

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROGRAMS, 1988

A legend in his own time, the Chicago Symphony's celebrated principal tuba is immortalized in a new book, *Arnold Jacobs: The Legacy of a Master*, which pays tribute to the great "Doctor of Brass Playing" through recollections of his students and colleagues. Renowned as a master teacher, Mr. Jacobs has given lectures and clinics specializing in respiratory and motivational applications of both brass and wind instrument playing and voice. Born in Philadelphia and raised in California, he credits his mother, who started teaching him piano at age 3, for his inspiration in music. At 15 he entered the Curtis Institute on a scholarship and spent the next seven years there, studying with Philip Donatelli and with Fritz Reiner, orchestral director. After playing two seasons for the Indianapolis Symphony under Fabian Sevitsky, Mr. Jacobs spent the next five years with Dr. Reiner and the Pittsburgh Symphony and in 1941 he toured the country with Leopold Stokowski and the All-American Youth Orchestra. He joined the Chicago Symphony in 1944 and took a temporary leave in 1949 to tour England and Scotland with The Philadelphia Orchestra. He had the honor of being the first tuba player invited to play at the Casals Festival in Puerto Rico (1962). Arnold is a member of the Chicago Symphony Brass Quintet formed in 1951 (the forerunner of a multitude of quintets now in existence). He taught tuba at Northwestern University for more than twenty years before retiring and still coaches for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, taking great pride in seeing his former students filling top posts throughout the world. Mr. Jacobs teaches music with the "complete player" in mind: brain, body, heart; he thinks musicians must be able to "communicate with their tissues" in making sound, song, and wind. Among his many honors are the highest award from the Second International Brass Congress (1984); the Medal of Honor from the Midwest National Band and Orchestra Clinic (1985), which cited him as "God's gift to wind musicians everywhere"; and an honorary doctor of music degree from Vander Cook College (1986). He can be heard as soloist on the Chicago Symphony DG recording of Vaughan Williams' Tuba Concerto. His wife, Gizella, is a former dancer; they were married four months after meeting and celebrated their fiftieth anniversary on Christmas Eve 1987. Their son is a biologist.