

SPECIAL PROJECT

In Tribute to Charles Edward Ives on the 100th Anniversary of His Birth

Once a nice young man . . . said to Father, “How can you stand it to hear old John Bell (the best stone mason in town) sing?” . . . Father said, “He is a supreme musician.” The young man (nice and educated) was horrified—“Why, he sings off the key, the wrong notes and everything—and that horrible, raucous voice—and he bellows out and hits notes no one else does—it’s awful!” Father said, “Watch him closely and reverently, look into his face and hear the music of the ages. Don’t pay too much attention to the sounds—for if you do, you may miss the music. . . .”

Charles Ives, *Memos*, edited by John Kirkpatrick
(New York: W. W. Norton, 1972), p. 132.