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Features

Behind the Scenes with
Ned Dickens, librettist
of CCOC's The Star Child
Postscript:
Richard Margison on the
Opera House

The Return of
Tamara Volskaya

"HEIFETZ OF THE DOMRA"

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new music concerts presents

THE UTANOI CHOIR OF JAPAN
Monday May 1, 8 PM

Illuminating Introduction 7:15 PM

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New Music Concerts presents the prize-winning UTANOI CHOIR OF JAPAN, at Glenn Gould Studio. This first concert of the festival features the Canadian premiere of R. Murray Schafer's Seventeen Haiku written especially for this exciting ensemble. Utano will also perform Schafer's Magic Songs, Wind Horse by Toru Takehitsu and traditional Inner Mongolian Music. Presented with the assistance of the Japan-Canada Fund, a gift to the Canada Council for the Arts from the Government of Japan.

Tickets: $20, $10 students & seniors
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For information, call David Olds (416) 961-9594.

new music concerts presents

THE SOUND WORLD OF TOSHIO HOSOKAWA
Sunday May 14, 8:00 PM
7:15 PM Illuminating Introduction;

Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. West, Toronto

New Music Concerts presents a portrait of Japanese Composer TOSHIO HOSOKAWA, featuring flutist ROBERT AITKEN, harpist ERICA GOODMAN and the ACCORDES STRING QUARTET. The concert also includes music by ISANG YUN, a world premiere by Toronto composer CHIYOKO SZLAVNICS, and a special tribute to the late BARBARA PENTLAND.

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Composers Talks @ The Japan Foundation

131 Bloor Street West, Suite 213

Sunday, May 7 at 2 PM

ENCOUNTERS 2000 Reaching Out

Learn about the creative process as composers Karen Tanaka and Kelly-Marie Murphy discuss their music.

Free admission, please R.S.V.P.

Friday May 12 at 6:30 PM

NMC COMPOSER FORUM

Hosokawa's first visit to Canada will include his participation in a composer forum on Friday May 12 at 6:30 PM at The Japan Foundation, Toronto.

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Sibelius Rakastava
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Liszt Les Malédictions
Mirzoyan Sinfonia for Strings
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Saturday, October 28, 8 pm

MUSIC from ITALY
Erika Raum, Violinist
Vivaldi The Four Seasons
Corelli Sarabande, Gigue
and Badinerie
Tchaikowsky Souvenir de Florence
Sunday, November 19, 2.30 pm

OLD WORLD, NEW WORLD
Jasper Wood, Violinist
Mozart Divertimento K 138
Hovhaness Violin Concerto
MacDonald Triangulum
Miaskovsky Sinfonia
Saturday, March 3, 8 pm

BETRAYAL AND DENIAL
Richard Raymond, Pianist
Shostakovich Sinfonia Op. 110
Shostakovich Piano Concerto No. 1
Shostakovich Sinfonia Op. 118a
Saturday, April 7, 8 pm

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN
Julian Milkis, Clarinetist
Wolf-Ferrari Serenade
Pierné Canzonetta
Zfasman Intermezzo
Levkovich Brasillana
Schubert Death and the Maiden
Saturday, February 3, 8 pm

CATCH A RISING STAR
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with Dawn Lyons

"So I got a phone call out of the blue, more or less, from the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus, and my name had come to their attention. They had a millennium project and they had an agreement with composer John Greer, and they were looking for a librettist he could work with — I think they told me I was the twelfth one they had tried."

Ned Dickens, librettist for the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus newly commissioned work: The Star Child

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10 am  Morning Concert
Kerry Stratton
Noon  News Package
12:15 pm  Luncheon Date
Arlene Meadows
1 pm  Musically Speaking
Catherine Belyea
3 pm  Potspourri
Stu Allen and
David Franco
7 pm  Sounds Great
Michael Lyons
11 pm  Nocturne
Arlene Meadows
Midnight  Nightwatch
Colin Fox

SATURDAY
5:30 am  The Saturday Morning Show
Bill Anderson and
David Franco
9 am  Music for Saturday
Stu Allen and
Arlene Meadows
12:10 pm  Luncheon Date
Arlene Meadows
5 pm  Anything Goes
Arlene Meadows
7 pm  Give My Regards to Broadway
John van Driel
8 pm  Your Saturday Night Favourites
Michael Lyons

SUNDAY
5:30 am  Gloria
Richard Gale
9 am  Music for Sunday
John van Driel and
Kerry Stratton
12:10 pm  Luncheon Date
Arlene Meadows
1 pm  Music for Sunday
John van Driel and
Kerry Stratton
5:05 pm  Sinfonia
Arlene Meadows
7:00 pm  Concert in the Park
David Craig
8 pm  Sunday Night at the Opera
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CONCERT NOTES

I. Pot pourri

by Allan Pulker

FINALES

Rush-Hour Concerts. It is the month of May and many of the musical lads and lasses are winding down their seasons. The last of the Amati Quartet’s innovative rush hour buffet and music events will take place at Artword Theatre on May 3rd beginning at 5:30. Erica Goodman, described as “not only Canada’s pre-eminent harp player but also one of the most celebrated in the world…,” will join members of the quartet in Josef Haydn’s Trio for violin, cello and harp, and actor, Angela Fusco, will narrate André Caplet’s Masque of the Red Death, for string quartet and harp.

Deer Park Concerts. Marc-André Doran, organist at l’Église de la Visitation in Montréal and a classical music radio host on the CBC’s French FM network, will perform the final concert of Deer Park Concert’s 1999-2000 season on Friday May 5. This will be a rare opportunity to hear a marvellous Canadian musician not often heard in Toronto, and to hear Deer Park United Church’s splendid Rathgeb organ.

Toronto Chamber Choir. The Toronto Chamber Choir, recently distinguished by being part of the Easter morning Sunrise Celebration Chorale at the CBC Broadcast Centre, will give its final concert of the season on Saturday, May 6, with a program of psalm settings from various religious and liturgical traditions. Composers whose works they will sing include Bach, Bortniansky, Bruckner, Palestrina, Rachmaninoff, Rossi, Schütz and Andrew Donaldson, whose psalm setting was commissioned for this concert. The choir will be joined by soloists and a small instrumental ensemble for this concert.

Con Fuoco. Something that has become very clear to us a WholeNote is that to be a musician in Toronto at this time also means being a self-employed entrepreneur. Three young musicians, clarinetist, Michael Westwood, flutist, Ken Hall and double-bassist, Brian Baty, were also very aware of this fact when they started their own concert series, the Con Fuoco Chamber Music Series, to provide performance opportunities for themselves and other young professional musicians. The final concert of their season, “No No Nonet”, will be at Christ Church Deer Park on May 26.

Music Alive. Yet another inaugural season, that of the Music Alive concert series at Washington United Church in Scarborough, will come to its end on May 30 with a performance by Korean organist, Ran Kim. Kim, who has won competitions and been broadcast in South Korea, has also given recitals in Hungary and Canada. The program will cover five centuries and will end with Widor’s Toccata V from his Symphony No. 5.

DAYTIME

Lunchtime Chamber Music at Christ Church Deer Park. While many series are winding down the spring lunchtime series at Christ Church Deer Park goes into high gear all through May, with its first concert on April 27 and its last on June 1. The pleasant informality of these concerts coupled with the generally high calibre of performers will make them a welcome oasis in the middle of the day for those able to escape their daily grind long enough to attend!

Amadeus Chamber Singers at Roy Thomson Hall. Another noon hour series listed regularly in WholeNote is the one that takes place on Wednesdays at Roy Thomson Hall. This season’s final concert will be given on May 3 by the Amadeus Chamber Singers, another of the four fine choirs that were part of the Sunrise Celebration Chorale on April 23. The program will include Thomas Tompkins moving anthem, When David Heard, and Eleanor Daley’s exquisite My Master From a Garden Rose, along with other compositions by Eleanor Daley (the choir’s accompanist) and compositions by fellow Canadians, Andrew Ager, Lydia Adams and Ruth Watson Henderson.

STARS

Recitals at Roy Thomson Hall. The celebrated American mezzo-soprano, Frederica von Stade, will be giving a recital of songs by Fauré, Debussy, Schumann and ten American composers at Roy Thomson Hall on May 12. Tickets went on sale on April 7 for Dmitri Hvorostovsky’s October 27 performance at Roy Thomson Hall and the special screening of Rhombus Media’s new one hour film, Don Giovanni Revealed, in which Hvorostovsky plays both the parts of Don Giovanni and of Leporello.

GEORGE WESTON

Recital Hall

While the Ford Centre Recital Series disappears into history, the acclaimed Recital Hall which was its home will continue to provide local users with one of the best facilities of its kind anywhere in the country. One of those local organizations is the Toronto Philharmonia, which will present two concerts there in May, the first...
on a Celtic theme on May 3, the second, a program of music by Russian composers, on May 25.

Another orchestra, The New World Symphony Orchestra, the creation of Greek-Canadian composer and conductor, Stefanos Karabekos, will make a rare Toronto appearance at the Recital Hall on June 2, in a varied program that will include works by Canadians, the late Louis Applebaum, Claude Champagne, John Weinzweig and Stefanos Karabekos. The orchestra, which is composed of eighty of Toronto’s best symphonic musicians, was formed in 1992, to reflect and celebrate the rich cultural mosaic that Canadian society has become. Among the orchestra’s accomplishments are performances at the 1997 festival celebrating the designation of the city of Thessaloniki as the Cultural Capital of Europe. Perhaps the fact that there will be three symphonic concerts in acoustically friendly surroundings in one month signals an encouraging trend in the concert scene.

READER WRITES
But to return to the demise of the Recital Series, we received a letter from a reader, Karen Michael, commenting on the cost of keeping the series going compared to the cost of hosting the Olympic Games, to which our esteemed city councillors seem totally committed. She wrote: “I guess the city has to save money, since it plans to support the Olympic MMVIII, which will cost several billion S’s.” It makes me think a little of my high school days when athletes were feted at school assemblies while competition-winning student musicians were chided for missing school to compete. “O tempores, o mores!”

And speaking of the Toronto Performing Arts Centre story: the Royal Conservatory of Music’s Historic Register Tour will stop at the Centre on May 6 and 7, part of a April 12-May 8 cross-Canada tour, designed to celebrate the nationwide tens of thousands of people who have in one way or another

Continues on page 15
May is a very busy month for choirs in Toronto and for us at Choirs Ontario.

In this column, I don’t always explain all that we do here at the arts service organization for choirs in Ontario. Our visible programmes include the annual Ontario Youth Choir and Children’s Choir Camp and the Leslie Bell Prize Competition and the Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition. We publish a quarterly newsletter entitled Dynamic, run a choral rental parts library and advocate on behalf of choral music in Ontario. Membership fees range from $25 to $75 depending on the category and we accept membership applications all year round. For more on Choirs Ontario, please visit our website at www.choirsontario.org.

There are many fascinating choral events in Toronto in May, including a busy night on May 6. You have your pick of at least six concerts to attend: The Oriana Singers kick up their heels in an evening of cabaret music. The Toronto Chamber Choir explores various settings of the psalms in the lush acoustical surroundings of St. Patrick’s Church downtown. The Toronto Children’s Chorus celebrates the warmer weather with a concert at the newly-named Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts (North York Centre…you know, the place that used to be named after a big car company). The Bell’Arte Singers celebrate the proud heritage of St. Anne’s Church in the west end. And, for those of you willing to travel a little further afield, David Low’s Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir performs in Hamilton and the Elora Festival Singers present an evening of early and late Handelian choral music in Guelph.

The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and Youth Choir both give significant concerts in May. On May 6, the TMYC, under the baton of Robert Cooper, give the world premiere of “Bridges” by Robert Evans. On May 9, the main choir performs Stravinsky, Poulenc and Philip Glass under conductor Noel Edison. The Exultate Chamber Singers premiere a major piece for choir and string quartet by the ubiquitous Andrew Ager on May 12. Entitled “Invisible Harps”, the piece features several musical settings of the poetry of James Joyce. The following evening, Linda Beaulé’s remarkable Bach Children’s Chorus gives a concert at the aforementioned Toronto Centre for the P.A. and the consistently wonderful Tallis Choir reenacts a Spanish coronation mass at St. Patrick’s Church.

The week leading up to the Victoria Day weekend is an exciting one for choral music. Chrys Bentley’s Mississauga Choral Society celebrates their 25th anniversary with a special performance of the Bach “Mass in B Minor” at Hammerson Hall on the 16th. And on the 16th and 17th, the CBC opens the doors of the Glenn Gould Studio for the finals of the Amateur Choirs Competition. For the first time ever, the finals will be performed and adjudicated live in centres across the country.

Ontario has eight choirs involved in the finals. On May 16, the St. Mary’s Children’s Choir, the Victoria Scholars, Vesiška Choir and Northern Lights will compete. The following night will feature performances by the Amabile Youth Singers, Vox Azera, the Exultate Chamber Singers and the Calvin Presbyterian Church Choir. The performance begins at 7:00 pm each night. Admission is free, though you must reserve your tickets by calling 416-205-3876.

There’s a definite lull on the evening, Linda Beaupré’s remarkable Bach Children’s Chorus gives a concert at the aforementioned Toronto Centre for the P.A. and the consistently wonderful Tallis Choir reenacts a Spanish coronation mass at St. Patrick’s Church.

