

BARATI George

Composer and conductor



Clyde B. Smith
George Barati, whose string quartet has been recorded.

Another novelty, heard on a ten-inch disk from Contemporary Records, is the George Barati String Quartet, performed by the California String Quartet.

The work was composed in picturesque circumstances. A native of Hungary, Mr. Barati enlisted in the United States Army in 1943 and served three years. While in service he conducted the Alexandria Military Symphony in Louisiana, and at Camp Claiborne wrote his string quartet in 1944.

Mr. Barati's composition is soundly and competently worked out. It shows great skill in contrapuntal writing. Its chief fault is that it lacks creative musical ideas.

It resembles many other works of the sort written in 1944 and still being written today. The contemporary style, like the old, has its clichés, and Mr. Barati has used a considerable number of them in his quartet. The composition receives a conscientious performance from the California Quartet in this recording.

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