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Table of Contents

Editor’s Opener  David Perlman  9

Cover Stories:
Choral conductor Lydia Adams by Allan Pulker  10
Two Key Choral Players by Larry Beckwith  12

Discoveries: CD Forum  14-15, 60-72
CD Editor’s Corner by David Olds  14
CD Reviews 60-70
Early Music and Period Performance  60
Classical and Beyond  62
Modern and Contemporary  64
Jazz and Improvised  66
Pot Pourri  68
Old Wine, New Bottles by Bruce Surtees  70
Discs of the Month  72

Concert Notes  16-24
T.O. Musical Diary  Colin Eatock  16
Quodlibet Allan Pulker  17
Early Music Frank Nakashima  18
Choral Scene Larry Beckwith  20
World View Karen Ages  23

Toronto Hear & Now – New Music  24-28
Some Thing New Jason van Eyk  24
News Roundup  Keith Denning  25
Composer to Composer  26

Jazz and Band  29-30, 54-55
Band Stand  Merlin Williams  29
Jazz Notes  Jim Galloway  30
In the Jazz Listings  Sophia Perlman  30

Opera and Music Theatre  31-33
On Opera  Christopher Hoile  31
Opera at Home  Phil Ehrensaft  32

Musical Life  33-35, 57-59
Toronto Musicians Association News
Brian Blain  33
Book Shelf  Pamela Margles  34
Contest: Music’s Children  Masha Buell  35
How I Met My Teacher  Erin Cooper-Cay  57

Live Listings  36-56
Comprehensive Concert Listings:
Greater Toronto Area  36
Comprehensive Concerts listings:
Beyond the GTA  53
Music Theatre  54
Jazz  54
Announcements, workshops, etcetera  55

Other Elements
WholeNote Specials  14
WholeNote Hirings  35
Index of Advertisers  35
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NEW WAVE FESTIVAL
May 24-28, 2005
From Canaries to Frankenstein

Long-time followers of WholeNote will know that the “Canary Pages” supplement in the middle of this magazine is the third consecutive Choral Directory we have published in May. In May 2003 there were 88 choirs in it. Last year there were 137. This time there are 159.

We haven’t always called it the “Canary Pages” though. Last year we called it our “Choral Yellow Pages” - pretty good, we thought because, after all, it’s a handy one-stop source for people shopping for a choir to join. But our resident legal maven wagged a stern finger. “You can’t call it Yellow Pages, even though the pages are yellow. It’s like Mr and Mrs McDonald have to call their diner McDuff. Yellow Pages is a trade-mark.”

So this year’s version became “The Canary Pages” - and a very fine name too, we thought.

Not everyone agreed. “You know what they do to canaries in mines, don’t you?” one senior chorister grimly remarked when our indefatigable Canary Page project editor contacted him for his choir’s listing. (Being from Halifax not Springhill, she didn’t, but Google did: “Miners used to take canaries down in the mines because they are more susceptible to either low oxygen or methane or carbon monoxide. The birds would pass out before the miners were affected, and that would tell the miners to get out of there fast.”)

Well, all the more reason is what I say. What does it say about the current quality of the spiritual air we’re breathing to have all this chirping going on? And what would it tell us about the state of affairs if ever the singing stopped?

Following publication, the “Canary Pages” takes up residence on our website at www.thewholenote.com. Choirs who missed getting into the printed version will have the opportunity to add their song to the canaries on-line.

From miners’ canaries to bird-catchers in Mozart: Monday May 2nd is the third last in WholeNote’s series of “Nine Monday” Salons, at the Music Gallery on John Street, just south of the Art Gallery of Ontario. This month’s theme is operatic, and scenes from Mozart’s Magic Flute, presented by members of the Canadian Youth Opera Chorus, are part of a menu that also includes scenes from Frankenstein, a new opera by Andrew Ager.

Sometime in the early fall we’ll be talking in these pages about our “recently completed tenth anniversary salon series.” Don’t find yourself at that point saying “hmmm I meant to get out to one of those.” Do it now. The atmosphere’s good, the company charming, the free samosas delicious, and the music, always, great.