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May 13: Toronto Chamber Choir
May 13: Canadian Community Chorus of Toronto (in Further Afield)
May 13: St. Andrew's Choir (in Further Afield)
May 13: The Graytones barbershop quartet
May 12 & 13: Peel Choral Society
May 13: Canadian Orpheus Male Choir (in Further Afield)
May 13: Mississauga Children's Choir (in Further Afield)
May 13: Centennial Choir of Mississauga
May 13: St. John's York Mills Choir
May 13: Penthelia Children's Choir
May 13: Tallis Choir
May 13: Toronto Mendelssohn Choir
May 13: Ontario Alto Society
May 13: Village Voices
May 13: High Park Children's Choir
May 13: Canadian Community Chorus of Toronto (in Further Afield)
May 13: Voices of the Church
May 13: John H. Stephenson, Director
May 13: St. Andrew's Choir (in Further Afield)
May 13: Exultate Choral Society
May 13: St. Andrew's Chorus (in Late List)
May 13: St. Andrew's Choir (in Late List)
May 13: Millennium Singers
May 13: St. Andrew's Choir (in Late List)

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III. Hear & Now
(New Music)

BY DAVID G. H. PARSONS

Gentle Readers,
This will be my last “Hear & Now”, and I therefore want to take an opportunity to thank The WholeNote for creating this guide to new music in Toronto, and for inviting me to be its regular contributor. I began producing this column in the spring of 1998, following a dynamic brainstorming meeting of the local contemporary music community at which we examined ways of increasing the visibility for new music in the local media. It was decided to adapt a previous broad sheet publication of the same name into a new identity, and the present incarnation of “Hear & Now” was born within the pages of this magazine.

Exactly two years later I’ve been advised by many readers that “Hear & Now” has become the invaluable source for what’s “hot” in new concert music in town. I’ve even met WholeNote fans when traveling elsewhere around the province, and am flattered when “that new music section” gets singled out for commentary.

And the reason for my leave taking? At the beginning of April, I accepted a new appointment at the Ontario Arts Council (OAC) as Music Officer. I cannot continue with this monthly column highlighting the varied offerings of Toronto’s new music scene for obvious conflict-of-interest reasons, but know that the editor is considering what to do with such an important regular feature. I am confident that a practical guide to new music will continue in this location, and wish the next writer(s) every success.

While I eagerly anticipate the challenges and vistas awaiting me at OAC, there is a profound emotion at leaving a job I thoroughly enjoy. As a composer and arts administrator possessing a Masters in Canadian studies, I can hardly imagine more suitable employment than at the Canadian Music Centre. When I started as Ontario Regional Director in summer 1990, I could not have foreseen continuing

Choral quick picks, continued from page 13

June 2 8:00: North Toronto Women’s Chamber Choir
June 2 8:00: Orpheus Choir of Toronto; St. George’s School Choir
June 3 7:30: Cantabile & Cantores Celestes Women’s Choirs
June 3 7:30: 200-voice choir including High Park Children’s Choirs, Concert, Chamber & Youth Divisions
June 3 8:00: North York Singers
June 3 8:00 & 4 2:00: Yorkminster Show Choir
June 4 3:30: Jubilate Singers & Trinity St. Paul’s Church Choir
June 4 7:30: High Park Concert; Chamber & Youth Divisions
June 5 7:30: Riverdale Youth Singers
June 5 & 6 8:15: Cantabile Chorale of York Region
June 7 8:00: Toronto Choral Society (In Late List)
Hear & Now, continued

on a 10-year voyage of discovery. The past decade at CMC has seen this organization successfully weather financial storms, animate outreach activities for both students and general concert goers aimed at demystifying new music, join a partnership with presenters on a new music festival in Toronto, and embark on projects involving the latest in communications technologies which will radically transform the dissemination of Canadian works to musicians around the globe. It has been a pleasure and an honour promoting the awareness of your music and appreciation of your music.

It has been a pleasure and an honour promoting the awareness of your music and appreciation of your music.
**IV. Jazz Notes**

**BY JIM GALLOWAY**

The (sometimes not so) merry month of May

The merry month of May brings a mixed bag of musical offerings. If your musical taste ranges from Bach to Bley, there are a couple of concerts, not for the jazz purist, perhaps, but featuring classical and jazz music. Friday May 5 at 7:30pm: Bach & Blues Dresden in Concert. Sponsored by Goethe-Institut and the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, this is an evening of Chamber music of Bach & selection of jazz pieces. The musicians are Friedrich Steinsberg, violin; Götz Bergmann, viola; Ulrich Thiem, cello. It is a benefit concert for the reconstruction of the synagogue in Dresden. St. Andrew’s Church, 73 Simcoe St. 925-2813. Donations appreciated.

The same evening at 8:00pm - Classical, opera, jazz & alternative songs presented by Maria Antonakos, soprano and Friends. Jian Yin Lin & John Alonso, piano; Mark Skazintsky, violin; Simon Fryer, cello; John Thomson, percussion; Peter Pavlovsky, bass. Fund Raiser. First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto Music Series Committee. 175 St. Clair Ave. West. 924-9654. $12.00.

Still in a church, but definitely jazz, on Saturday May 6 at 8:00pm, Jazz at RY will have the Lynn MacDonald Quartet, with Lynn on vocals, David Restivo, piano, Pat La Barbera, saxophone and Arnie Roth, bass. The concert is to benefit RY’s local fund & a community outreach project. Royal York Road United Church, 851 Royal York Road. 231-1207. $15.00.

On May 7 at 8:00pm, the Music Gallery will stage an acoustic jazz presentation featuring improvising percussionist, Geordie McDonald leading his ensemble, comprised of Nancy Walker - piano and arrangements, Kiki Misumi - cello, Allan Molnar - vibes, Kieran Overs - bass, Geordie McDonald - drums. They will perform music of Pharoah Saunders, Paul Bley, Ornette Coleman and Nancy Walker. Geordie McDonald is committed to jazz that reflects the worldly context within which the music exists (i.e.: world music influences). The music is definitely not audio wallpaper and it is better not to try to pigeonhole Geordie McDonald - just enjoy... Music Gallery, 179 Richmond Street West, 204-1080. Tickets: $12.00.

The same evening, University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Graduate Student Recital: Mark Adam, percussion.

Friday May 12, 8:00pm One of the month’s highlights will take you to the North end of the city for a concert by the Nicholas Payton Quintet. He is one of the younger emerging trumpet stars who surely knows about the roots of the music. It is appropriate that he is presenting a Tribute to Louis Armstrong. Look out for a feast of Armstrong tributes over the next year. It was originally believed that his birthday was July 4th, 1900, until it was discovered that it was in reality, exactly 13 months later - a good excuse to celebrate for over a year, and this concert isn’t a bad way to begin. Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 870-8000. $31 to $45.

Tuesday May 16 at 7:30pm Sir John A. MacDonald College Institute, TY-MAC Spring Sounds, presenting bands, orchestras, jazz ensembles & choirs from Sir John A. MacDonald C.I. & J.B. Tyrrell Senior P.S. Sir John A. MacDonald College Institute, 2300 Pharmacy Ave. 396-6793. $5.50, $15 (family of 5).

And last, but by no means least, on Sunday May 28 at 4:30pm Christ Church Deer Park Jazz Vespers will feature Moe Koffman, flute. A very warm welcome back to Moe, recovered from a recent illness. Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 920-5211. Collection.

In the light of events, near non-events, and the general unease in the arts communities, I have to be somewhat less than cheerful about the cultural health of this city, this province, this country.

There is a wealth of talent, more than at any other time in the history of Canada - and that means more people hopeful of a career in the arts. In the Toronto area we have four colleges/ universities offering courses in jazz. Each year they produce graduates who are highly skilled musicians with knowledge and technique far in excess of most players of say 30 years ago. They are taught by some of the finest professionals in the country (supplementing what they earn from engagements, and glad of it); and each year a fresh crop of graduates comes into the workplace. Did I say workplace? But where is the work? I used to go into schools on a fairly regular basis to explain and demonstrate jazz. I always made it a point to discourage students from seeking a career in music, unless they had a “fire in the belly”. A career in music is a hard way to make a living and one thing is certain. There are more musicians than engagements.

Unfortunately, the value of the arts in general to society and the need for some sort of cultural fabric are all but overlooked in this country. Music and the visual arts are regarded as an unnecessary luxury instead of an integral part of life and living. Dozens of arts organisations are out there trying to survive at the same time as budgets are being cut. It will get worse before it gets better.

Meanwhile, Canadian culture = Hockey Night In Canada. And they don’t even use a real organ player any more! Please support live music!
V. Bandstand

BY MERLIN WILLIAMS

Bandstand - May 2000

The National Youth Band of Canada under the direction of Dr. Glenn Price will present two evening concerts this month. Each of these concerts is shared with outstanding youth bands from Toronto. Canadian trombonist, Alain Trudel is featured guest artist on both programs. Trudel excels in the classical and jazz fields, as witnessed by his recent recording on the Naxo and Naxos Jazz labels.

The recently formed Hannaford Youth Brass Band under the direction of Larry Shields will appear with The National Youth Band of Canada on Monday, May 15 7:30 PM at Humber College. The Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra, directed by Colin Clarke, appear with The National Youth Band of Canada on Tuesday, May 16 7:30 PM at Martingrove Collegiate Auditorium, Winterton Drive, Etobicoke.

This is an excellent opportunity, not only to take in some fine performances, but to take an aspiring instrumentalist and show them what is possible with dedication and hard work. While we're on the subject of the study of music, it is worth mentioning that the middle school instrumental music programs available to students in the Toronto District School Board are on the chopping block. These programs will likely by cancelled after the 2000-2001 school year. Now is definitely the time to get involved and let the board know how much these programs mean to our students. You can get involved by contacting the Coalition For Music Education in Canada. They can be reached at (416) 751-9785, or on the web, at http://www.coalitionformusiced.ca.

VI. WebNotes

BY COLIN PUFFER

The internet is a fascinating place: a tremendous, if anarchic, resource for everything from hot stocks to hot babes. Sometimes reviled as the anti-Christ and sometimes glorified as an incipient form of global consciousness, the reality lies somewhere in between. You can buy a car on the internet, download Alanis Morisette’s latest recording, get the EZLN take on the struggle in Chiapas (http://www.chiapas2000.org/eestrategias.html), look for long-lost high school sweetheart’s (http://people.yahoo.com) or play Scrabble with someone in Russia (http://www.cgroups.com/group/scrabble_online/).

And then there is music — classical, new, pop, blues, jazz, world, electronics - it’s analyzed, reviewed, previewed and reproduced in a myriad of formats: MP3, RealAudio, Liquid Audio, MIDI.

You can listen to your favourite radio station as you surf the web, bid on mint copies of obscure jazz albums at online auction sites, find out when the Backstreet Boys are next in town, or track down the lyrics for “Please Daddy Don’t Get Drunk This Christmas.”

For working musicians the internet provides both an opportunity and a challenge.

Note:
The WholeNote Magazine first went on-line in March, 1999. 25% of all responses to our recent WholeNote Reader’s Survey came from the WholeNote web site. Number of internet users in Canada in 1999 - 13,277,000

You can visit the WholeNote online. Back issues to March 1999.

Canadian Music Centre: http://www.music.cmc.ca
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Colin Puffer is WholeNote’s webmaster

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Colour ads must be booked by Friday May 12, black and white by Friday May 19.
VI. Music Theatre Spotlight

Sweeney to Swedes

Two very different musicals

It was April of 1979 when I saw the newly-opened original Broadway production of Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street at New York’s Uris Theatre. That same weekend was the first time I ever saw someone with red hair. Not regular auburn or strawberry blonde, you understand, but a dangerous crimson - and she was also wearing an all-black ensemble that was halfway between bondage fetishism and riot gear.

Punk and New Wave fashions hadn't yet hit Canada (although they broke on the scene about six months later and were soon as common as disco duds had been before). We were on the edge of a big change in style, from the glittery veneer of the 70s to a rawer, harsher aesthetic that would characterize the 80s and 90s.

I wasn't quite ready for Sweeney Todd, a hair-raising horror tale punctuated by the terrifying, highly-amplified blasts of a policeman's whistle at every scene break. With music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and directed by Harold Prince, the show was like a chilling breath of what was just about to come. Len Cario played the title role, with Victor Garber as the romantic hero Anthony, but the show was pretty much stolen by Angela Lansbury as the delightfully bloodthirsty Mrs. Lovett.

The story of Sweeney Todd was first staged as a melodrama in 1847 at London’s Britannia, a so-called

Continues, page 21
Music Theatre Listings

ACT II Studio. Our Canadian Century - An Historical Revue. Musical revue celebrating the highlights of Canada throughout the past century including musical hits & dances. June 1,2,6,9,10 & 11:00; June 2,7,8 & 11:30. Robert Gill Theatre, 214 College St. 978-7986. $25 (June 2 gala), $18, $15 (group rates).

Alexander Singers & Players. Sweeney Todd (The Demon Barber of Fleet Street). Music by Sondheim; book by Wheeller; Angela Hawaleshka, musical director; Vincenzo Senito, director; Brian Brockshehre & other performers. May 13, 19 & 20:00; May 14 & 15:00, Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St. 785-0333. $20, $18, matinees $18, $16 (group rates).


Canadian Children’s Opera Chorus. The Star Child. John Greer, composer; Ned Dickens, librettist; co-directed by Tom Diamond & Mark Wilson; John Tuttle, conductor. May 13: 2:00 & 7:30; May 14: 2:00. du Maurier Theatre Centre, 231 Queens Quay West. 973-4000. $19.50, $11.

