

Leff, Rebecca, "Second Lives in the Second Symphony", SYMPHONY, 42:60 n3, May-June 1991

Another longtime member of the Chicago Symphony, Arnold Jacobs, retired in 1988. World renowned as a tubist and a teacher, Jacobs joined the CSO in 1944, under Desire Defauw. His intense interest in breathing and the problems of wind players led him to years of study and to his becoming perhaps the most famous wind instrument teacher alive today. Though self taught, Jacobs learned as much about anatomy as many doctors while investigating the way we breathe.

He continues to lecture and give workshops across the country on breathing and motivation, the two subjects that he has spent most of his life studying. His students come from all over the world and include wind players of every variety and members of major orchestras as well as young players. Co-principal Horn Gail Williams has said, "I'd take a lesson with him every week if I could." His studio is filled with the tools of his trade: instruments to measure lung capacity and air pressure, and of course, tubas. A gracious man with a beautifully resonant voice, Jacobs says he is planning to write a book on his methods and theories.