David Perlman
Choral conductor
Lydia Adams

interviewed by Allan Pulker

The 2004-05 season is the thirtieth for the Amadeus Choir. In that time it has grown from a small, enthusiastic group of singers at St. Mark’s United Church in Scarborough to a professional level ensemble of 100 voices which has garnered rave reviews for its performances, has made six recordings and is constantly commissioning new works. Much of this accomplishment has occurred under the direction of the choir’s conductor and artistic director, Lydia Adams, now in her twentieth year with Amadeus.

Q. How is the Amadeus Choir different from when I interviewed you nine years ago?

Lydia: The sight-singing ability has shot up as has the general level of ability. The Amadeus Chamber Singers are at a level where they have been able to join the Elmer Iseler Singers to record Harry Freedman’s complete choral music and also to make a CD put out by CBC records of two major choral works by Christos Hatzis - *Everlasting Light and De Angels*. The choir now sings at a professional level, even though all but a handful are not.

I will still bring people in who are not up to the standard, and give them a chance to raise their abilities. They promise to work hard, prepare for rehearsals and take voice lessons, and usually it works out. With the soprano section, however, I really have to demand everything that the choir needs. The sopranos’ sound colours the whole choir, which is why you need extraordinary singers in the soprano section. What you need in a choral singer is extraordinary musical skills and the ability to work as part of a team. Your voice, no matter how good, needs to blend within your section. A choir is a microcosm of Canada, of the world, which needs a merging of individuals in a common, dare I say, spiritual purpose. It is incredibly revitalizing when it takes place.

Q. Some of the ingredients of choral conducting seem obvious: really knowing the music, being good with people, knowing how to get them on your side, knowing how to run a productive rehearsal .... But what goes into “artistic vision”?

Lydia: Thinking all the time about developing programs for the choir. I have to think two to three years ahead, you know. Where is the choir going to be two or three years from now, what will they be able to do, what will challenge them? In terms of what I am looking for in the music I choose, I have been realizing more and more how important spirituality is. After our last concert there were some people in tears and there have been several people (harmonica virtuoso Larry Adler was one) who asked that our recording of *Everlasting Light* be played for them while they were dying. There is a hunger for the spiritual which the beauty of the sound of the human voice singing a beautiful text set to beautiful music can satisfy.

Q. Where do you look for repertoire?

Lydia: I’m always looking. I go to lots of conferences. If I come away with one good new piece I consider myself to have done well. Then there are friends, wonderful composers, like Eleanor Daley, who are always sending scores. Or you phone them up and ask them. We recently commissioned Eleanor Daley to compose a setting of *Salutation to the Dawn*, Doris McCarthy’s favourite poem. For two years Stephen Chatman has written pieces for us. It is so great to be performing new music. The trick is to inspire young composers. That was Elmer [Iseler]’s great genius. He would take works that were sub par and raise them by his performance. I’m always listening for music I want to perform and composers whose music I want to perform. There’s a composer in New Zealand who has sent carols for our competition. I’m interested in his work, and keep in touch. There is so much innovative choral composing going on in England, Sweden, Denmark, Latvia and Estonia.

Q. Are you optimistic about the future of choral music in Canada?

Lydia: We have great children’s choirs here and children’s choir conductors – people like Jean Ashworth Bartle, Linda Beaupre and Gerry Fagan, with whom I will be working this summer in the Ontario Youth Choir – who are inspirations both to the kids who sing in their choirs and to other conductors. Many of the children in these choirs join youth choirs and then adult choirs after that. These children have incredible role models and from a very early age become professionals. Edmonton, Calgary and Newfoundland, all of them have strong children’s and youth choirs and are producing great singers.

Q. Does your work with the Elmer Iseler Singers influence your Amadeus work?

Lydia: Every group you work with affects your sensibilities. There was a time when I had just started conducting, when I wondered how I was going to fill the time in rehearsal. What do we do now that we have gotten past the notes? That’s the question and the challenge. You have to know what you’re looking for. That’s what keeps you going.