Civic Light Opera Company. State Fair. Musical by Rodgers & Hammerstein. Joe Cascone, director; John Ricciardelli, musical director; Mark McInnes, Sandi Horwitz, Peter Loucan & other performers. May 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27: 8:00; May 21 & 28: 2:00. Fairview Library Theatre, 35 Fairview Mall Drive. 203-7839. $15, $12.50 (sr/sr); $9 Thursdays.

Encore Entertainment. The Fantasticks. Book & lyrics by Tom Jones; music by Harvey Schmidt. May 25, 26, 27, June 1, 2, 3: 8:00; May 28, June 4: 2:00. Studio Theatre, Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 733-0558. $20 (level), $15 (mat).


Mirvish Productions. Mamma Mia! Musical based on the songs of ABBA. Music & lyrics by Benny Andersson & Bjorn Ulvaeus; book by Catherine Johnson; directed by Phyllida Lloyd. May 11 to September 10. Tuesday - Saturday: 8:00; Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday: 2:00. Royal Alexandra Theatre, 260 King St. West. 872-1212. $25 to $93.


Scarborough Music Centre. Anne of Green Gables. Music by Norman Campbell; lyrics by Donald Haron & Norman Campbell; adapted by Donald Haron from the book by L.M. Montgomery. To May 13. Thursdays to Saturdays: 8:00; Sundays: 2:00. Scarborough Village Theatre, 3600 Kingston Rd. 389-4049. $18, $15.

Silver Fox Productions Ltd. Swingstep. Directed by Allan Allan; music composed & orchestrated by Charles C. Cozens; starring Douglas Chamberlain, June Crowley, Paul McQuillan & others. May 8 to July 1. Elgin Theatre, 189 Yonge St. 872-5555.

Solar Stage Children’s Theatre. Spring Into Summer with the Stylamanders. Songs about summer; audience participation. To May 28: Sundays at 11:00am & 2:00. Madison Centre, concourse level, 4950 Yonge St. 368-8031. $8.50.

Stage Centre Productions. Side by Side by Sondheim. Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim; music by Bernstein, Richard Rogers, Mary Rodgers & Sondheim, May 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 8:00; May 7: 2:00. Fairview Library Theatre, 35

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Sweeney to Swedes: continued from page 19

“bloodbath theatre” that specialized in heart-stopping shock shows. It has had numerous stage adaptations, apart from its life in the tawdry, popular Victorian newspapers known as “penny dreadfuls” and “shilling shockers”. Who could resist the twisted tale of a mad barber who kills his customers and serves them up as pies? Of course, the delicious irony of the legend is that Todd’s customers find his pies so much more tasty than other kinds of meat.

At the time, before the Sex Pistols and The Clash had become popular radio fare, the very sound of the show was terrifying. However, the discordant urgency of the score is broken up by hauntingly lovely material, like the ballad “Joanna”. And then there’s the show-stopping first-act number “A Little Priest”, in which Mrs. Lovett convinces Sweeney Todd of the virtues of human flesh as pie filling. “Priest”, for example, would never “commit sins of the flesh & so it’s very fresh!”

Twenty years later, I’m sure the show seems tamer, but none the worse for that. Fortuitously and although there has never been a professional production in Toronto, to the best of my knowledge, Sweeney Todd is being mounted from May 13 to 21 at the Leah Poslum Theatre by a young company known as the Alexander Singers and Players.

In this version Sweeney Todd is played by Brian Brockenshire, while his real-life partner Ceris Thomas is Mrs. Lovett. They are members of a company that started out over ten years ago as a choir under the direction of Angela Havelaska and is in fact named after her father. Many of their productions have been Gilbert and Sullivan fare, but they’ve also presented productions of The Merry Widow, Oklahoma and Fiddler on the Roof.

The group has a strong educational mandate that includes offering an annual scholarship to outstanding participants. They are also active in fundraising for charitable causes like the Arthritis Society and Variety Village. With over 60 members of the company and a strong musical foundation, the Alexander Singers and Players sound like a good bet to produce a worthy production of this now-classic musical.

And finally, just for fun, Mirvish Productions is opening a production of the popular Mamma Mia! by Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus (just a few doors down from The Lion King, which you don’t need WholeNote for!). Running at the Royal Alexandra Theatre from May 11, it’s based not on any Italian theme, as you might have guessed at first but on the wildly durable music of Abba, the boy-girl-boy-girl pop band of the 70s that soared from a victory at the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest to international stardom with songs like “Money, Money, Money”, “Super Trouper”, “Chiquitita” and “Dancing Queen”. A hot cast includes engaging stars like Louise Pitre (Les Miz) and Mary Ellen Mahoney (Crazy For You), so it probably will be if not deep - at least entertaining.

Sarah B. Hood is the editor of Performing Arts in Canada magazine.

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COMPREHENSIVE CONCERT LISTINGS
May 1 2000, to June 7, 2000

As always, we make every effort to ensure accuracy. But things happen! If you are unable to attend an event, please note that the first performance of Music Theatre Listings is included in these Daily Listings. For a complete run of events, see our Music Theatre listings, commencing on page 20. In addition to these core listings, we also include listings for: events just outside the GTA (see Further Afield, page 37); information received after deadline (see Too Late to List, page 20); and events that take place in alternative venues (see Honourable Mention, page 37).

Monday May 01

** 8:00: New Music Concerts. Uraoni Choir, Schiller: Magic Songs; Seventeen Haiku; Takemitsu: Wind Horse; The Pastoral Song (traditional Inner Mongolian music). Nobuyuki Koshiba, director. 7:15: Illuminating introduction. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. 205-5555. $20, $10.

** 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Tribute to Arthur Fiedler. J. Strauss Jr.: On the Beautiful Blue Danube; Sarasate: Carmen Fantasie on themes of Bizet; Saint-Saëns: Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso;

Young: selections from Around the World in 80 Days. James Ehnes, violin; Erich Kunzel, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $36 to $72.

** 8:00: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Graduating Student Recital. Cristina Cigliola, trumpet. Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park. 978-3744. Free.

** 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Tribute to Arthur Fiedler. Roy Thomson Hall, See May 1.

** 8:00: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Graduating Student Recital. Alice Wong, piano & chamber music. Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park. 978-3744. Free.

Tuesday May 02

** 1:00: Lunch Hour at St. James'. Patricia Wright, organ. 65 Church St. 364-7685. Free.


** 8:00: Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir. Donnell Leahy & Friends. Evans: Bridges (TMY Commission). Monica Whircher, soprano; Doug MacNaughton, baritone; full orchestra; Robert Cooper, conductor. 7:00: Peerless Jazzy Chat with Robert Evans & Walter Pitman. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 872-1111. $45, $30.

Music at Metropolitan presents

Organ Futures
Free organ recitals at 5:30 p.m. Gerald Martindale on the Metropolitan carillon at 5:15 p.m.

May 3 David Enlow
May 10 Kunle Owolabi
May 17 Geoffrey Ward
May 24 Stephen Candelier
May 31 Andrew Weleschuk

Sounds of the Soul from North America
Metropolitan's organist Patricia Wright in a recital of music from Canada and the United States. Admission $10.

Metropolitan United Church
Queen and Church Streets, Toronto
For information call (416) 363-0331

Wednesday May 03


** 2:00 & 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. A Tribute to Arthur Fiedler. Roy Thomson Hall. See May 1. Matinee $22 to $48.


** 8:00: Talisker Players Chamber Music Series. The Best and Fairest May: Music for Voice and String Quartet. Settings by Warlock, Vaughan Williams, Arnold, Jacob &

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May 4th Soprano on Board Susan Virtue, soprano; Tonya Osmund, piano. Songs by Rodrigo, Barber, and others.

May 11th Perfect Pitch Peter Stoll, clarinet and saxophone; Andrew Gilpin, piano. Music by Glazunov, Finzi and Strauss.

May 18th Trio Atlantic Nancy Hennen, flute; Julian Smerdon, clarinet; Erika Reitman, piano. Music by Koechlin and others.

May 25th Cello Salas II Mary Katherine Finch, cello; Jun Fujimura, piano. Music by Beethoven, Bach and others.

June 1st Sterling Ivory Henneke Cats, flute; Michel Allard, piano. Spring songs and toe-tappers by Beethoven, Mathias, Roussel and others.

The Lunchtime Chamber Music Series is entirely self-supporting. We are grateful for the financial contributions of our audience members, which help defray our expenses.
Thursday, May 4

8:00pm

Glenn Gould Studio
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Programme

J. S. Bach
Orchestral Suite No. 2

Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 1

Beethoven
Symphony No. 7

Rosanne Wieringa, Flute
Yashar Nazarian, Piano

Thursday, May 4, 2000

8:00 PM

Glenn Gould Studio
250 Front Street West

For Tickets and Information Call 205-5555

Programme

J. S. Bach
Orchestral Suite No. 2

Tchaikovsky
Piano Concerto No. 1

Beethoven
Symphony No. 7

Rosanne Wieringa, Flute
Yashar Nazarian, Piano
accompanist. The Donway Covenant Church, 230 The Donway West. 905-889-2094. $10.

** 8:00: Oakville Choral Society, Spring into Song, Solos & choruses from Gilbert & Sullivan; Penzance, Pinafore, Mikado & Gondoliers. Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, 130 Navy Street. 905-847-7469. $15.


** 8:00: Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, Angel Romero, guitar in Recital. Works by de Madarasz, Sanz, Tarrega, Sor, Albéniz & others. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 870-8000. $27 to $40.

** 8:00: Toronto Operaetta Theatre. My Fair Lady. By Lerner & Loewe. Gisèle Fredette, Keith Boldt, Gregory Cross & Curtis Sullivan, performers; Peter Oleskевич, conductor, Jane Mallett Theatre, 27 Front St. E. 366-7723. $31 to $65. For complete run see Music Theatre listings.

** 8:00: University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Graduating Student Recital, Julius Wedman, piano. Walter Hall, 80 Queen’s Park. 978-3744. Free.

** 8:00: American Harp Society Toronto Chapter, Duo Harp Recital. Caroline Leonardelli & Caroline Lizotte, harps. Armour Heights Presbyterian Church, 105 Wilson Ave. 484-9951. $15.

** 8:00: Bell’Arte Singers. Dailey: The Gate of the Year; music by Raminth, Mio & Robertson. Ian Sadler, organ; Lee Willingham, director. St. Anne’s Church, 270 Gladstone Ave. 699-5879.

** 8:00: Canadian Chamber Academy, Levkovich: Piano Trio (CCA commission); Shostakovich: Piano Trio Op.67 #2; Rachmanninoff: Piano Trio Op. 9. Egliac. Arts Bankas, violin; Patrice Lane, piano; Velitchka Yokotzawa, cello. Church of the Good Shepherd, 324 St. Martin-In-The-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave. 530-4050. $15,$12.


** 8:00: Oakville Choral Society, Spring into Song. Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts. See May 5.


** 8:00: Royal York Road United Church, Jazz at Ry: The Lynn MacDonald Quartet. Lynn MacDonald, vocals; David Restivo, piano; Pat La Barbera, saxophone; Artie Roth, bass. To benefit Ry’s local fund & a community outreach project. 851 Royal York Road. 231-1207. $15,$12.

** 8:00: Scarborough Philharmonic presents: Celestial Journey with Beverley Johnston, percussion & Mike Hill, The Planet’s Estacio – Borrells – Ho – Radiantia.

May 6, 2000 – 8 pm Birchmount Park CI, Scarborough 261-0380
**Soprano**

NATHALIE PAULIN

“British Arms”

Bratten, Elgar, Holst, Warlock

SINFONIO TORONTO

Nurhan Arman, conductor

Glenn Gould Studio
dnesday, May 6, 8, pm


**8:00:** ToneART ensemble. Confluence, Domeniconi: Variations on a Turkish Folk Song for guitar; Prokofiev: Sonata in D Op. 11 for solo violin; Piazzolla: Histoire du Tango for guitar & violin; Baker: Excursus for cello and piano (premiere); Webern: Three Little Pieces for cello & piano Op. 11; Corey Gemmell, violin; Tom Mueller, cello; Lois Simmons, piano; Danielle Cummimg, guitar.

The piano: Instrument of the fin de siecle Romantics

The Off Centre Music Salon offers a glimpse into the 19th century’s passionate interest in the piano on May 7, 2000 at 2:30 with “The Piano: Instrument of the fin de siecle Romantics” at Glenn Gould Studio. Internationally renowned pianist Naida Cole is joined by exciting young tenor Michael Colvin and Artistic Directors and house pianists Boris Zarankin and Inna Perkis.

Sunday, May 7, 2000 2:30 p.m. at Glenn Gould Studio For tickets, call Glenn Gould Studio Box Office at (416) 205-0555.
Elmer Iseler Singers

Lydia Adams, conductor

Music of the Americas

Sunday May 7, 2000 at 7 pm
St. James Cathedral
King & Church Streets, Toronto
$25 regular, $20 senior/student

Lydia Adams, conductor

Repertoire Includes:

TOGNI Magnificat
CHATMAN Due West (Toronto Premiere)
AGUIAR Salmo 150
ESTEVEZ Matra del Anima Sola
GUTIERREZ Alma Llanena
FISSINGER In Paradisum

We will close off our spectacular 1999-2000 Toronto concert series with a celebration of music across the centuries from North and South America. This concert, in addition to celebrating the music of the United States and Canada, will venture further afield to introduce Toronto audiences to the wealth of choral music past and present from Mexico, Argentina and elsewhere. Did you realize that there is absolutely glorious music from Baroque Mexico, for example? This musical Baedeker will conclude our season with real eclat!

