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**Buna Vestire Romanian Church, Rocky River, Ohio****The 4th Annual Picnic - Building Fund****Future World Leaders Summit**

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**GEORGE ENESCU**

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Although George Enescu severed relations with his Communist homeland, the Romanian government paid homage to him for his varied, accomplishments. His native village, a street in Bucharest, and the State Philharmonic of Bucharest were named in his honour. Periodical Enesco festivals and international performing competitions were established in Bucharest in 1958. Enesco had an extraordinary range of musical interests.

As a composer, George Enescu's published output was relatively modest, though it contained some substantial works, including his masterpiece, the opera *Oedipe*. The fact that his three published symphonies were composed between 1905 and 1918 might suggest - wrongly - that his interest in the genre was modest and lasted for less than fifteen years. Actually, as a student Enescu was a prolific composer (nearly three hundred works date from the period up to 1900) and he completed three other symphonies (as well as a Chamber Symphony finished in 1954) and began work on another three in the years 1894-1941. His compositions include artistic stylizations of

Romanian folk strains; while his style was neo-Romantic, he made occasional use of experimental devices, such as quarter tones in his opera, *Oedipe*.

George Enescu possessed a fabulous memory and was able to perform innumerable works without scores. Actually, this fact contributed to the loss of some of his own works which he composed but never wrote down. He not only distinguished himself as a violinist and conductor, but he was also a fine pianist and a gifted teacher.

George Enescu was one of the most prodigiously gifted musicians of the 20th century: He not only distinguished himself as a violinist, conductor and composer, but was also an accomplished pianist, able cellist and a famous violin teacher.

**Enescu Memorial House, Liveni, Romania**

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