave Grieg his first music lessons. At 15 he was sent to the Leipzig Conservatory, where he studied under the leading German academicians of the day. An attack of pleurisy in 1860 destroyed one of his lungs and undermined his studies, and in 1862 he quit Leipzig for good. Edvard Hagerup Grieg (1843 - 1907), Edvard Grieg will forever be associated with Norway and Norwegian Folk Music. He is in fact of Scottish descent, his great grandfather having left Scotland after the Battle of Culloden to settle in Norway. Nevertheless Grieg's music is full of unusual harmonic inventions so he did help to push classical music in new directions. Edvard Grieg - Recommendations: Among recordings of Grieg's most famous music there is much to choose from, though the following CDs can be recommended as a good place to start. Peer Gynt selected incidental music, plus Piano Concert in Am - with pianist Clifford Curzon, available at Amazon.co.uk and Amazon.com.