SEASON FINALE

For information or to order tickets call (416) 217-0537
Catherine Wilson & Robert Conway Piano Duet Team perform a benefit concert

"Adults & Children at Play"

- Twelve Four-Hand Piano Pieces for Large and Small Children Op.85 by Robert Schumann
  - "Scenes from a Marriage" by American composer James Hartway
  - Three Sketches by Canadian Composer Michael LaCroix

To Aid Roof Restoration for Historic Heliconian Hall
35 Hazelton Avenue
Thursday, May 11 • 8:00 pm
Admission: $50.00*
Telephone/Fax: 922-3618
Tickets are available by advance reservation or at the door.

* a tax deductible receipt of $40.00 will be issued.
Toews, organist; Erica Goodman, harp; Lawrence Park Community Church Choir. Lawrence Park Community Church, 2180 Bayview Avenue. 489-1551. $25/$20. **8:00: Les AMIS Concerts. Works by Corrette, Ravel, Marcello, Busser, Albeniz, Radic & Maksmimovic. Predrag Stojkovic, bassoon; Liliana Dimitrijevic, harp. Zion Church Cultural Centre, 1650 Finch Ave. East. 905-773-7712. $12. **8:00: Roy Thomson Hall. Frederica Von Stade, mezzo soprano. Works by Fauré & Ginastera. Martin Katz, piano. 60 Simcoe. 872-4255. $35 to $70. **8:00: Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts. Nicholas Payton Quintet: Tribute to Louis Armstrong.

Invisible Harps
Exultate's 1999/2000 season wraps up with the world premiere of a major new work for strings and choir by Canadian composer Andrew Ager. The programme also features the beautiful Magnificat by Arvo Pärt.

Tickets/Information: (416) 410-3929

Lawrence Park Community Church Choir
Chilcott ORGAN DANCES (Canadian Premiere)
Poulenc CONCERTO for organ, strings and tympani.
Olsson TE DEUM for choir, strings and harp.

Friday, May 12th at 8:00 pm

Lawrence Park Community Church
2180 Bayview Avenue
(south of Lawrence Ave. East)
Tickets: $25/$20 (Seniors & Students)
Call: 416-489-1551 Ext. 21

Fridays at Eight:
presents
ORGAN, ORCHESTRA & CHOIR
Bob Chilcott, conductor
Mark Toews, organ
Erica Goodman, harp
The Choir of Lawrence Park Community Church

Chilcott ORGAN DANCES (Canadian Premiere)
Poulenc CONCERTO for organ, strings and tympani.
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Lawrence Park Community Church
2180 Bayview Avenue
(south of Lawrence Ave. East)
Tickets: $25/$20 (Seniors & Students)
Call: 416-489-1551 Ext. 21
One of the great opera stars of our time

Frederica von Stade
mezzo-soprano

Martin Katz
piano

Program includes:
Fauré
Schumann
Debussy
Rorem
Bernstein

A voice of shining radiance, and a presence distinguished by genuine warmth and elegance.

FRIDAY MAY 12, 8PM
ROY THOMSON HALL

CALL (416) 872-4255
or Visit the Roy Thomson Hall Box Office • www.roythomson.com

specially commissioned piece & other works. Bach Chamber Youth Choir; Amabile Boys Choir; Dr. Carol Beynon & Linda Beaupré, conductors. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 870-8000. $20, $10.

** 7:30: Mississauga Children’s Choir. Here’s to Song. Glick: The Light that Fills the World (Songs of Light) (world premiere). Paul Brodie, soprano; Thomas Bell, conductor. Royal Bank Theatre, 4141 Living Arts Drive, Mississauga. 905-629-9704. $15.

** 7:30: Raag-Mala Music Society of Toronto. Ajoy Chakrabarty & Kaushiki Chakrabarty, vocalists; Yoshish Sami, tabla. Medical Sciences Auditorium, 1 King’s Circle, 599-5291. $13 to $28.

** 8:00: Alexander Singers & Players. Sweeney Todd (The Demon Barber of Fleet Street). Music by Sondheim; book by Sondheim; by Wheeler, Angela Hawaleshka, musical director; Vincenzo Sestito, director; Brian Brookings & other performers. Leith Posluns Theatre, 4586 Bathurst St. 785-0333. $20, $10. For complete run see Music Theatre listings.

** 8:00: Etobicoke Community Concert Band. Last Night of the Proms. Etobicoke Collegiate Auditorium. See May 12.

** 8:00: Kalamazoo, marimba, in Recital. Works by Reich (premiere), Cahn (premiere), Weyre, Ichiyama, Nishimura & others. Guests: John Wyre, Mark Duggan & Ray Dillard, percussion; Bill Brennan, piano; Toronto Percussion Ensemble; Lawrence Cherny, english horn. Walter Hall, 80 Queen’s Park. 978-3744. Free.

** 8:00: Mississauga Symphony Orchestra. Overtures & Arias - the Court of Riles. Arias by Mozart, Donizetti, Rossini, Verdi & Bernstein; overtures & orchestral interludes. Karen Wierzb, soprano; John Barnum, conductor.

Tickets: $10.00 adults $5.00 seniors & students

The Bach Children’s Chorus and The Bach Chamber Youth Choir

Linda Beaupré conductor
Eleanor Daley Pianist
with guests

The Amabile Boys Choir:
Tenor/Bass Ensemble
Carol Beynon conductor

woods are ringing

Saturday, May 13, 2000 at 7:30 p.m.

George Weston Recital Hall
Ford Centre for the Performing Arts

Tickets: $18 and $20 at the box office of the Ford Centre or TicketMaster at (416) 870-8000

For more information about the Bach Children’s Chorus, call (416) 431-0790.

The Bach Children’s Chorus, a member of Choirs Ontario, is grateful for funding received from the Ontario Arts Council and the City of Toronto.
Sunday May 14


** 2:00: High Park Children's & Concert Choirs. Caring for Kids Concert. Members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 322-5188. Free (donations gratefully accepted).

** 3:00: Echo Women's Choir. Spring Concert. Ramsden: Songs of the Light; Smilely: Our Time is Near (commission); Hammond: Temagami Round; music by Joyce; songs from Chile & the Balkans & other music. Sue Crowe Connolly, mezzo soprano; Becca Whila, piano; Alan Gasser & Becca Whila, conductors. Church of the Holy Trinity, 10 Trinity Square. 537-2528. $10, $5.

** 3:00: Moordale Concerts. Susan Platz, mezzo soprano, in Recital. Walter Hall, 80 Queen Street. 922-3714. $15, $10.

** 3:00: Russian Musical Heritage Series. Catoire: Sonata No 2 for Violin & Piano Op.20 Poem (Toronto premiere); Stravinsky: Suite Italienne for Violin & Piano; Prokofiev: Sonata for Violin & Piano No.1 Op.80. Yuri Zaidenberg, violin; Nikolai Maloff, piano. The Chapel, Victoria University, 91 Charles St., W. 963-9161. $15, $10. POSTPONED*

** 5:00: Royal Conservatory of Music. RCM String Ensembles, Ettore Mazzoleni Concert Hall, 273 Bloor St. West. 408-2824 ext. 321. $5, $3.


Monday May 15


** 8:00: Sunday University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Graduating Student Recital. Lynn Kuo, violin. Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park. 978-3744. Free.

Tuesday May 16

** 1:00: Lunch Hour at St. James'.

Susanne Platls

Winner of the Young Canadian Musicians Award

"...a voice of penetrating richness and beauty..." - Cleveland Plain Dealer

Moordale Concerts

in a wonderful program of Schubert, Mahler & Korngold

Sun. May 14, 3pm at Walter Hall, U of T

affordable tickets! $15, ($10 St./Sr) 922-3714

The Associates of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra present

The Last Two of the FIVE SMALL Concerts

2) QUARTETS &

Featuring members of the TSO and guests at Trinity St. Paul's United Church, 427 Bloor St. W.

Debussy: May 15, Monday, 7:30 PM

Shostakovich / Schafer / Barber + June 12, Monday, 7:30 PM

See WholeNote Listings for details


** 7:30: National Youth Band with the Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra. Martingrove Collegiate Institute, 50 Winterton Drive. 712-6582. $10, $5.


** 8:00: Mississauga Choral Society. 25th Anniversary Celebration. Passmore: A Choral Fanfare; Bach: Mass in b. Monica Whicher, soprano; Anna Krause, mezzo soprano; Dennis Giesbrecht, tenor; Daniel Narducci, baritone. 25th Anniversary Reception at 7:00 in the foyer. Hammersmith Hall, Living Arts Centre, 5111 Living Arts Drive. 905-606-3000. $30, $25, $20, $10. Free.

** 8:00: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Graduating Student Recital. Lynn Kuo, violin. Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park. 978-3744. Free.

Wednesday May 17


** 7:15: Don Mills Organ Society. Don Malcolm plays the Lowery Organ. Taylor Place, 1 Overland Dr. 447-1137. $7.


** 8:00: Small World Music. Laurel MacDonald with the Mayhem Tollar Group. Celtic timbres with electronic sensibilities; ancient Arabic devotional music. du Maurier Theatre Centre, 231 Queens Quay West. 973-4000. $15.

** 8:00: Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts. Matthias Corriere, clarinet, Baritone. Songs by Schubert & Eisler. Eric Schneider, piano. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 870-8000. $27 to $40.

** 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. R. Strauss: Macbeth, Act 1, Scene 2; Mozart: Piano Concerto #20 in d; K466; Liszt: Piano Concerto #2; Schubert: Symphony #3. Emanuel Ax, piano; Daniel Harding, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60
**Thursday May 18**


**12:30:** Christ Church Deer Park. Trio Atlantic. Nancy Hennem, flute; Julian Smerdon, clarinet; Erika Reiman, piano. 1570 Yonge St. 920-5211. Free with ticket to the 8:00 performance.

**2:00:** Northern District Library. Wind Song. Recital for recorder, oboe, bassoon & piano. Lois Fuse, friends & students. 40 Orchard View Blvd. 393-7610. Free.

**6:45:** Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Classic Intro Pre-concert Chat. Emanuel Ax, guest; Peter Tiefenbach, host. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 920-4828. $15, $12.50 (s/sr). For complete run see Music Theatre listings.

**Friday May 19**

**12:00 noon:** Roy Thomson Hall Volunteers. Bring Your Own Lunch Concert. Kiwanis Music Festival winners. 60 Simcoe, 939-4822 ext. 363. Free.

**12:00 noon:** Toronto Heliconian Club. Friday Noon Hour Concert. Heliconian music & guests. 35 Hazelton Ave. 922-3168. Free.

**12:00 noon:** Guitar Society of Toronto. Mike Savona, guitar; Ettore Mazzoleni Concert Hall, 273 Bloor St. W. 922-8002. Free.

**8:00:** Aradia Ensemble. Terpsicore (Muse of the Dance).

**Friday May 19**

**7:30:** Toronto Symphony Orchestra. A. Strauss: Macbeth; Mozart: Piano Concerto K271 in D, K466; Schubert: Symphony #9. Emanuel Ax, piano; Daniel Harding, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 939-4828. $22 to $46.

**8:00:** Guitar Society of Toronto. Jeffrey McFadden, guitar, in Recital. Heliconian Hall, 35 Hazelton Ave. 922-8002.

**Saturday May 20**

**7:30:** Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Tchaikovsky: Symphony #6; Beethoven: Symphony #9; Newfie from Every Way Band. Glenn Gould Studio, 290 Front St. W. 416-598-4344 ext. 402. Free with ticket to the gallery; $7.50, $4.50 (s/sr).

**1:30:** Spadina Historic House and Gardens. Jamie Thomson with flutes. 285 Spadina Road, 392-6910. Free.

**11:00 am & 1:30 pm:** Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. Make percussion instruments and play in a drumming circle. Mountain Rhythm. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. 973-4000. $12.50 (one-day wristband).

**2:00 pm:** Royal Conservatory of Music. Performing Arts Ensemble (Children) & RCM Children's Choir. Ettore Mazzoleni Concert Hall, 273 Bloor St. West. 408-2824 ext. 321. $5.35.

**Monday May 22**

**11:00 am & 1:30 pm:** Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. See May 21.

**11:45 am & 3:00 pm:** Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come From Every Band. Ann Tindall Stage, Harbourfront Centre. 973-4000. $12.50 (one-day wristband).

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**Friday, May 19 at 8 PM**

**Terpsicore**

**Muse of the Dance**

May 19, 2000 8:00 PM

Glenn Gould Studio

290 Front St. W., Toronto

**ARADIA ENSEMBLE PRESENTS**

**TERPSICORE**

**MUSE OF THE DANCE**

Aradia Ensembles performs baroque dances. Aradia Ensemble welcomes back baroque dancers Marie-Nathalie LeCouris and Edgar Tumak to help us portray the dance and elegance of the 17th and 18th centuries. Featuring: Handel's Suite from Terpsicore; Couperin's L'Imperial, and selections by Lully.

**TICKETS: $25/$22 (STUDENTS/SNORTORS)**

Advance Group Rate (Min. 4): $15 Each

Call 416-295-3355

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**Sunday May 21**

**Ease into the May long weekend with THE BACH CONSORT**

**At St. James' Cathedral**

Corner of Church and King

**Monday May 19 at 8 PM**

**TICKETS: Call 416-598-3444**

or call 763-2393 and leave a message.

Also available at the door.

