



# ARSC New York Chapter

## JUNE 2016 Meeting

7:00 P. M. Thursday, 6/16/16

→ At the CUNY Sonic Arts Center ←

West 140<sup>th</sup> Street & Convent Avenue, New York

Or enter at 138th Street off Convent Avenue

Shepard Hall (the Gothic building) – Recital Hall (Room 95, Basement level)

An elevator is located in the center of the building

A brief report on the ARSC National Conference in  
Bloomington, IN, 11-14 May will be followed by

## “The Art of the Record Cover”

Presented by Michael Biel

The recipient of the Distinguished Service to ARSC award in 2014, Dr. Biel has revised and extended the last two presentations he gave on this topic at ARSC’s national conferences.

### Part One: THE HISTORY OF RECORD SLEEVES

The early history of paper sleeves for disc records is largely an enigma. They are hardly mentioned in the histories of the industry—with one notable exception— but occasionally the wrong information is presented. They were NOT just plain gray sleeves, but were often brilliantly illustrated. Almost every record company had them printed up, but some are more rare than the records.

When were the first sleeves made is often asked. Were Berliner records sleeved? Indeed, how were records shipped from the factory to jobber, jobber to dealer, and dealer to customer? For the first decade of discs, they were shipped unsleeved, but between 1906 and 1907 this situation changed. Who changed it and why will be disclosed, as will what those first sleeves were called. (Hint: they were not called sleeves. Or jackets. Or wrappers.) What record was the first to have its own descriptive sleeve? What was the first picture sleeve for a specific record? This presentation will seek to answer all of the above, and in addition show more than 100 examples of the earliest, most elaborate, most colorful, and rarest sleeves.

This will be followed by the video history of ARSC conferences presented in Bloomington, Indiana last month. It will be extended to include many of the pieces that were shortened for time purposes, a highlight of which is the section with Met Opera Singers.

**Dr. Michael Biel**, a lifelong record collector, is a retired professor of broadcasting. A former president of ARSC, he held other offices including Program Chair for five national conferences, The author of the *For The Record* column in the ARSC Journal, he has made countless presentations at ARSC national conferences, every one of which he has attended since 1971 save two. Having made audio recordings of the conferences in the 70s and early 80s, he began complete video recording in 1985. He has been joined by his daughter, Leah, in this endeavor, and it is she who does all of the post-production editing, including on the anniversary video being shown at this session.

**This concludes ARSCNY's meetings until September.  
Have a pleasant summer!**



**DIRECTIONS TO THE SONIC ARTS CENTER**

**Subway:** Take the 1 train to 137<sup>th</sup> Street City College and walk north to 140<sup>th</sup> St. & Broadway, then go east to 140<sup>th</sup> St. & Convent Avenue. Take the A, B, C, or D trains to 145th St, go south on St. Nicholas to 141st St, (one long block), then west one block to Convent Avenue, and south one more block to 140th & Convent Avenue.

**Bus:** M4 and M5 on Broadway; M 100, 101 on Amsterdam Ave. (one block West of Convent Avenue)



*The Sonic Arts Center at CCNY offers 4-year Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Music with a concentration in Music and Audio Technology. Their program provides an in-depth curriculum emphasizing real-world skills with a project-based approach. Students enjoy a well-rounded program, with emphasis on audio technology, music theory, orchestration, and history to help them compete in a field that today demands an ever-growing and highly diverse skill set.*



All ARSC NY Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.  
**Voluntary contributions to help defray our expenses are welcome!**

To join ARSC, visit <http://www.arsc-audio.org>

