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## COVER ART



Ben Carl Riley painted "The Five Masters of the Viola" at the request of his father, Maurice W. Riley, who used the work as the frontispiece of his book, "The History of the Viola, Volume II." The painting features Maurice Vieux, Paul Hindemith, William Primrose, Vladim Borissovsky, and

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Lionel Tertis. It now hangs in the William Primrose wing of the Brigham Young University Library.

"I donated the painting when the library wing was dedicated in 2002. Professor David Dalton, Brigham Young University, was a close friend of my late father. He was the force behind having the Primrose wing added to the university to house a book collection devoted to the viola. I felt this was the ideal place for the painting.

When our mother, Leila Riley, passed away in 2001, my brothers and I decided to donate our father's personal viola library to the Primrose wing. George, John and I are very proud of our father's legacy. He did a great service to the Viola Society and to the viola.

My brothers and I grew up in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Dad taught viola and violin at Eastern Michigan University. We all became string players. I'm a cellist, George is a violinist-violist, and John, a violist. George and I had careers with the United States Air Force Orchestra, Washington, DC. We are both retired now. So is George's wife, Lauria, who also was an Air Force cellist. We all had wonderful experiences through the years playing in the Air Force Orchestra at numerous Viola Congresses. My favorite and most memorable Viola Congress took place in 1975 at Eastern Michigan University. It was the first Viola Congress in the United States. It was organized by the work and vision of our father and was an incredible success -- well attended and high spirited. Primrose was there, among many

other notables of the viola world. He was very inspired by the experience. It would be the beginning of many Viola Congresses to come."

Ben Riley studied fine arts at the University of Miami, Florida, where he also earned a Bachelor of Music Degree in 1969. After retiring from the Air Force he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Graphic Design at Marymount University, Arlington, Virginia. "I love art. I love music. I'm glad I can do both, and have done so my whole life. My wife, Carolyn, is a graphic designer the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, DC. We occasionally work together on art and design projects."

**JAVS WELCOMES LETTERS AND ARTICLES FROM  
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