Q. How do you develop that knowledge?

Lydia: Your mentors are very important. I had two stunning mentors, David Willcocks and Elmer Iseler. Willcocks, besides being a wonderful musician, was an incredible rehearsal manager. He always planned his rehearsals so that they ended right on time! I learned from him to vary the demands I make on my singers so they’re not getting tired and that I’m keeping their concentra-

tion. Above all I have learned that the music is first, and my first priority is to bring the music to life. That way there is no room for ego and we’re always trying to develop. Another thing about David Willcocks was that he always welcomed questions and was very gracious to his singers. Elmer and Lloyd Brashaw too, influenced so many people. People who worked with them felt that they had been touched by greatness.

Q. There are going to be almost 160 choirs profiled in this issue of WholeNote. I am struck by the discrepancy between the reality of thousands of people engaging in this disciplined and demanding activity and the image reflected back to us from the media: everyone glued to TV, sports, etc.

Lydia: There was an incredible study done by the American Choral Conductors Association about the number of people who sing in choirs. Singing is a very physical thing and provides a very positive stimulus to the brain, the body and the psyche. I think that has a lot to do with it.

Of all Lydia’s comments in our all-too-brief interview, the one that stuck most is the remark about the music being first, and the conductor’s first responsibility being to bring the music to life. It put me in mind of my student day rehearsals with Deral Johnson of the Faculty of Music Chorale at the University of Western Ontario, at 3:30 in the afternoon, a time of day more suited to siesta than song. The first half hour was a struggle, then, from the music, magically, energy and a scintillating level of engagement would come. I also found myself remembering, a couple of years later, joining another choir with a young conductor who had studied with the right people, knew the music inside out, never missed a cue, and in his fussy search for perfection spent all the time working out details instead of singing.

There will be two more opportunities to be touched by Lydia Adams’ choral magic this season: the Amadeus Choir’s next performance will be of J.S. Bach’s Mass in B Minor at the George Weston Recital Hall on May 28. The next performance of the 20-voice professional choir, the Elmer Iseler Singers, which she also conducts, titled *The Celtic Spirit*, will be at Glenn Gould Studio on Friday May 6.
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Two Key Choral Players
by Larry Beckwith

In preparing for this special choral issue of WholeNote, I thought it would be interesting to check in with two leading figures in the presentation of choral music in Southern Ontario. Though I can't recall ever hearing either one of them sing a note before, Howard Dyck and Lawrence Cherney have been responsible for organizing and hosting major choral events in this area for well over 25 years.

Known to long-time CBC Radio listeners as the founding host of Mostly Music and, in more recent times, as the voice of Choral Concert and Saturday Afternoon at the Opera, Howard Dyck has simultaneously maintained a busy career as a choral "conductor" in the true sense of that word. He has a wonderful energy about him that attracts people from all walks of life who are interested in, and passionate about, singing.

One of my first questions during a very pleasant, recent phone conversation, was how he found the time to keep up as both a broadcaster and busy musician.

"Well, I've always found them mutually reinforcing," came the reply. "From the beginning, for me, I felt that I needed to be involved in music-making. It brings a certain authenticity to me as a broadcaster ... that I'm not simply coming from the sidelines. Plus, conducting keeps me up-to-date with what's going on in the musical community."

As a conductor, Howard's home base has been the Kitchener-Waterloo Philharmonic Choir, with its pristine concert hall, Kitchener's Centre in the Square.

"I'm in my 33rd season in Kitchener, with the choir in its 83rd season. We have a total of 350 singers in the organization, with the children's choirs and a youth choir in a couple of different groupings."

While "The Phil", as they're known, has a core repertoire of the large choral works of Bach, Verdi, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Handel, they are also known for premiering more modern, populist works such as the Liverpool Oratorio by Paul McCartney and contemporary Canadian pieces by the likes of Christos Hatzis and Glenn Buhr. They're at it again at the beginning of June, presenting the Canadian premiere of Howard Shore's Lord of the Rings "choral symphony" in Toronto and Kitchener.

"It's atmospheric music. The choir has a lot of elvish stuff to sing! We look at it as a fun way to build audiences."