Adult $20 • Senior/Student $15 • Child Under 12 $10

Family (2 Adults & up to 4 Children Under 12) $50

**MCMichael Volunteer Committee CAMMAC. Music at McMichael. Toronto Woodlands.**

From classical to pops. 10365 Islington Ave. 905-893-1121 ext. 402. Free with admission to the gallery; $7.50, $4.50 (s/sr).

**McMichael Volunteer Committee CAMMAC. Music at McMichael. Toronto Woodlands.**

From classical to pops. 10365 Islington Ave. 905-893-1121 ext. 402. Free with admission to the gallery; $7.50, $4.50 (s/sr).

**McMichael Volunteer Committee CAMMAC. Music at McMichael. Toronto Woodlands.**

From classical to pops. 10365 Islington Ave. 905-893-1121 ext. 402. Free with admission to the gallery; $7.50, $4.50 (s/sr).
Tuesday May 23

** 10:00 am & 11:30 am: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 10:30 am & 11:00 am: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Swamperella. Cajun music. Ann Tindal Stage, Harbourfront Centre, 973-4000. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show.

** 10:30 am & 1:30 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Tant conté pour l'enfant. Traditional music and stories of Québec (en français). Adèle et Henri Godon. Drum Circle. Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay W. 973-4000. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show.

** 1:00 pm: Lunch Hour at St. James'. Widor: Symphonie Goth ique. Jeremy Jordan, organ. St. James' Cathedral, 1570 Yonge St. 593-4828. $4.85 or free with ticket to the 8 p.m. performance.

** 7:00 pm: Tafelmusik. J.S. Bach: Brandenburg Concertos. Pastorale; Rivale: Introduction & Allegro; Judy Loman, harp; Nora Shulman, flute; Raymond Luedecke, clarinet; Wendy Rose & Mi Hyon Kim, violins; Steven Dann & Susan Lipchak, violas; William Findlay, cello. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $4.85 or free with ticket to the 8 p.m. performance.

** 7:30 pm: Aldeburgh Connection. 2nd Annual Greta Kraus Schubertiad. Catherine Robbin, mezzo; Mark Fewer, violin; Peter Longworth, piano. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. West. 205-5555. $3.32 ($3.90).

** 8:00 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Debussy: La Mer; Lieberson: Cello Concerto (world premiere); Saint-Saëns: Cello Concerto #1; Ravel: La Valse. Yo-Yo Ma, cello; Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $24 to $77.

** 11:15 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come From Every Way Band. Ann Tindal Stage. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.


** 12:30 pm: Christ Church Deer Park. Cello Salute! Music by Beethoven, Bach & others. Mary Katherine Finch, cello; Jun Fujimoto, piano. 1570 Yonge St. 920-5211. Free with offering.

** 12:45 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 2:30 pm: 100th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Carillon Society of Toronto. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. $24 to $77. (donations accepted).

Wednesday May 24

** 11:15 am: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come From Every Way Band. Ann Tindal Stage. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 12:30 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 1:00 pm: 2nd Annual Greta Kraus Schubertiad. Catherine Robbin, mezzo; Mark Fewer, violin; Peter Longworth, piano. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. West. 205-5555. $3.32 ($3.90).

** 8:00 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Debussy: La Mer; Lieberson: Cello Concerto (world premiere); Saint-Saëns: Cello Concerto #1; Ravel: La Valse. Yo-Yo Ma, cello; Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $24 to $77.

Thursday May 25

** 5:30 pm: Music at Metropolitan. Organ Futures. Stephen Cadow, organ. St. James' Cathedral. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 6:45 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Evening Overture. Debussy: Danse sacrée et Danse profane; Sonata; Ravel: Introduction & Allegro; Judy Loman, harp; Nora Shulman, flute; Raymond Luedecke, clarinet; Wendy Rose & Mi Hyon Kim, violins; Steven Dann & Susan Lipchak, violas; William Findlay, cello. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $4.85 or free with ticket to the 8 p.m. performance.

** 7:00 pm: Tafelmusik. J.S. Bach: Brandenburg Concertos. Pastorale; Rivale: Introduction & Allegro; Judy Loman, harp; Nora Shulman, flute; Raymond Luedecke, clarinet; Wendy Rose & Mi Hyon Kim, violins; Steven Dann & Susan Lipchak, violas; William Findlay, cello. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $4.85 or free with ticket to the 8 p.m. performance.

** 7:30 pm: Aldeburgh Connection. 2nd Annual Greta Kraus Schubertiad. Catherine Robbin, mezzo; Mark Fewer, violin; Peter Longworth, piano. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. West. 205-5555. $3.32 ($3.90).

** 8:00 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Debussy: La Mer; Lieberson: Cello Concerto (world premiere); Saint-Saëns: Cello Concerto #1; Ravel: La Valse. Yo-Yo Ma, cello; Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $24 to $77.

** 11:15 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come From Every Way Band. Ann Tindal Stage. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.


** 12:30 pm: Christ Church Deer Park. Cello Salute! Music by Beethoven, Bach & others. Mary Katherine Finch, cello; Jun Fujimoto, piano. 1570 Yonge St. 920-5211. Free with offering.

** 12:45 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 2:30 pm & 4:00 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Evening Overture. Roy Thomson Hall. See May 24 6:45.

** 8:00 pm: Encore Entertainment. The Fantasticks. Book & Lyrics by Tom Jones; music by Harvey Schmidt. Studio Theatre, Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 733-0558. $20 (evenings), $18 (matinees). For complete run see Music Theatre listings.

** 8:00 pm: Tafelmusik. J.S. Bach: Brandenburg Concertos. Trinity-St. Paul's Church. See May 24.


** 8:00 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Roy Thomson Hall. See May 24.

Friday May 26

** 10:30 am & 1:00 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Drum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourfront Centre. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.

** 11:45 am: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come From Every Way Band. Ann Tindal Stage. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show. See May 21.


** 1:00 pm: Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts. Sofiaïl. Music and stories from the Latin American Tradition. David Gonzalez, storyteller; Larry Harlow and the Latin Legends Band. Molson Place, Harbourfront Centre. 973-4000. $7.50, $4.50 for additional same-day show.

** 6:45 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Evening Overture. Roy Thomson Hall. See May 24 6:45.

** 8:00 pm: Encore Entertainment. The Fantasticks. Book & Lyrics by Tom Jones; music by Harvey Schmidt. Studio Theatre, Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 733-0558. $20 (evenings), $18 (matinees). For complete run see Music Theatre listings.

** 8:00 pm: Tafelmusik. J.S. Bach: Brandenburg Concertos. Trinity-St. Paul's Church. See May 24.


** 8:00 pm: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Roy Thomson Hall. See May 24.

An evening in the spirit of Schubert’s own musical parties

Wed. May 24, 7:30 pm
Glenn Gould Studio
$33/$27 seniors & students
Call: (416) 205-5555
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The 2nd annual Greta Kraus
Schubertiad

Join Catherine Robbin and friends for an evening of Schubert songs and chamber music, with delicious intermission refreshments!

Sponsored by

If you have any questions, please call (416) 653-8304 for more information.
**Sofrito!**

Centre. $12.50

Rimsky-Korsakov: Fandango from *Harbourfront Recital.*

Faculty Paul’s Church. 80 Martinu: Nonet; Prokofiev: Quintet; Poulenc: Movements Perpetuels; Spohn: Grand Nonet; Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 653-8304. $18, $10.

**8:00:** Tafelmusik. Sunday, May 28. 8:00: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Graduating Student Recital. Agnes Pyka, violin. Walter Hall, 80 Queen’s Park. 978-3744.

**Saturday May 27**


**12:00 & 4:00:** Milk International Children’s Festival of the Arts. Sofritol. Molson Place, Harbourside Centre. $12.50 (one-day wristband). See May 25.

**1:30 & 3:30:** Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Saint-Saens: The Elephant from Carnival of the Animals; Rimsky-Korsakov: Fandango from Capriccio espagnol; Rubinstein: Tango; Tsige. Lenny Solomon, jazz violin; Keira Fullerton, cello; Rosemary Thomson, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $17.

**11:45:** Milk International Children’s Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come from Every Way Band. Ann Tindal Stage. See May 21.

**2:00:** Young People’s Theatre. Spud Trek. Theatre Beyond Words. 165 Front St. E. 862-2222. $16. For complete run see Music Theatre Listings.

**7:30:** Annex Singers. 4th Annual Cabaret. St. Thomas’ Church, 383 Huron St. 654-2595.


**7:30:** Music at Metropolitan. Sounds of the Soul from North America. Canadian and American organ music. Patricia Wright, organ. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. E. 363-0331. $10.


**8:00:** Etobicoke Centennial Choir. Opera! Operetta! Musical chorous from famous operas & operettas. Islington United Church, 25 Bannamthorpe Rd. 239-1131 ext. 49. $14, $10.

**8:00:** Music Pravada. Danielle Cumming, classical guitar, in Recital. Works by Harrison, Musgrave, Domeniconi & Walton.

**8:00:** Orchestra Toronto. Arvo Part: Wenn Bach Bienen Gezuckter Hattre; Rodrigo: Conerto for Flute “Fantasia Para Un Gentil Hombre”; Mahler: Symphony #1 in D.

**8:00:** Tafelmusik, J.S. Bach. Brandenburg Concertos. Trinity-St. Paul’s Church. See May 24.

**8:00:** Toronto Camerata. The Songs of Solomon. Settings of the words of Solomon by composers from Byrd to Chapman; works by Palestrina. Church of St. Leonard, 25 Wanless Ave. 506-1293 ext. 548. $12, $5.

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**Sunday May 28**

**11:30am & 4:30:** Milk International Children’s Festival of the Arts. Orum Circle. The Lawn, Harbourside Centre. See May 21.

**12:00 & 4:00:** Milk International Children’s Festival of the Arts. Sofritol. Molson Place, Harbourside Centre. $12.50 (one-day wristband). See May 25.


**1:45:** Milk International Children’s Festival of the Arts. Anne Lederman and the Come from Every Way Band. Ann Tindal Stage. See May 21.

**2:00:** Shevchenko Musical Ensemble. Traditional & classical music. Tamara Volskaya, domra; choir; mandolin orchestra; dancers; MacMillan Theatre, 80 Queen’s Park Cres. $18, $14, $12 (students); $9, $7 (students).

**3:00:** ARRAYMUSIC. Young Composers’ Workshop Final Concert Performance. Premieres of new works by Caffalan, Cregegan, Ho & Shin. Music Gallery, 179 Richmond St. West. 204-1080. $10.

**3:30:** Tafelmusik, J.S. Bach. Brandenburg Concertos. Trinity-St. Paul’s Church. See May 24.

**4:30:** Christ Church Deer Park. Jazz Vespers. Moe Koffman, flute. 1570 Yonge St. 920-5211. Collection.

**7:00:** Abendmusik at TUMC. Steve Horst, baritone & Sandra Horst, piano in Recital. Toronto United Mennonite Church, 1774 Queen St. E. 241-3953. Admission by donation.

**7:00:** North Toronto Institute of Music. Leaside Concert Series: Mary Kenedi, piano, in Recital. Works by Bartok, Kodaly & Liszt. Leaside Presbyterian Church, 670 EGLINTON Ave. E. 488-2866. $15, $10, $30 (family of 4).

**7:30:** Royal Conservatory of Music. RCM Jazz Ensemble. Ettore Mazzoleni Concert Hall, 273 Bloor St. West, 408-2824 ext. 321. $5, $3.

**7:30:** St. John’s York Mills. Musicfest. Music for choir, organ, digital piano, handchimes & 135 English handbells rung by 33 ringers of all ages. 19 Don Ridge Drive. 225-6611. $10, $5.

**7:30:** Windsong. Fundraising concert of light classical & inspirational music. Proceeds to the church’s Outreach Program. St. Michael and All Angels Church, 611 St. Clair West. 653-3593. $10.

**8:15:** Etobicoke Philharmonic Orchestra. Chamber Concert. Bach:

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**Monday May 29**

No listings.

**Tuesday May 30**

**1:00:** Lunch Hour at St. James', Lawrence Beckwith, violin.
Christopher Dawes, chamber organ. St. James' Cathedral, 65 Church St. 364-7865. Free.


**5:00:** Serena Tea Singers. May Melodies. Audrey McLeod, music director. Good Shepherd Community Church, 390 Bamburgh Circle. 267-5816. $10.

**Wednesday May 31**

**12:30:** Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Noonday Recital. Thomas Fitches, organ. 1585 Yonge St. 922-1167. Free.

**5:15:** Music at Metropolitan. Organ Futures. Andrew Weleschuk, organ. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. East. 363-0331. Free (donations accepted).


**Thursday June 1**


**12:30:** Christ Church Deer Park. Sterling Ivory. Music by Beethoven, Mathias, Rousseau & others. Henneke Cats, flute; Michel Allard, piano. 1570 Yonge St. 920-5211. Free will offering.

**2:00:** Toronto Senior Strings. Vivaldi: Summer from Four Seasons; Russian folk music; music by Handel, Arne, Haydn, Somers & Tchaikovsky: Tamara Volskaya, domra; Victor Feldbrill, music director. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 73 Simcoe St. 488-9452. $12.

**7:30:** Merriam School of Music. Grand Finale. Michael Donovan, baritone. Recital Hall, 2359 Bristol Circle. (905) 829-2020. $15, $10 (school members and family), $5 (children).

