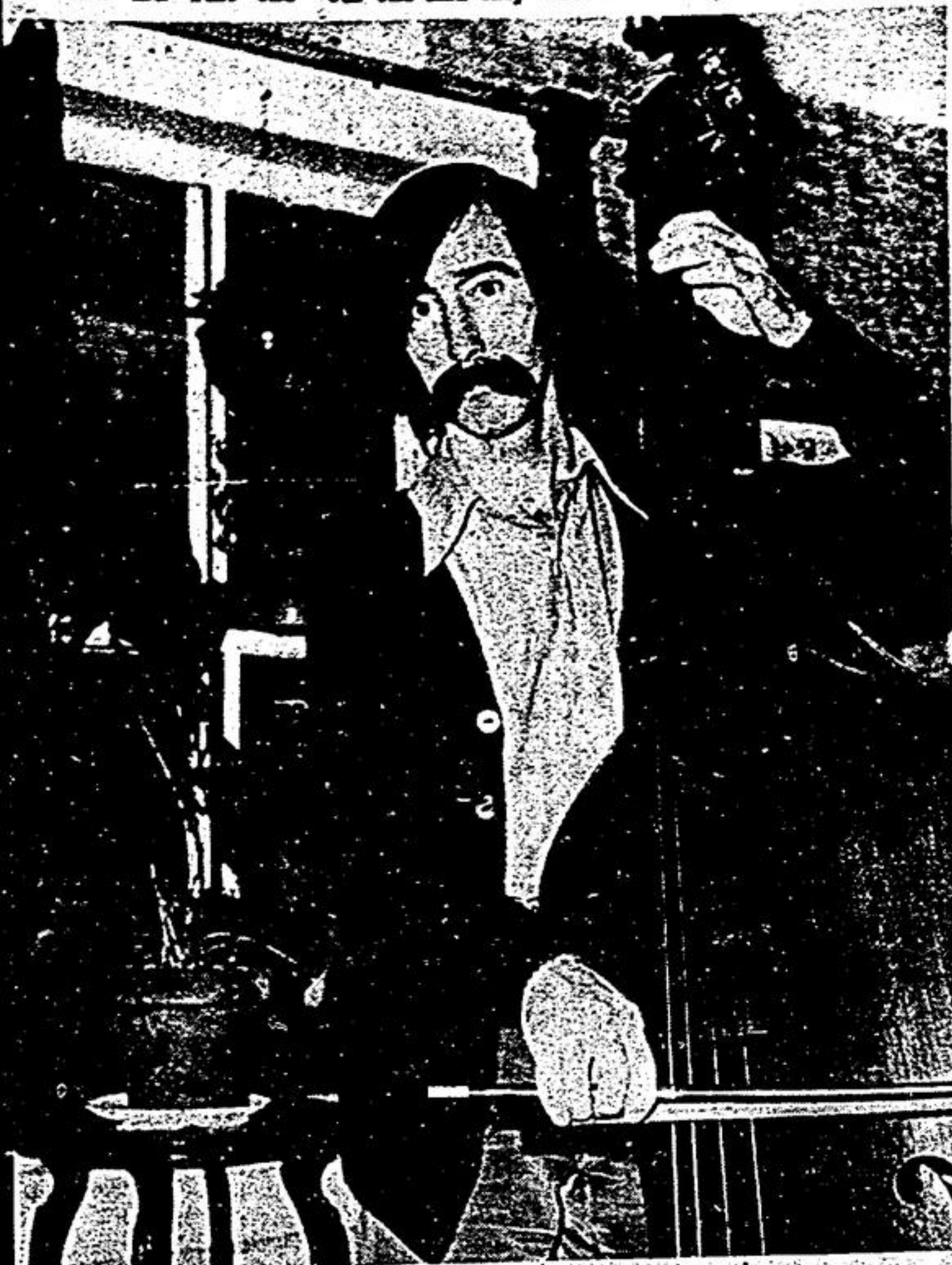


Greenwood man is five-year veteran in Toronto Symphony

By Ted Wilcox
GREENWOOD — I first saw Ed Tait one evening last summer when my wife and I made our one and only visit to the Toronto Symphony. At the intermission, a thin, mustachioed



Ed Tait of Greenwood, a five-year member of the Toronto Symphony, here sounds a few notes on his Guarnerius string bass. The instrument was made in Italy in 1685.

member of the string bass section came out and made a speech on why a new concert hall was needed to replace Massey Hall.

That was Ed Tait, speaking in his capacity as chairman of the Artistic Advisory Committee for Massey Hall.

I met Mr. Tait again last week in his Greenwood home, where he has lived for the past five years with his violinist wife, Diane.

Mr. Tait points out that the summer evening when I visited was the only time he had ever made a speech before the symphony audience.

Most of Mr. Tait's waking hours seem to be centred, in some form or other, around the subject of music. He spends anywhere from one to 10 hours a day practicing by himself, depending on the difficulty of the pieces the orchestra is performing, and the symphony comes together 20 hours a week for practice sessions and three concerts.

"Most people are surprised it's a full-time job," said Mr. Tait. "They ask 'what do you do for a living?' and say 'Isn't there anything else?'"