It is indeed this relaxed approach that I've always admired in Howard. He has very high standards, make no mistake, but likes everyone to enjoy themselves while making music.

One of the last topics we discussed is why the Kitchener area has been able to sustain a choral organization of the magnitude of The Phil for so long.
“Well, in the late 19th century, when Kitchener was known as Berlin, there was Berlin Philharmonic and they would sponsor a Singers Festival. Singers would come from all over and it was a real centre for choral music-making. In more recent times, we’ve benefited from the Mennonite presence – of course singing is a big part of their culture – and the confluence of other European traditions in the city. Plus, we are now a leading centre for the high tech companies, who bring bright, sophisticated young people to the area, and a lot of them are joining the choir.”

With his other project, Consort Caritatis, Howard has been busy touring the world and organizing musical efforts that will raise money for charitable organizations such as Habitat for Humanity. He is indeed a busy man, with a powerful desire to use choral music to effect change in his community.

I HAVE FOND memories of exceptional choral programs that Lawrence Cherney used to present at the Sharon Festival in the 1980s. For over 10 years, the Festival explored Canadian heritage, other significant, historical choral repertoire and new works in a magical setting: the Sharon Temple, the 19th century home of the Quaker Children of Peace, for whom music was a central part of worship and everyday life.

More recently, Lawrence has been artistic director of Soundstreams Canada, known for their “Encounters” series, which in each concert pairs a Canadian composer with an international figure in music-making. And, increasingly, Soundstreams has been actively engaged in helping realize choral extravaganza events, such as the biennial University Voices gathering of Canadian University choirs, and last year’s phenomenal coming-together of 6 of Canada’s professional choirs in the Atrium of the CBC for a significant premiere of a mesmerizing piece by Canada’s R Murray Schafer.

This June, Lawrence is organizing a conference and festival whose inspiration is the arts and culture of “northern countries”: Canada, Scandinavia, Iceland, etc. Like any good impresario, he is most excited with the "here and now", sounding almost giddy as he outlines the fascinating array of guest choirs and conductors.

“I’m very impressed with a young conductor, Peter Dijkstra, the winner of the 2003 Eric Ericson Prize. He’s not yet 30 years old, but he’s one of the big stars of choral music to watch. He’s already conducted the RIAS Chamber Choir, and is the permanent guest conductor of the Netherlands Chamber Choir. He will conduct the gala closing concert of the festival, with three great choirs participating.”

The festival will invigorate the city for nine days in early June. With visiting composers, including Sir John Tavener, and exciting conductors and choirs, such as Frieder Bernius (conducting the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir), “The Screaming Men” from Finland and the six-voice Nordic Voices. Cherney has assembled a knock-out line-up of choral talent.

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DISCOVERIES

EDITOR’S CORNER

This month we welcome a new reviewer to DISCoveries, one of Toronto’s premiere contemporary music specialists and all-round musicians, pianist David Swan. David came to national attention as the first winner of the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Competition for the Performance of Canadian Music in 1976. He is the organist at St. Paul’s United Church in Toronto and for some years has served as New Music Concerts’ principal pianist. It was in this latter capacity that he had the opportunity to work under the direction of Glenn Gould Prize Laureate Pierre Boulez in 2002 and so it is eminently fitting that his first review for us should be of the three piano sonatas by that preeminent French composer. Please see David’s review in the Discs of the Month section. Another one of Toronto’s piano elite, Eve Egoyan, is also featured in our Discs of the Month, not as reviewer in this instance, but as performer – see John S. Gray’s musings on Eve’s release of Rudolf Komorous’ Wu.

