



was born in 1911 in a crowded immigrant neighborhood near present-day Upper Falls Boulevard. He was the third of what would eventually be the five children of Abraham, an ironworker, and Hinda Rosenblum Miller, a seamstress. The family would be an integral part of the community and the University for decades. Miller's brother, Leon, is a professor emeritus of biochemistry and biophysics at the Medical Center. And an Eastman building at 25 Gibbs Street was renamed the Miller Center, in honor of Miller's parents, in 2004.

As a student in Rochester city schools, Miller benefitted from the first public music education in the country, courtesy of George Eastman, who, before he established the Eastman School, had provided free musical instruments for city schoolchildren. Miller took up the oboe because it was the only instrument still available when he showed up late for the program.

His father taught him how to make his own reed, saving the family \$2.

Only once in his career did Miller appear to miss the beat. A lover of many forms of music, Miller hated rock, and he either didn't see, or actively resisted, its increasing hold on public taste. By 1964, he had been eased out of his role at Columbia and NBC had cancelled his show.

In his later years, Miller returned to classical music as a guest conductor. But the irony remained, as Friedwald said on a recent radio tribute to Miller, that "what Mitch had done as a producer was essentially to create the precedent for rock 'n' roll production. All the techniques that Mitch used were used by Berry Gordy, by Quincy Jones, by Phil Spector," he said, referring to three "superstar producers" in rock music.

As Tony Bennett said, "He was the one who showed everybody how to be a producer." 

## In the News

### STACEY PLUMMER '94 WINS NATIONAL MATHEMATICS TEACHING AWARD

**Stacey Plummer '94**, a math teacher at Hollis Brookline High School in Hollis, N.H., has received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Only two teachers from each state, as well as the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories, are selected for the award each year. Winners are determined by a panel of distinguished mathematicians, scientists, and educators. Plummer, who has been at Hollis Brookline for 11 years, teaches calculus, geometry, and consumer math.

### SIMON SCHOOL ALUMNI HONORED FOR RESEARCH

**Patricia DeChow '93S** (PhD), **Richard Sloan '92S** (PhD), and **Amy Hutton '86S** (MBA), '92S (PhD) have received the American Accounting Association's first Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Literature Award for their influential paper, "Causes and Consequences of Earnings Manipulation: An Analysis of Firms Subject to Enforcement Actions by the S.E.C.," published in the journal *Contemporary Accounting Research*. DeChow is the Donald H. and Ruth F. Seiler Professor of Public Accounting and Sloan is the L. H. Penney Professor of Accounting, both at the University of California at Berkeley. Hutton is a professor of accounting at Boston College.

### ISAAC COLLINS '94 NAMED WIDENER UNIVERSITY'S HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

**Isaac Collins '94** is the new head football coach at Widener University in Chester, Pa. Previously the defensive coordinator at the Citadel in Charleston, S.C., he's also served on the coaching staffs at the University of Delaware, Lehigh, Hobart, Columbia, and the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. As a running back for the Yellowjackets, Collins was conference offensive player of the year in 1992. After graduation, he completed coaching internships with the New York Giants and the Philadelphia Eagles as part of the National Football League's Minority Fellowship Program. As Widener's head coach, he's one of only five minority head football coaches in the NCAA's Division III.