**8:00:** Toronto Symphony Orchestra. R. Strauss: Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks; three songs – Heimliche Aufforderung, Caecilia: Zueignung; Holman: The Invisible Reality. Adriana Pieczonka; soprano; Susan Platt, mezzo; Ben Heppner, tenor; The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir; Toronto Children's Chorus; Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4928. $24 to $77.

**Friday June 2**

**8:00:** Act II Studio. Our Canadian Century – An Historical Revue. Musical review celebrating the highlights of Canada throughout the past century including musical hits & dances. Robert Gill Theatre, 214 College St. 978-7866. $25 (gala). For complete run see Music Theatre listings.

**8:00:** Company of Friends. Productions. In the Company of Friends... Benefit concert for Vigil Toronto & Holy Trinity Refugee Committee. Becca Whitley, Jennifer Noble, Lynn Simmons, Pattie Kelly, Kirsten McNutt & other performers. Church of the Holy Trinity, 10 Trinity Square. 595-4521 ext. 301. $20 (waged), $10 (unwaged) or PWYC.

**8:00:** Millennium Singers/Orchestra da Camera Toronto. Celebrating Bach and the Boys. Bach: Brandenburg Concerto #2; works by Brahms, Beethoven, Bach & Handel. Donald Boore, oboe; Connie Price, flute; Ross Turner, trumpet; Keith F. Müller, artistic director. St. Basil's Church, 50 St. Joseph St. 778-1898. $10.

**8:00:** New World Symphony Orchestra. Music by Mendelssohn, Mozart, Bizet, Rossini, Applebaum, Zvezdak & Karabekos. Stefano Karabekos, conductor. Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 870-8000. $35, $25.

**8:00:** North Toronto Women's Chamber Choir. We Sing With Delight. Lewis: Five Shakespeare Songs; music by Purcell, Fauré, di Lasso, Handel and others. Anne Yardley, conductor. Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. East. 465-2229. $8, $5.

**8:00:** Orpheus Choir of Toronto. Choral Gems to Crown the Century. Canadian & Celtic Mass for the Sea: Whelan: Riverdance Choral Selections. Sidgwick Scholars, soloists; Beverly Foster, piano; classical string quintet; Celtic quintet; Brained Byladen-Taylor, conductor. Convocation Hall, 31 King's College Circle. 530-4428. $20, $18 (sr/st).

**8:00:** Roy Thomson Hall, Shirley Horn: I Remember Miles. Jazz pianist/vocalist. Steve Williams, drums; Charles Ables, bass; Ingrid Jensen, trumpet (opening performer). 60 Simcoe St. 872-4253. $39.50 to $59.50.
** 6:45: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Classic Intro Pre-concert Chat. Dr. Derek Holman, guest; Peter Tiefenbach, host. Roy Thomson Hall. $4.85 or free with ticket to the 8:00 performance.

** 7:30: Cantabile Women’s Choir/ Cantores Celestes Women’s Choir. Benefit Concert for “Out of the Cold.” Ellen Meyer & Kim Duca, piano; William Maddox, organ; Mark Sirett & Kelly Galbraith, directors. Yorkminster Park Church, 1585 Yonge St. 922-1167. $10.

** 7:30: High Park Choirs. Today, This Spring. 200-voice choir including High Park Children’s Chorus, Concert, Chamber & Youth Divisions. Ann Cooper Gay, conductor. St. Anne’s Church, 651 Dufferin St. 762-0657. $15, $10.

** 8:00: Acoustic Harvest Folk Club. Freshwater Trade. Birch Cliff United Church, 33 East Rd. 264-2235. $12 ($10 members).

** 8:00: Baroque Music Beside the Grange. This Fiery Madnesse. Works by Corelli, Vivaldi, Purcell, Baston, Uccellini & Scarlatti. Rona Goldensher & Joe Lanza, violins; Lucie Laneville, recorder; Marie Bouchard, harpsichord; Olga van Kranendonk, cello. St. George the Martyr Church, 197 John St. 588-4301. $18, $14.

** 8:00: Glenn Gould Studio. Maza Meze. Traditional tunes from the Middle East, Greece and Asia Minor.

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and original music. 250 Front St. W. 205-5355. $15.

** 8:00: Lakeshore Arts. Music on the Lake. Emperor Quartet, St. Margaret’s Church, 156 Sixth Street. 416-251-7236. $15, $10 (group rates).


** 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Roy Thomson Hall. See June 1.


### Sunday June 04


** 2:00: Yorkminstrels Show Choir. Musical Memories. Leah Posluns Theatre. See June 3.

** 3:00: Toronto Camerata. The Songs of Solomon. Church of St. Leonard. See May 27.


** 7:30: High Park Choirs. Today. This Spring. Concert, Chamber & Youth Divisions of the High Park Choirs; Ann Cooper Gay, conductor. St. Anne’s Church, 651 Dufferin St.

### Monday June 05


** 8:15: Cantabile Chorale of York Region. 28th Annual Strawberries and Song. Robert Richardson, director. Thornhill Presbyterian Church, 271 Centre Street West. 905-731-8318. $12, $10 (sr/patrons), $6 (children under 12).

### Tuesday June 06

** 1:00: Lunch Hour at St. James’. Father John Palmer, C.S.V., organ. St. James’ Cathedral, 65 Church St. 364-7865. Free.

** 6:00: Collaborations. Sanskara. Attarwala & Kolanad: new works for violin/viola and dancer; music of Cardy, Hatzis and Rosen. Parmela Attarwala, violin and viola; Gita Kolanad, dancer and choreographer. du Maurier Theatre Centre, 231 Queen’s Quay W. 973-4000. $20-$25, $15-$20 (st/st). *POSTPONED*

** 8:15: Cantabile Chorale of York Region. 28th Annual Strawberries

### Toronto Choral Society

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May 1, 2000 - June 7, 2000 Whol...
FURTHER AFIELD
Alliston, Burlington, Cobourg, Fergus, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener, Lindsay, Oshawa, St. Jacobs...

Wednesday May 03
**8:00:** Victorian Operaetta Society. Gilbert & Sullivan: H.M.S. Pinafore. Keith Pickett, Jacqueline, Delila Lee, Mike Munro, Ruth Harton, Florence Fletcher, Bob Clark. Concert Hall at Victoria Hall, 55 King St. E., Cobourg. (905)372-2210. $16, $14 (group). For complete run see Music Theatre Listings.

Saturday May 06
**7:30:** Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir. David Low, director. Melrose United Church, 66 Homewood Ave., Hamilton. 905-522-1233. $15, $12.


**8:00:** Eloff Festival Singers. Diet Dominius. Handel: Dixit Dominus; Dettingen Te Deum & other music. Ted's Wrecking Bar, 194 Queen St. 8:00: Small Concerts in non-traditional venues

Monday May 08
**8:00:** The Tadhg Mandala (oud, lute). Feist, singer/songwriter. Barcode, May 8 (free). Ted's Wrecking Bar, 194 Queen St.

**8:30:** Northumberland Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonic Choir. "Jumpin' Jack" Grunsky's Symphony Show for Young Audiences. Matthew Jaskiwicz, conductor. Trinity United Church, Division and Chapel Streets, Cobourg. 905-342-3743.

Thursday May 18
**8:00:** Lindsay Concert Foundation (Piano Six. Angela Cheng, piano in Recital. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Debussy, Louie & Chopin. Frost Theatre, Sir Sandford Fleming College, Lindsay. 705-328-0587. $20, $10.

Saturday May 27
**8:00:** Burlington Civic Chorale. A Night at the Opera. Duets, solos & choruses from well-known operas. Hosted by Nightingale & Ricardo Costanza, soloists; Dr. Gary Fisher, artistic director; Mary Jane Davis, conductor. Trinity United Church, 334 King St. West. 905-326-6556. $15, $10, seniors & children 12 & under.

Friday June 02
**8:00:** Lindsay Concert Foundation. Showcase 2000. Performers include Foundation Bursary winners, award-winning Kinawa finalists & other musicians. Frost Theatre, Sir Sandford Fleming College, Lindsay. 705-328-0587. $10, $5, $25 family.

HONOURABLE MENTION
Concerts in non-traditional venues

May 1 7:30: Hampton Avenue, jazz vocals & John MacUrquhnty. Double CD Release Concert. Rex Jazz & Blues Bar, 194 Queen St. West. 598-2475. $5 cover.

May 8 9:00: BELLADONNA. The Best of BELLADONNA: Stravinsky: L'Histoire du Soldat, for flute, bassoon, 2 violins; Weill: cabaret songs; Arnold: Play Organum, Work Organum (premiere) & other music. Guest: Leslie Feist, singer/songwriter, Barcode, 549 College St. 538-6966. $10. $6.


May 30 8:00: Burning Passions Cabaret. Women-centred musical theatre, country & folk music, dance, comedy & more. The Rivoli, 334 Queen St. West. 641-4514. $10.

Flying Cloud Folk Club, at the TRANZAC, 292 Brunswick Ave. 410-3655.

*May 7 8:00: Catherine Crowe & Tadhg O'Muiris. Irish music & song. $15, $10.

*May 14 8:00: Glen Reid & the Heritage River Music Rats. CD Release Concert.

*May 21 8:00: Mariposa presents Maureen Redden. Traditional music in the Irish & Scottish style. $10, $8.

*May 27 8:00: Original Sloath Band.

35th Anniversary Concerts.

*May 28 8:00: Acoustic Harvest presents Pat Humphries: Traditional singer. $14, $12.

Gatsby's Restaurant Dinner Theatre, 504 Church St. 925-4545. William Shookoff & Camillo de Libero present Tryptych Productions, every Sunday & Monday evening at 8:00.

*Opening May 7: Marcia Bunston, soprano; David Playfair, baritone; Michelle Hunchak, piano. No cover.

Living Arts Centre, 4141 Living Arts Drive, Mississauga. 905-306-6000. The Royal Bank Theatre is transformed into a relaxed & comfortable pub setting. Doors open 8:00; performance at 9:00.

*May 5: Laura Smith, singer/ songwriter. $20, $25, $30.


*May 3: Aparna. Roland Hunter, guitar; Benai Choudhury, vocals; Dipak "Doe" Choudhury, tabla/pakhawaj.

*May 17: Jean Bray, guitar; Jim Vivian, bass.

*June 7: Ken Whiteley, guitar/ vocals; George Koller, bass.

Stardust Dinner Theatre, 29 Chestnut Street. 872-1111.

Theatre listings.


Sunday May 14
**3:30:** Northumberland Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonic Choir. "Jumpin' Jack" Grunsky's Symphony Show for Young Audiences. Matthew Jaskiwicz, conductor. Trinity United Church, Division and Chapel Streets, Cobourg. 905-342-3743.

**8:00:** Millpond Centre. Brian Dickenson Duo. Jazz piano. 106 Victoria St. West, Alliston. 705-435-3002. $13 (advance), $15 (door).

**8:00:** Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. Victor Davies: "Revelation". Bach Elgar Choir; Vox Nouveau; Michael Reason, conductor. Hamilton Place, 1 Summers Lane, 905-525-6556. $15, $10, $14, $28 (student).

**E余:** Guelph Spring Festival. May 26 to June 4. (519)763-3000.

**8:00:** Millpond Centre. Freeflight. 2 piece jazz band. 106 Victoria St. West, Alliston. 705-435-3092. $13 (advance), $15 (door).

**8:00:** *Renaissance Singers*, An Evening in Vienna. Music by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven & Schubert. Richard Cunningham, music director. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 54 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-745-0675. $15, $10, seniors 12 & under.

TOO LATE TO LIST

**May 6 8:00: Celebration Chorale. Songs of the People. Wayne Gilpin Singers; Cantilena, First Baptist Church, 306 E. B. St. West, Waterloo. 800-967-1281. $20, $15.

*May 7 2:00: Harbourfront Centre. Everything Irie Jazz Ensemble. York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West. 973-3000. Free.

*May 10-13 8:00: Alliance Atlantis. Lifeboat Goes to the Movies. Musical Presentation by Health Care Professionals. Premiere Dance Theatre, 207 Queens Quay West. 973-4000. $30, $23.

*May 10 8:00: Toronto Wagner Society. Colleen Skiff, mezzo soprano; Sandra Horst, piano. Arts & Letters Club, 14 Elm St. 966-5289. Admission by donation ($5-$10 suggested).

*May 13 8:00: Acoustic Harvest Folk Club. Bill Bourne, master folk musician & guitarist; Birch Cliff United Church, 33 East Road. 264-2235. $12 (member).

*May 13 8:00: Broadway Romance. Vladimir Dounin, piano; Alexander Volkov, tenor; Irina Dounin, Russian mezzo. Buddies in Bad Times, 12 Queens Quay West. 429-0994.

*May 13 8:00: Canadian Orpheus Male Choir. Guests: Weston Silver Band of Toronto. Hamilton Place, 1 Summers Lane, Hamilton. 905-645-6500. $15, $12, $13 (student).

*May 13 8:00: Tree Tenors?? Jose Hernandez, Robert Martin & Lenard Whiting; St. Andrew's Chorus, St. Andrew's Church, 117 Bloor St. East. 929-0891. $15, $12.

*May 14 2:00: Harbourfront Centre. Sam Baardman. York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay West. 973-3000. Free.