I was sorely tempted to keep both of those discs for myself, but it seemed more appropriate to let the piano experts have their way with them. I did however manage to sequester several new music discs for my own purposes. Two of these have distinctly Canadian connections, and all have some bearing on the local scene. I spent three evenings recently at the TSO’s New Creations Festival and had the pleasure of hearing a number of distinctive works. While for the most part I found the music to be traditional enough in its focus that almost all of the works could have been included in any of the TSO’s regular season concerts without raising too many eyebrows, the festival did provide the opportunity to hear roughly a dozen more or less contemporary works in close proximity, and without apology. While there was a certain sameness within the repertoire, there were several highlights. One of these was R. Murray Schafer’s Four Forty, a concerto for string quartet and orchestra featuring the St. Lawrence Quartet (see the review of their new CD Awakenings in the following pages). Another was Barbara Hannigan’s stunning performance of Henri Dutilleux’ Correspondances. Although not the dedicatee of the work, the Toronto soprano had previously performed it in Amsterdam and Paris, and the 89 year old composer, who was in attendance, seemed thrilled by Hannigan’s performance. I’m sure Dutilleux is also thrilled by Anne-Sophie Mutter’s performance of the 2003 "nocturne for violin and orchestra" Sur le même accord which brings me to my first CD pick, a Deutsche Grammophon release that also includes 20th century classic violin concertos by Bartok (No.2) and Stravinsky (00289 4775376).

The Dutilleux, performed with the Orchestre National de France under Kurt Masur, is a world premiere recording, combined here with Bartok (Boston Symphony/Ozawa) and Stravinsky (Phiharmonic/Sacher) reissues. It makes a great sampler of significant works for violin and orchestra by three of the major voices of the 20th century. (You can also read about Dutilleux’s Sonatine in these pages in Allan Pulker’s review of Patrick Gallois and Lydia Wong’s Naxos release “French Flute Music”.)

The next release I’d like to draw your attention to also relates in a way to the New Creations Festival. This most recent incarnation of a Toronto Symphony new music festival had its predecessor in the Made in Canada Festival instigated by Jukka Pekka Saraste in his first years at the TSO. The festival eventually evolved into the Massey Hall New Music Festival and ultimately “NUMUFest” before expiring in 2001. In one of the early years of the festival Joshua
merable recordings in recent years for the Analekta, CBC Records and Chandos labels, surprises us in the role of multi-instrumentalist. The English Black Box recording John Adams: Road Movies (BBM1098) features Ehnes playing second piano in a duet with American Andrew Russo in Hallelujah Junction for two pianos, and violin in the title work. The major piece on the disc is however an early solo piano work from 1977, Phrygian Gates which clocks in at roughly half an hour. This first work in Adams’ mature style (i.e. minimalist bored with minimalism) takes us on a journey that juxtaposes thePhrygian and Lydian modes while working through the cycle of fifths, which is to say that there is more melodic development here than in the works of say Philip Glass or Steve Reich. The “gates” of the title, terminology borrowed from electronic music, refer to abrupt shifts of mode as with the opening or closing of a gate – no gentle transitions here. The two works that involve Ehnes date from the mid-1990s and are in some ways much more lyrical although there is still a rough edge to them. This release shows us sides of both John Adams and James Ehnes of which we may not have been previously aware. Adams has become known for large works of grand scale – operas, ballets, concertos and other orchestral works – and Ehnes is known to us an interpreter ready to stray from the beaten track upon occasion to explore the world of lesser known composers like Hummel, but most at home with 19th and early 20th century repertoire (his recordings of “French Showpieces”, works of Kreisler, Dvorak and Prokofiev spring to mind, and of course the Juno Award winning recording of Bruch’s Second Concerto and Scottish Fantasy). “Road Movies” is a welcome addition to our body of knowledge about both these important artists.

We welcome your feedback and invite submissions. Catalogues, review copies of CDs and comments should be sent to The WholeNote, 503 – 720 Bathurst St. Toronto ON M5S 2R4. We also welcome your input via our website, www.thewholenote.com.

David Olds
Editor, DISCoveries

CONTINUES ON PAGE 60
The Toronto Symphony Orchestra has about 90 musicians, and likes to put them all on stage as often as it can. But there’s a whole other repertoire out there, for small orchestras, that the TSO doesn’t often play.

Currently, there are no less than four professional chamber orchestras in the Toronto area trying to fill this gap. In April I set out on a mission to determine how well this city is served by these ensembles.

