

A NOTE FROM *Johnstone-Music*

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## **SPECIAL FEATURE ON LOUIS HASSELSMANN'S**

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b. 15th July 1878 - Paris

d. 27th December 1957 - San Juan, Puerto Rico

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Louis Hasselmans was the son of harpist Alphonse Hasselmans. He studied the cello with Jules Desart at the Paris Conservatoire, obtaining a first prize in 1893.

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Between 1904 and 1909, he was a member of the Capet Quartet. Louis Hasselmans was the dedicatee of the Cello sonata No 1 by Gabriel Fauré. He also worked closely with Albert Lavignac, Benjamin Godard and Jules Massenet.

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However, his professional work took a change of direction mid-career; that of conducting! He made his debut as a conductor with the Orchestre Lamoureux. He later conducted the Opéra-Comique (between 1909-1911 and 1919-1922), the Montreal orchestra, the "Concerts Classiques de Marseille" (1911-1913) and the Civic Opera House of Chicago (1918-1919). Called by Castelbon de Beauxhostes, and under the advice of Camille Saint-Saëns, he conducted Parysatis and Héliogabale at the Théâtre des Arènes in Béziers in 1902 and 1910.

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After the first World War his conducting career achieved new heights. From 1921 to 1936 he conducted the Metropolitan Opera of New York. Then, from 1936 to 1948, he taught at the School of Music of the University of Louisiana. Louis Hasselmans married the American mezzo-soprano Minnie Egener (1881-1938).

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The photo attached is taken from the mid-1930s ( I think!)..

(The image linked here is claimed to be used under fair use as: # the photo is only being used for informational purposes)

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‘documenting the cello’

Please do see other original works for many different instruments and groupings, and also special transcriptions for cellists, and cellists with other instruments on the *Johnstone-Music* web page

Also both general musical and cello based articles, directories of famous historical cellists, and many other items of interest

**DOWNLOADS** - Many downloads on *Johnstone-Music* are now available, for those that are interested, at a *symbolic* payment, which is to help cover the costs of this web site. Some scores/parts are presented in musical edition programmes but generally they are found here in a most “clear” hand-written manuscript copy (the majority to almost a professional copyist standard) and transferred to a PDF file.

As far as *Johnstone-Music* is concerned you are welcome to publicly perform or record any work or piece found in the web; however you DO need to make mention of the name of the composer and the arranger on any printed information (hand programmes, disc covers etc.).

**FREE PUBLICITY** - If you care to inform us of any public performance (no matter how formal or informal the event is), recording or other uses of the original music or arrangements of David Johnstone or of other musical colleagues included in this web, we are happy to give your event free publicity on the *Johnstone-Music* web.

To take advantage of this, try to write to us three weeks or more in advance with any information. Last-minute entries are certainly better than not writing at all - however, understandably, once we have past the calendar month of the event it is not usually possible to add old items to the calendar. It is very interesting for the promoters of *Johnstone-Music* to have knowledge of your activity - and so in return for your information you will be entitled to a free gift of a work/s for every diary addition you tell us about. To find out more about this, please visit the “*Cello Club*” section in the web!