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Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. E.
Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. W.
Harbourfront Centre
Metro Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St.
Music Gallery, 179 Richmond St. W.
Ontario Tourist Board, (Eaton Centre)
Sam The Record Man, 347 Yonge St.
Shar Music, 26 Cumberland St.
St. James Cathedral, 65 Church St.
St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E.
Hummingbird Centre
St. Paul's Church, 227 Bloor St. E.
St. Thomas's Church, 383 Huron St.
The Opera Store, 210 Bloor St. W.
Toronto City Hall
Toronto Dance Theatre
Royal Conservatory of Music, 273 Bloor St. W.
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The Piano Place, Eglington W. & Creditview
Walter's Music, Square One

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L'Atelier Grigorian, 210 Lakeshore Rd. E.
Leslie Music, 198 Speers Rd.
Merriam School of Music, 2359 Bristol Circle
Notes, 35 Lakeshore Rd. W.

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Vaughan City Playhouse
Yip's Music Centre, 8100 Yonge St.

Richmond Hill
Cosmo Music, 9201 Yonge St. and 112 Newkirk
Yip's Music Centre, 9011 Leslie St.
York Region Tourist Bureau, 376 Church St.

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Markham Theatre, 177 Town Centre Blvd. (Hwy 7 and Warden)
Yip's Music Centre, 28 Crown Steel Dr.

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TOO LATE TO LIST
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"May 18 12:00 noon: Music at St. Andrew's, Violin & piano works. St. Andrew's Church, 117 Bloor St. East. 929-0811. Goodwill donation.

"May 27 3:00: Salvation Army Yorkminster Citadel. 90th Anniversary Celebrations Concert. The Citadel, One Lord Seaton Rd. 416-222-9110.
"May 27 8:00: Common Thread Community Chorus of Toronto. A Celebration of Music, Community, and Social Justice. Bloor Street United Church, 300 Bloor West. 410-5022. $10 (advance), $12 (door).

"June 2 8:00: Blessed Trinity Parish. To Each Is Given... Blessed Trinity Church, 3220 Bayview Ave. 905-764-1736. $10, $5.
"June 3 8:00: Counterpoint Community Orchestra. 519 Community Centre, 519 Church Street. 925-9872. $15, $12.
"June 7 8:00: Toronto Choral Society. Carmina Burana. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 410-3509. $17.50.
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May 1, 2000 - June 7, 2000 WholeNote 39
THE ETCETERA FILE

I. Our members write

Hampton Avenue has received the CARA award for "Best Jazz Song" for Ellington's "In A Mellow Tone" (on their CD Everybody Sing; see WholeNote's Website). We are one of few Canadian groups to earn a CARA award (issued by CASA: Contemporary A Cappella Society of America) since its inception in 1991.

Conductor Gary Heard celebrates his 10th anniversary with the North York Singers this year. In addition to his duties with this choir, Mr. Heard is also Artistic Director of the Serenata Choir and Director of Music at the Church of the Master in Toronto.

Reviewing Pax Christi Chorale's April 16 concert, The Toronto Star's Geoff Chapman said: "exquisite rendering...of the glowing sonorities of Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem...with Pax Christi's (conductor) Stephanie Martin...its substantial, subtle harmonies fully understood, presented with skill...the chorus mostly in rapturous form.

Find us at www.paxchristichorale.org

Tafelmusik embark on a tour of Spain, Germany and the Czech Republic, April 26 to May 11. Renowned French contralto Nathalie Stutzmann joins the orchestra as soloist in arias by Handel, Lotti and Bononcini. While in Berlin, Ms. Stutzmann and the orchestra will record a CD of arias for BMG (formerly RCA).

The Toronto School of Music Canada is a joint effort by a large group of world-renowned musicians bringing first rate musical instruction to Canadian as well as international students. Senior faculty includes: Maureen Forrester, Mary Liu, Colin Yap, and William Shahokoff. We offer Professional Performance Diplomas for high school graduates. Professional Advanced Certificate Program for professional students. General Music Education for children (ages 4 and up) and adults, and a One Year Professional Opera Training Program with renowned Udo Schempp. Tel. (416) 260-1882 Fax (416) 222-8928.

Talents of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra have announced that Jukka-Pekka Saraste will not be renewing his contract as Music Director when it expires in July 2001. Toronto audiences will continue to enjoy his musical leadership and artistry, however, when he returns as guest conductor for four weeks in the 2001-2002 season.

II. Announcements, etc

ANNOUNCEMENTS


• Arts Toronto/A&E. ArtsWeek 2000. Hold your own ArtsWeek event, collaborate with others to hold a larger event, or participate in one of ArtsWeek's new programs. Takes place September 23-October 1. Application deadline: May 5, 2000. 401 Richmond St. West, Suite 365. 416-957-8223.

• Canadian Opera Company announces the Saturday Morning Opera Club, for children in Grades 3 to 7. Includes tickets to dress rehearsals of 3 COC/COC Ensemble productions. On percussion techniques will be used throughout the programme. No previous musical experience is required. Programme leader: Gaynor Jones. 5 Saturdays: March 25 to May 6: 10:30am to noon. Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre, 227 Front St. East. 306-2307. $115 per child.


• Sinfonia Toronto announces its Summer Serenades Dinner Cruise featuring a gourmet buffet, dancing on the Promenade Deck & live serenades by Sinfonia musicians on board the Empress of Canada. Only 175 places available for this June 18, 2000 event. Reservations 416-499-0403. $85/person.


• The Toronto Symphony Orchestra is offering a $5000 reward for return of a viola, lost at Pearson International Airport Terminal 2 in the parking lot level 1 section U, on March 9, 2000. If you have any information please call Derek Brown, Colburn Insurance. 416-826-1230 (day) or 905-567-8764 (after business hours). All calls will be treated in absolute confidence.

LECTURES


• May 18:645: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Classic Intro pre-concert chat. Emanuel Ax: In Person & Personable. The pianist discusses music & life at the keyboard. Peter Tiefenbach, host. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $4.85 or free with ticket to 8000 performance.

• June 3:645: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Classic Intro pre-concert chat: Nature & Nurture. Derek Holman discusses the genesis of his new oratorio, "Peter Tiefenbach, host. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 593-4828. $4.85 or free with ticket to 8000 performance.

WORKSHOPS

• May 7:30: Toronto Early Music Players Organization. Mary Enid Haines, voices & instruments. Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Ave. 480-0225.

• May 7:00: CAMMAC. Singing Spiritually. Workshop with Denise Williams. In-depth look at the Afro-American spiritual. Registration by May 7 recommended. Church of the Messiah, 240 Avenue Road. 962-4847. CAMMAC members $15, nonmembers $20.

• May 12:7:00: Recorder Players Society. For players of both C and F recorders. Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. East. 431-7560.


• May 19 & 20: 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music Community School. Scene Study Workshop for Singers. Etore Mazzoleni Concert Hall, 273 Bloor St. West. 408-2825.


• May 27:10:30am: Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Singation Saturday. Community choir workshop. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 396-0422. $10.


• July 2:10:30am-5:00pm: Performing With Ease, Assurance & Enjoyment. Workshop for string players & other performers given by Kato Havas, preeminent expert on relief of strain & tension, avoidance of repetitive strain injury & prevention of stage fright. Location TBA.

Baroque Music Beside the Grange invites you to the second "Afternoon in the Gardens," which was a resounding success last year. The event features informal musical performances, refreshments, and a Silent Auction. The performers include Catherine Keenan, hurdy-gurdy; Ben Grossman, percussion; Kevin Mallon, violin; Alison Melville, flute, recorder; Colin Savage, chalumeau, recorder; and others. Auction items range from concert tickets, CDs and museum passes to original artworks, a handcrafted quilt, jewellery and pottery, a display cabinet, coffee grinder, and other wild and wonderful items.

Saturday May 20, 2000 from 2 to 5 pm, in the garden and fellowship room of St. George the Martyr Church (John & Stephanie Streets). $10. It's an enjoyable, relaxing afternoon of fun - drop in any time! Call 588-4301 for more info.
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BAROQUE DANCE FOR BEGINNERS DONNA GREENBERG, instructor. Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth, Thursdays 5:45 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. New session: May 4 - June 29, 2000. $12/class. 416-653-0938.

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5:45 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. New session: trumpet, trombone, piano to 8-piece band. Lamplighter Music Centre, 412 Main St., Kensington Market, May 4 - June 29, 2000.

DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS... DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDING FOR BEGINNERS...

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Every generation has its great and revered musicians, whose names are synonymous with the pinnacle of artistic achievement: our parents’ generation had Casals, Heifetz and Rubinstein; today we have Yo Yo Ma, Anne Sofie Mutter and Alfred Brendel, to name a few. How many of us, however, know of Tamara Volskaya, or of her instrument, the domra, even though she is by all accounts at least the equal of the six famous musicians just mentioned?

The domra is a fretted, plucked four-stringed member of the mandolin family, and is tuned like a violin. In his January 1998 Fanfare Magazine review of Volskaya’s CD (with Toronto’s Shevchenko Mandolin Ensemble) of transcriptions of violin music for domra, Robert Maxham referred to her recording as a “stupefyingly virtuosic anthology” and called her “...the only string player who can challenge the supremacy of Heifetz and Kreisler in their own repertoires.”

Stanley Solomon, former principal violist with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, heard Volskaya perform Camille Saint-Saëns’ Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso with the Shevchenko Ensemble’s mandolin orchestra in February 1999. He wrote: “The artist’s technique was staggering, her grasp of the music all that one could hope for. It was a real tour de force and made one forget that this piece had been composed for violin. Tamara’s artistry reminded me of how Artur Rubinstein played the piano or Fritz Kreisler the violin.”

Ginger Kauto, general manager of the Shevchenko Ensemble, calls her “the most musical person I’ve ever heard. She has something in her, it’s as if the music comes out of her body... and when she plays she smiles and makes you feel as if she is playing just for you!”

Ruth Budd, a retired Toronto Symphony Orchestra bass player, and now manager of the Toronto Senior Strings calls her “a wizard”. “I have played with her,” Budd told me “and when I heard the tape of the performance I gasped because I couldn’t believe how good she is.”

So, why is it that such a musician is not world-famous and selling out concert halls everywhere? The reason is probably that the instrument she plays is a Ukrainian folk instrument and that until less than ten years ago all her performing was in her native Ukraine and neighbouring Russia, where she also was a teacher in the Ekaterinburg Conservatory. Ironically, the fact that much of her repertoire is transcriptions of violin literature caused some reviewers to dismiss Volskaya’s CD out of hand.

WholeNote spoke to Ms. Volskaya at her home in New York, and asked her about the merits of the Domra compared to the violin as a solo instrument.

It is the artist, not the instrument, that communicates, she replied. While the domra (a member of the mandolin family) does have an unusual sound, which people find attractive, it is the artist’s effort and total commitment to revealing the music that ultimately speak to the listener, no matter the instrument. She learned this, she says, from the work of violinists Fritz Kreisler and Jascha Heifetz, who have been an inspiration to her all her life, since her father introduced their recordings to her at a very young age.

Born in Ukraine, Tamara attended the Kiev Music College in Ukraine and the Tchaikovsky State Conservatory in Ekaterinburg, Russia, where she became a professor and recipient of the “Merited Artist of Russia” award. It was in Kiev almost forty years ago, during the depths of the “cold war” that Volskaya’s connection with Toronto began. At the age of 17 she was already a virtuoso on the domra and was admitted several years younger than most students to the music school. One of her fellow students was a young Toronto woman of Ukrainian descent, Ginger Kauto, and the two became good friends. They lost touch for many years after Kauto’s departure from Kiev, but almost met again in 1989 when the Shevchenko Ensemble toured Ukraine and she contacted Volskaya through their teacher. Tamara had to leave Kiev before Ginger arrived, but left a record of her work. Then, back in Toronto about a year later, Ginger received a phone call from Australia. The caller was an Australian man who had been so moved by one of Volskaya’s performances that he arranged a tour for her in Australia. He handed the phone over to Volskaya, and the connection was made.

In 1992 Tamara made her first visit to Toronto and performed with the Shevchenko Ensemble at the Columbus Centre. She returned to perform a second time in 1992, and again in 1996 and 1999. Now she is returning for the fifth time to perform with the Shevchenko Mandolin Orchestra on May 28, followed on June 1 by an appearance with the Toronto Senior Strings, under the direction of conductor, Victor Feldbrill.

Ruth Budd, founder of the Toronto Senior Strings, told us how the apparently unlikely collaboration of these two organizations came about. To begin with, Ruth Budd is the bass player in both ensembles. Second, Budd says she has a debt to Ukrainian-Canadians, because as a child in Winnipeg during the Great Depression she got her musical start in life from a Ukrainian teacher who gave her lessons for free. “Now” she says “is payback time!”

Third, this season the Toronto Senior Strings have been reflecting the community, inviting soloists from other musical traditions to join them. Their June 1 concert will reflect Toronto’s substantial eastern European population. The fourth good reason, of course, is that Tamara Volskaya is such an incredible musician.

“She is very demanding” says Budd “but in the nicest possible way”. She gives so much and demands so much musicality in such a way that you just do it!” In her past performances with the Shevchenko mandolin orchestra she inspired everyone to play their absolute best. “She’s a great person to be around too” Ruth said. “She’s bubbly and effervescent off stage as well as on.”

So, put May 28 and June 1 on your calendars and get out to one of these concerts. With any luck, that CD, the review of which was quoted above, and which earned Volskaya a place in Fanfare’s Classical Hall of Fame, will be available for purchase at both events. (It is also available via the WholeNote online CD store, at www.thewholenote.com.)
The message on Ned Dickens's call answer was in rhyming couplets and very silly. I asked politely for an interview — I had been primed that he was VERY BUSY and might not have time to call me back, let alone be interviewed — and got a call back that afternoon.