April 2, 2005: Sinfonia Toronto, which bills itself as “Toronto’s Premier Chamber Orchestra,” played tonight at the CBC’s Glenn Gould Studio, under their conductor, Nurhan Arman. Arman, who likes to speak to his audience about the music he’s about to conduct, exudes an Old-World dignity and charm that goes over well with his audience. So did the repertoire: which consisted of Mozart’s Divertimento K 136, Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto and Tchaikovsky’s Serenade for Strings – a commonplace selection, but well received.

This orchestra varies in size, but on this occasion it consisted of just 13 string players. In performance, it has a transparent sound: a little top heavy, but polished and well rehearsed. The guest clarinetist, François Duval – chosen through a competition run by the orchestra – was a worthy addition to the evening. His playing is perhaps more precise than expressive, but he shows a complete mastery of his instrument.

The concert ended with Arman encoring a movement from the Mozart Divertimento, playfully letting his orchestra perform without a conductor. And for those in attendance – between 100 and 200 people, by my estimation – a good time was had by all.

April 9, 2005: Another Saturday night and another chamber orchestra at the Glenn Gould: this time, it’s the Canadian Sinfonietta, under Tak-Ng Lai. Again the audience consisted of 100-200 people, although the repertoire was hardly commonplace. Billed as a “Festival of Hungary,” the program consisted of Kodály’s Intermezzo from Háry János, Bartók’s Suite Paysanne Hongroise (with guest flautist Gergely Ittész), Popper’s Hungarian Rhapsody (played by cellist and orchestra member András Weber) and József Sari’s Parallels Which Meet Before the Infinite.

While both of the soloists – Ittész and Weber – acquitted themselves well, the 12-piece orchestra did not. Intonation and coordination were problems that weren’t helped by lacklustre leadership from the podium. And the evening got just plain weird when the stage was given over to a Hungarian “Gypsy” band. The quartet’s cimbalom player, Gyula Csoka was impressive, but the group played too long – and seemed to be there to fill time.

April 13, 2005: Following up on a rumour I’ve heard, I meet with Margaret Lam, executive director of the new Toronto Chamber Orchestra. This orchestra is so new it doesn’t even exist yet – but that, she tells me, will change this fall, when the ensemble launches a four-concert series at the George Weston Recital Hall.

Let’s see now: we already have Sinfonia Toronto, the Toronto Sinfonietta, the Canadian Sinfonietta and, to the west of the city, Sinfonia Mississauga. So why do we need a fifth chamber orchestra – and what will make it different? Lam explains that the new group will be led by TSO associate concertmaster Mark Skazinetzky, and will be made up, mostly, of TSO players. Performance quality, she says, will be high. As well, she continues, Skazinetzky wants to get away from the clichéd “Eine Kleine Nachtmusik” repertoire that chamber orchestras often play.

It all sounds good. But to be truly successful, this new orchestra will have to convince Toronto audiences that they want a chamber orchestra as part of the city’s musical life – if the ensemble’s audience-base is to grow beyond a clutch of “well-wishers” who show up for the city’s other chamber orchestras.

Winnipeg has a chamber orchestra that it takes seriously. Why not Toronto?

Colin Eatock is a composer and writer in Toronto who contributes to the Globe and Mail and other publications. His T.O. Musical Diary is a regular monthly feature of The WholeNote magazine.
I talked to Barry Shiffman of the St. Lawrence String Quartet early in April when the Quartet was here after performing with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Beginning with John Barnum's thoughts from last month's Quodlibet on the place of "classical" music in contemporary culture, Barry commented, "I read your piece and wanted to say that he [Barnum] was responsible in a major way for my involvement in chamber music." This resulted from his being part of John's chamber music program at the Royal Conservatory when he was between the ages of 11 and 14. Quite a few others who were in the program at the same time as he was, including Martin Beaver and Winona Zelenka, have gone on to highly successful musical careers.

With respect to the solemn pronouncements of various print and radio journalists on the imminent demise of classical music in general and the symphony orchestra in particular, he laughed: "It's kind of fun seeing these people being so wrong!" He and his colleagues, he said, were "buoyed" by their recent performance with the TSO: "...it is an orchestra with a "can-do" spirit...and those concerts were 85% sold." Peter Oundjian, he said, "was awesome!"