Besides the symphony itself, Mr. Tait's life is taken up with playing in the Toronto Repertoire Orchestra, the Metro United Festival Orchestra, and the CJRT (FM) orchestra.

Mr. Tait, who is the "assistant principal" or number two man among the eight string basses on the Toronto Symphony, also tours schools with a string quintet, plays with the CBC, and even helps add the string track to some rock and roll records.

His musical interests, he points out, are not limited to classical works.

"I'm a real jazz fan," says Mr. Tait. "More than half of my recordings are modern jazz recordings... I enjoy country and western, and some rock, although I don't have a taste for the 'Top 40' records." He adds, however, that among those he can "recognize a good performance."

"A very large percentage" of the symphony's audience now, says Mr. Tait, "are young people, in their late teens and early 20's and early 30's. I don't think we've been falling behind."

One interesting aspect of a professional musician's life are the instruments they play,

which often are finely crafted antiques.

Mr. Tait has a 1685 "Guarnerius" string bass, which he bought a few years ago, from a dance band musician in Toronto.

"When I got it home, I discovered the label and what it said on it," recalls Mr. Tait. "The Guarneri family was a very, very famous instrument-making family: as famous as Stradivarius."

The Toronto Symphony is not, comparatively, much of a

touring orchestra, according to Mr. Tait, and they have made only two tours since he has been with them: to Europe, and to Canada's east coast, this spring.

A year from January, however, the symphony will be making a history-making tour when they go on a three-week trip to the Republic of China.

Regarding the journey, he said, "It's something that's been a dream for me ever since I learned there was such a place."

The symphony members will be performing in Peking for sure, and will visit the Great Wall and The Forbidden City.

On his trip to Europe with the orchestra, Mr. Tait was accompanied by his wife Diane, a violinist who occasionally plays with the symphony.

He and Diane had played together in the Art Centre Orchestra in Ottawa before coming to Toronto. Today, Mrs. Tait uses her violin to freelance with "the ballet, church jobs, and

recording sessions."

Mr. Tait's musical background involved work with percussion instruments while in high school, but while at the University of Toronto he gradually became more involved with the string bass.

"By the time I graduated from university, I wanted to be a professional musician," he said. "At the time, I played with the Canadian National Youth Orchestra, and I enjoyed it so much I really wanted to do it full time."

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THE EXPROPRIATIONS ACT
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO EXPROPRIATE LAND

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK FOR APPROVAL TO EXPROPRIATE LAND DESCRIBED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO IN THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST GWILLIMBURY AND THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE IN THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GRADE SEPARATION AT DAVIS DRIVE (REGIONAL ROAD NO. 31) AND THE TRACKS OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application has been made for approval to expropriate the land described in Schedule "A" hereto. Any owner of lands in respect of which notice is given who desires an inquiry into whether the taking of such land is fair, sound and reasonably necessary in the achievement of the objectives of the expropriating authority, shall so notify the approving authority in writing.

(a) in the case of a registered owner, served personally or by registered mail within thirty days after he is served with the notice, or when he is served by publication, within thirty days after the first publication of the notice;

(b) in the case of an owner who is not a registered owner within thirty days after the first publication of the notice.

The approving authority is:
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York,
Box 147,
Newmarket, Ontario,
L3Y 4W9

The Regional Municipality of York,
Robert N. Vernon, Esq.,
Regional Clerk,
62 Bayview Avenue,
Newmarket, Ontario,
L3Y 4W9

NOTES:

1. The Expropriations Act provides that:

(a) where an inquiry is requested, it shall be conducted by an inquiry officer appointed by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General;

(b) the inquiry officer:

(i) shall give every party to the inquiry an opportunity to present evidence and argument and to examine and cross-examine witnesses, either personally or by his counsel or agent; and

(ii) may recommend to the approving authority that a party to the inquiry be paid a fixed amount for his costs of the inquiry not to exceed \$200 and the approving authority may in its discretion order the expropriating authority to pay such costs forthwith.

2. "owner" and "registered owner" are defined in the act as follows:

"owner" includes a mortgagee, tenant, execution creditor, a person entitled to a limited estate or interest in land, a committee of the estate of a mentally incompetent person or of a person incapable of managing his affairs, and a guardian, executor, administrator or trustee in whom land is vested;

"registered owner" means an owner of land whose interest in the land is defined and whose name is specified in an instrument in the proper registry, land titles or sheriff's office, and includes a person shown as a tenant of land on the last revised assessment roll.

3. The expropriating authority, each owner who notifies the approving authority that he desires a hearing in respect of the lands intended to be expropriated and any owner added as a party by the inquiry officer are parties to the inquiry.

This notice first published on the 25th day of November, A.D. 1976.

SCHEDULE A:
LAND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST GWILLIMBURY IN THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK, FORMERLY IN THE COUNTY OF YORK, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
Part of Lot 1, Concession 6 in the said Township, designated as Part 2 on a plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of York North as Plan 65R-1976.

LAND IN THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE IN THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK, FORMERLY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF YORK, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
Part of Lot 35, Concession 6 in the said Town, designated as Part 3 on said Plan 65R-1976.

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