

DIRK FOCH, COMPOSER AND CONDUCTOR, 87

Dirk Foch, Dutch composer and conductor who was a protégé of Richard Strauss, died Thursday in Orselina, Switzerland. He was 87 years old.

Mr. Foch studied music and composition in Amsterdam and Germany and began his career in Sweden, conducting the Goteborg Symphony from 1913 through 1915. He was guest conductor of the Amsterdam Concertgebouw and of the orchestra in The Hague.

His American debut as a conductor of a specially assembled orchestra in Carnegie Hall came on April 12, 1920. He also conducted orchestral groups in the United States and the Konzertverein in Vienna.

In 1928, Mr. Foch settled in New York. He retired from the world of music that year, devoting himself to antiquities and religious research, according to his daughter, the actress Nina Foch.

Mr. Foch's compositions include "Hero und Leander," an opera; "From Aeon to Aeon," a musical pageant; "Ein hohes Lied," five fragments from the Bible for recitation and orchestra; Violin Concerto and three "Ballades" for piano.

In addition to Miss Foch, he is survived by his widow, Christine, and a grandson.

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