Teacher, writer, broadcaster, pianist, musicologist, you have directed your many careers to the advancement of the art of music, which according to Addison is the greatest good that mortals know and all of heaven that we have below.

You made your debut as a pianist in Vienna at the age of nine and have performed and lectured since then westward around the world from China to Vancouver. At the University of British Columbia you introduced the first series of lectures on music, and later began there the first course in ethnomusicology. It has been a long journey both geographically and musically from The University of Vienna, and your doctoral thesis on Brahms, to Vancouver where you have made a special study of the music of the northwest coast native peoples. You have been diligent in collecting and recording their songs and instrumental music analyzing and interpreting this rich and complex music. You have done much to break down the ignorant prejudice of western man against a so-called primitive art form.

In the community you have been endlessly active in promoting the study and performance of music. You were the founder and president of the Friends of Chamber Music, the first Director of Auditions for the Metropolitan Opera in Western Canada, Trustee of the Community Music Centre, Honorary Director of the Vancouver Symphony Society, Director of the Festival Concert Society, and you have written many hundreds of critical articles on local musical performances. You have been one of the great influences in raising the level of musical awareness and sophistication in British Columbia.

We welcome you back as an old friend of Simon Fraser University, as Convocation Founder, and honorary associate of the Centre for Communications and the Arts. We are pleased to recognize this association and your splendid work on behalf of music in this province and elsewhere. Mr. Chancellor, I present to you for the degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, Ida Halpeen.