"Oh no, I'm not THAT busy, but I have carefully cultivated that story because I'm essentially lazy. I say I'm too busy to do anything I don't want to do."

Well, did he want to do an interview?

"Sure. I'm at the Moonbean Café in Kensington Market every morning between 9 and noon. That's where I write."

I go to the Moonbean on the appointed day and see a guy sitting at a table in the front window by to the coffee roaster. On his table are a pad of paper and a paperback copy of Machiavelli's The Prince. Is he Ned Dickens, the librettist? Yes, he is.

Ned: "I've been writing plays full-time since 1993. It's my third career, seven years as a teacher, five years director of KYTES, that's Kensington Youth Theatre Employment Skills, and I've always done theatre."

Me: "How did you get started writing plays?"

Ned: "The KYTES program lost 85% of its funding, we fought, we ran a cabaret benefit called Cut This. That's where I met Sarah Stanley. She and her colleagues at a theatre then not-yet-named wanted to do a socially-conscious Romeo and Juliet. I said to her, Well, we've got a building for two more months, we've got some other resources. So we did this big, noisy Romeo and Juliet under the Bathurst Street Bridge. It didn't turn the government around, but it was the beginning of a theatre company now called Die in Debt."

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BEHIND THE SCENES
with Ned Dickens
continued from page 43
— that's a quote from the play. The next thing they wanted to do was Seneca's Oedipus. Sarah asked me to write a new version and I accepted, never having written a play and having no idea how hard it was."

Me: And...
Ned: "And they performed it under the Gardiner with a huge cast, almost 100. Both shows won Doras and one got a Chalmers nomination. That led to a commission from Young People's Theatre, Bed's Bedroom. It's based on the Beowulf legend -- I like telling old stories -- but it's about a little girl who's afraid of the dark.

We'd done a couple of workshops and it came to the attention of CBC Radio and they used it as a Christmas broadcast in 95/96 -- or was it 96/97? -- and it toured, to the Grand in London, the National Arts Centre in Ottawa and in the schools.

Then I wrote Luke and the Big Circle, that's a cycle of four narrative poems, CBC broadcast that. It won an award, a gold medal at the International Festival of New York for children's drama."

Me: So, the CCOC?
Ned: "I got a phone call out of the blue, more or less, from the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus, and my name had come to their attention. They had a millennium project and they had an agreement with composer John Greer, and they were looking for a librettist he could work with — I think they told me I was the twelfth one they had tried. It was a fairly protracted process. I sent John Greer examples of my work. We talked a lot, mostly by phone and e-mail since John is in Rochester, New York. He decided he could work with me and then we had to find a piece to work on. So he came to Toronto and we sat in my backyard reading stacks and stacks of children's books to one another. That's where we read Oscar Wilde's Starchild."

I rack my brain and admit: "I don't know that one."
Ned: "It's not well-known. It's from a book of short stories called House of Pomegranates. The book was not successful, Wilde was experimenting with sound, and ..." Ned shrugs apologetically. "The narrative did not work, he was trying to make an instant ancient tale through King James language. 'Yea, thou hast shown me the error of my ways!' -- that sort of thing.

But somehow there was something about Starchild that wouldn't go away. We were looking for a story that would be relevant to the millennium, but not irrelevant on January 2, 2000, and Starchild is the cyclic story of fall and redemption. I liked that. But there were a lot of problems.

Me: Such as ...
Ned: "Such as John said, "It's an awfully dark story, can't we find a way to lighten the tone?" He proposed a narrator. I resisted. Another problem was that the cast was to be all children, but many of the characters are adults. That's hard to bring off, children's voices are wrong, they're too short, they don't have the experience to play adults convincingly. And there was too much story."

Ned settles into his story: "Now, my approach to a problem is to try to find the solution within it. What about having the children play the animals and the animals play the adults -- the double mask conceit -- that might work. And the narrator? Well, there is the idea of narration itself as a theatrical act. So we start out with a rabbit -- a hare, actually — named Oscar who is being chased by a rather cruel little boy named Alf (as in Lord Alfred Douglas) and his dog, Beardsley. Beardsley has Oscar cornered and is about to kill him and Oscar offers to tell a story. Alf and Beardsley agree to play parts, Alf taking the role of a cruel little boy who goes on a journey. As the story progresses the other animals in the forest become drawn in and take the other parts. All this seemed to work.

So then the next problem was how to begin the adaptation. And I remembered Oscar Wilde had said that a thing of beauty, particularly a word or phrase, may not last but its beauty is its justification. So I read the story with a notepad, looking for beautiful phrases. What I got, surprisingly, I ended up with the poem of the story. And then I began just sort of riffing on that poem, turning it into a couple of hundred lines of verse."

Me: It's all in verse?!
Ned: "Yes, the libretto is all in anapestic tetrameter couplets. At first I tried to get out of the lockstep of rhyming couplets -- verse gets a bad rap. But I find I'm able to keep the characters alive, keep the ideas alive. And one of the great advantages of poetry is that it's easy for the kids to remember. Another is that it lifts us out of the immediate time ... The whole play is a tongue-twister from top to bottom."

Me: Is writing an opera different from writing a play?
Ned: "I don't read music, I have no training, I don't sing or play an instrument. John is a very gifted dramaturge and I have learned a great deal from him. I had to learn to leave a lot of the musical content to the music and just press on with the story. But there's lots of music, it's through-composed and has six songs."

Me: "What's 'through-composed'?"
Ned explains: "Music all the way through. And it's certainly operatic in scale. One of the things I have been learning with John and Tom (director Tom Diamond) is that the complexity just has to come out. I had to cut one whole level of irony."

He blinks. "That hurt. Anyway, after pretty much a year at this table ... It hasn't changed much, it's just become more and more refined."

He stops for a minute. "Both John and I loved doing this — I think the CCOC has gotten a lot more out of us than they bargained for. This is a labour of love and we have made something that will last, we have the partnership and we have the work."

Me: "Do you attend the rehearsals?"
Ned shrugs: "I got my chance to control the piece at the beginning, and I'd rather have someone else do that stuff... that's the great advantage of being a team player. I've moved on and have a number of new projects."

And he's off.

"What I was working on when you arrived is a straight drama version for a Kitchener group called Telling the Starchild, and a thing based on Machiavelli's Prince, and I have just about the right amount of work, but the other day I had an idea for another project, and the people on the street must have thought I was crazy, because I just stopped in my tracks and said out loud, 'I don't need this!'

Ned waves at the biscotti jars and the bins of beans. "I've written six plays here. Sometimes when I get stale I stroll up to the Starchild rehearsals on Sundays or Saturdays. "He smiles at the thought. "It's like going out for ice cream."
MUSICALS IN OUR MIDST

Kelly Galbraith

by Allan Pulker

B y day a producer for CBC Radio Two, the rest of the time a choral conductor and an organist, Kelly Galbraith somehow also finds time to serve on the Ontario Regional Council of the Canadian Music Centre — all part of a musical life that is personally fulfilling and is making a significant contribution to Toronto and to Canada. Kelly grew up in Saint John, New Brunswick, where at an early age she learned how to play the accordion from her grandfather. “At the age when most kids are practising their scales on the piano” she commented, “I was learning to play Button Boogie!”

Her grandmother (on the other side of the family) had her own plans for Kelly's musical future, saving dimes to buy her an electric organ, because she was determined that Kelly would become an organist. Grandmother's desires were nudged along by the fact that one of Kelly's classmates had an organ, and when Kelly tried it she found it so much fun that she asked her parents for one. She took to the little electric organ they got her like the proverbial duck to water and by the age of 15 was playing the organ in one of the local churches - without the benefit of formal lessons.

To this day she remains amazed - and grateful - that Dr. Willis Noble, the organ professor at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, accepted her as a student. “He took me right back to the beginning, to the basics of playing the organ.” And by all accounts she rose to the challenge. As she recalls it, she took on a nine-hour-a-day practice regime, beginning her day by practising from 5:30 until 8:30, when her classes began. In the afternoon, after her classes were finished, she practised another two to three hours and again in the evening, after which she would do her assignments.

According to Willis Noble, new organist and choirmaster at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, she usually began practising at 4:30 and 5:00 in the morning, and actually wore out the organ that she practised on! He told me he has never had a student with her energy and drive.

“I slept only about five hours a night then” Kelly told me; “I put a picture on the wall of a curly headed stick figure (me) on her way to Toronto. I was determined to succeed and to go to Toronto to study and play.”

And go to Toronto she did, in 1984. Here she studied with Douglas Bodle and earned her living as a church organist and choir master. It was in this role that she would hone the skills she had begun to develop at Mount Allison where she had sung in Dr. Noble’s women’s choir, which he sometimes gave her the opportunity to conduct. One of the biggest challenges of leading a church choir, she found, was that all the members were volunteers. Since auditions were not part of the process of becoming a member, not everyone that she had to work with was an equally competent singer. “But there’s always a

Continues
MUSCIAN IN OUR M IDST
Kelly Galbraith
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way to help some one sing
better," she says, acknowledg-
ing her debt to the discipline
church choirs gave her.
She longed, nevertheless, to
have her own choir, where she
could choose the repertoire and
the singers and establish her
own direction. In 1989 she got
eight women friends together
and established Cantores
Celestes Women's Chamber
Choir. "I knew where I wanted
to take them, it has taken a
while but we are getting there."

The choir, which now has
thirty-five members, prepares
and presents four concerts with
four separate thematic programs
each season with an average
attendance of 500. They donate
a part of the ticket sales to
charitable causes, and have
made two CDs, Wassail and
Bright Shining as the Sun paid
for completely by ticket sales. A
third CD is planned for next
year. She chooses her repertoire
very carefully, basing her
decisions not only on the music
but also the quality and meaning
of the text.

Kelly's day job is as a
producer at CBC Radio Music,
where she is part of the team
that produces Choral Concert and
Saturday Afternoon at the
Opera. She is also responsible
for liaison between the Canadian
Broadcasting Corporation and
other public broadcasters around
the world. As we sat together
in her office at the CBC Broadcast
Centre a fellow worker came in
with about a dozen tapes from
the Winnipeg New Music
Festival, which she would
forward to the European
Broadcast Union for broadcast to
about twenty countries in
Europe. Another of her projects
has been the CBC Choral
Competition, the semi-finals of
which will be broadcast live
from the Glenn Goulf Studio on
May 16 and 17.

"I love my CBC job" she
says. "I am able to hear some of
the best choral music there is, I
can talk to the people behind it
and my colleagues are terrific
and very supportive." (Two of
them, executive producer,
Robert Cooper and Choral
Concert host, Howard Dyck, are
also among the ranks of Cana-
dia's elite choral conductors.)

Cantores Celestes has two
concerts left this season, the
first, "Songs of Hope and
Freedom, with guests, Sibongile
the Spirit Healers of South
Africa, takes place on April 29
at Runnymede United Church,
the second, a benefit concert
with the Cantabile Women's
Choir from Kingston for "Out of
the Cold," will be at
Yorkminster Park Church on
June 3.

We need
a place
to sing

BY RICHARD MARGISON

I have the privilege to be an
opera singer who works on
the international stage. As
I write this, I am currently
performing in Seville, Spain. In
the last year, I have performed
at the Metropolitan Opera in
New York, in San Francisco and
in Amsterdam -- internationally
renowned cities, all proud to
have first rate opera houses.

In Beirut, in the midst of the
chaos of reconstruction, one of
the first major projects in the
construction of a new opera
house -- a symbol of the return
to its former status as an
important cultural centre. It is
amazing to me that Toronto,
which refers to itself as "world-
class," not only does not have
an opera house but is debating
whether or not it needs one.
This is truly remarkable.
While the necessity of special-
ized spaces for sports is
recognized -- witness the recent
construction of the Air Canada
centre and the SkyDome -- there
seems to be no recognition that
opera, like sports, needs its own
space. Although I am not an
athlete, I support the construc-
tion of sports facilities because
they are part of a healthy public
environment. Why are opera
houses and concert halls not
considered equally important?

The issue of the "brain drain"
has been mentioned frequently
in the press in the last few
years. But what of the "singer
drain"? The opera gala staged at
Roy Thomson hall on New
Year's Eve proved without
doubt that Canada has some of
the world's great opera singers.
They are respected and sought
after by the leading opera
houses, but where do they have
to perform in Canada's major
city? In an ill-fitted, inade-
quately designed, multi-
purpose hall, whose orchestra
pit is so small that it restricts
the type of opera that can be
given, with acoustics so poor
that many singers simply can't
or won't reach the full audience
at the risk of damaging their
voices, and whose distance from
the stage to the audience
frustrates any attempt at theatri-
cal intimacy. Renovating is not a
solution -- constructing an
entirely new opera house is.
Canadian audiences and per-
formers alike deserve the best.
My fellow singer a and I are
proud to be Canadian and want
to sing in front of Canadian
audiences -- we make performing
at home a priority. However we
need a real showcase, a hall that
will allow us to perform at our
very best, one whose stage will
represent a goal for young
singers. The Canadian Opera
Company has been a major
stepping stone for many of us
who are now performing on the
world's great opera stages. The
company is regularly covered in
the world press and is highly
respected for its innovative
productions. The COC, with its
commitment to new opera, the
hiring of young Canadian
directors and designers, and the
bringing together of Canadian
and international singers, should
be recognized as a national
resource deserving of the best
possible place on the world's
stage.

Speaking personally and on
behalf of all my singer col-
leagues and friends, I ask all
levels of government to work
this out and give Toronto and
Canada the first-class opera
house they deserve.

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