

## **What musicians and other readers said about**

### ***Maud Powell, Pioneer American Violinist***

*The Definitive Biography*  
by Karen A. Shaffer and Neva Greenwood

"I began the fascinating book on the train.... I've always been curious about the person behind the playing. AND the PLAYING--that CD is unbelievable. What a thrill for me to finally have a female role model."

**Pamela Frank**, concert violinist

"Your book will be appreciated by music lovers all over the country. As a document to the art of violin playing, it is first-rate."

**Joseph Gingold**, late violinist and teacher who studied with Eugene Ysaÿe and taught Joshua Bell

"... an absolutely masterful job of research and writing, a real tour de force."

**Martin Bookspan**, author & music commentator

"... a splendid biography... written in an excellent style... holds the reader's interest throughout. Her life is one which deserves to be recorded and documented; she occupied a very significant place in the cultural history of our Nation."

**The Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor**  
**U.S. Supreme Court**

"You are really bringing the literature on music in the U.S.A. up-to-date, because certainly the country has been known for its wild west and for many other achievements, but not particularly for its 19th Century musical achievements. You are doing a great service to our country."

**Yehudi Menuhin**

"I have just finished reading your definitive book on the distinguished American violinist, Maud Powell, and I hasten to extend to you my highest compliments on a brilliant and emotionally moving job. The book is beautifully written, shows endless hours of meticulous research, and brings into being a notable figure, all too often ignored, in the classical musical life of America.... Please accept my warmest congratulations on an outstanding piece of work. (I was a pupil of Leopold Auer ... around the period of Maud's...death.) Again my heartiest congratulations on your beautiful volume on this most remarkable woman!"

**Gilbert Ross**, Professor Emeritus of Music  
and First Violinist Emeritus of the Stanley  
Quartet,  
The University of Michigan

"[M]y congratulations and deepest thanks over the book Maud Powell, Pioneer American Violinist...which I have read twice already. It serves as a continual source of inspiration to me. I love it! Thank you."

**Jessica Lambert**, Eastman School of Music graduate

"Your book, Maud Powell, Pioneer American Violinist is magnificent. Not only did I devour it in April 1988 when I first received it, it has been re-read twice now. My mother kept a picture of Maud Powell in her music studio as inspiration -- mother was born in 1901 and grew up admiring Ms. Powell -- and now I can keep your book in my studio."

**Margaret Motter Ward**, former president, American String Teachers Association, Maryland-D.C. Chapter

"As a retired...librarian, I..compliment you on the book. You have succeeded in making research quite readable! The index is superb, as are the appendices....[M]arketing efforts should ...extend beyond the 'string' journals...."

**Harriette M. Cluxton**, Illinois

"The book was excellent. My daughter...used it as a basis for an 8th grade research paper....a good experience for her...." **Robert Moss**, Illinois

"I thoroughly enjoyed reading your book...I loved it so much, I have just finished reading it for the second time. It was of particular interest to me not only from a musical and historical perspective, but I was interested in how beautifully you portrayed the personality and fine character of...Maud Powell."

**Donna S. Kline**, author,  
*Olga Samaroff Stokowski, An American Virtuoso*

"I must just congratulate you on your biography of Maud Powell...[I]t is a fascinating piece of research indeed; without your efforts, I for one would know almost nothing of this great artist, so thank you."

**Simon Hewitt Jones**, music critic

"The book...and Maud Powell legacy in recording will certainly be treasured.... I send you my admiration for all the work you have done to give us more knowledge about this American treasure."

**Cho-Liang Lin**, concert violinist & Juilliard teacher

"Your wonderful book makes Powell and the whole period come to life. What a unique musician she was!"

**Earl Carlyss**, concert violinist, formerly with Juilliard String Quartet

"I truly read your opus on Maud Powell morning, noon and night with only brief intervals for sustaining food. What an excellent writer you are! Thank you for this mountain-top experience you gave to me!"

**Barbara Koch Harbert**, music teacher

“I plan to use your publication as an example in my History of Music Education doctoral seminar as an example of music education research for the practitioner.”

**Robert Gillespie**, Ph.D., Professor of Music, Ohio State University

“I use the recordings of Maud Powell in my pedagogy class. My wife, who is a singer, thinks that any aspiring woman musician should read the Powell biography. I admire...the [Society], and the several projects you’ve completed. I wonder if I could ask you basically how you did it all?”

**David Dalton**, Primrose International Viola Archive

“I want to tell you how much I enjoyed the book, *Maud Powell, Pioneer American Violinist*. Congratulations on what had to be an incredible amount of work. . . . Once I started the book I did not want to put it down. Such an amazing woman. I think your book should be required reading for every violin major in college and especially for women. . . . I taught violin for 45 years in Aurora [IL]. . . .”

**Stan Smith**, violin teacher