

# From the Collections

**CAMERON BOOTH'S PORTRAIT** of his friend Stanford Fenelle (1909–95) is a biography in paint. The picture describes Fenelle's many talents and interests in the loosely brushed realism of the 1930s' Regionalist movement. A painting turned to the wall and wood chisels near Fenelle's pipe identify the setting as his studio; a patiently listening beagle alludes to his lifelong interest in raising and training hunting dogs. Booth included a typical Fenelle landscape—the painting of a church upended on the workbench. Fenelle's cello was no studio prop. He and Booth, neighbors in Minneapolis, often played chamber music together. The modest Fenelle, for whom Booth painted this portrait, referred to it as “the amateur.”

In addition to paintings, drawings, and prints by both artists, the Society's manuscript collections include the papers of Booth, an artist and teacher of national importance.

—THOMAS O'SULLIVAN

**Cameron Booth (1892–1980), *Portrait of Stanford Fenelle*. Oil on board, 60" x 40", 1935. Gift of the daughters of Stanford and Lillian Fenelle.**



**FRONT COVER:** Vinyl records galore hint at the wealth of Minnesota's musical talents. Among the more than 1,200 sound recordings in the Minnesota Historical Society Library, including these from the 1940s through 1980, are: *Chippewa: War Dance Songs for Pow-wow* (Canyon, 1971) by the Ponemah Singers of Red Lake Reservation, *Doc Evans Dixieland Concert* (Soma, 1957), *Minnesota State Fair Concert* (Chatfield Brass Band, 1978), blues artist Leonard Caston Sr.'s *Baby Doo's House Party* (TMR, 1975?), *The Andrews Sisters: A Collection of Tropical Songs* (Decca, 1947?), *The Trashmen's Bird Dance Beat* (Garrett, 1965, reissued 1980?), Willie and the Bumblebees' *Honey from the Bees* (Sweet Jane, 1978?), Roman Rezac's *Old Time Czech Style* (Pleasant Peasant, 1971?), and *The St. Olaf Choir* (Vonna, 1950?) directed by Olaf C. Christiansen.

A major new exhibit, *Sounds Good to Me*, an unconventional look at the state's musical life, opens October 22, 2000, at the History Center in St. Paul. Visitors will be invited to explore their personal connections to music, select their favorite Minnesota-made tunes from jukeboxes, and take part in music-making themselves. *Photo by Eric Mortenson/MHS*



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