Having known him as a mentor during the Quartet's days at Yale, he had tremendous respect for his musicianship, but had no idea what to expect of him as a conductor. "I was praying that he would be ok," but discovered in the rehearsals and performances of the difficult Murray Schafer concerto for String Quartet and orchestra that he had totally absorbed the score, his conducting was crystal clear and he was enthusiastic.

It is my opinion that music must constantly be in a state of renewal through the work of composers. While there is great value in hearing the masterworks of the past, just as there is value in seeing the painting and sculpture of the past, the art must above all be connected with the present. Barry couldn't have agreed more: "The contemporary music scene is a barometer of the state of humanity. Composers are on the front edge of what people are thinking and feeling." Working with living composers too, he said, "informs not just the piece on the page but also the performances of the 'dead' guys." The quartet's contact with composers like Christos Hatzis and Osvaldo Golijov has helped them to realize that the great composers whose works they perform were just people, and enabled them to take them off the pedestal and have the courage to add their own voice, "which is what the living composers want us to do."

It is this, I am sure, to which Hatzis was referring in his notes with the St. Lawrence's CD, Awakening, when he wrote, "I am grateful to the St. Lawrence String Quartet for giving these two works wings to fly with - and what glorious wings they are!" Shiffman, however, was quick to deny responsibility for discovering the dialectic between the old and the new: "Robert Mann of the Juilliard String Quartet for giving these two works wings to fly with - and what glorious wings they are!" Shiffman, however, was quick to deny responsibility for discovering the dialectic between the old and the new: "Robert Mann of the Juilliard Quartet impressed us on us: bring the same care to the new as to the old and the same freedom to the old as to the new."

The St. Lawrence Quartet itself has contributed to the growth of the string quartet repertoire through its vigorous commissioning agenda. What, I asked, are your criteria for determining who is commissioned? In terms of "straightforward" criteria, "we want about one-third of our commissions to be from Canadian composers and we need and want to support the composers associated with the school of music at Stanford, like Jonathan Berger." How-
ever, all four of them are constantly listening and talking to other people. Sometimes luck is involved, as a few weeks ago when in Berlin he went to a concert and heard Pinchas Zukerman play Oliver Knussen’s violin concerto. “If I hadn’t decided to go out then, I might never have discovered just how good a composer Oliver is.” (Zukerman performed the same concerto, conducted by the composer, at the TSO’s concert immediately before the one in which the SLSO performed.) Consequently Knussen’s name has been added to the “huge list of composers whom we want to commission.”

On what, I asked, does the continuing potency of art music depend? “We love to perform and continue listening.” What generous spirit: to acknowledge the creative process. This can be magical and this is what we live for. Audience members have an active role to play in live performance and as performers we need active listening. “What generosity of spirit: to acknowledge the mutual dependence of the performer and the listener, the performer and the composer and the old and the new.”

**BACH CONSORT**

On May 13 the Bach Consort will bring together some of Toronto’s best professional musicians to perform a program of instrumental and vocal music by Johann Sebastian Bach. You can always count on these fine musicians to provide an evening of fine music-making and, as always, the proceeds go to a worthy cause, this time Habitat for Humanity and the Pia Bouman School for Ballet and Creative Movement.

**VICTOR TOGNI MEMORIAL CONCERT**

On May 27 at St. Basil’s Church organists Gordon Mansell and William O’Meara will present a concert dedicated to the memory of Victor Togni, an organist and musician whose life was tragically ended in 1963 at the age of thirty on Highway 401 in a collision with a tractor trailer. The concert will also include an improvisation by Togni’s son, the well-known musician and CBC personality, Peter Togni, on a theme written by his father.

What this man accomplished in his short life almost defies comprehension. He studied with the greatest teachers of his time, including Olivier Messiaen, Marcel Dupré, Fernando Germani and Jean Langlais, was awarded several prestigious prizes for organ improvisation, and in July 1963 had the honour of performing in the company of two of his teachers, Dupré and Germani. In Europe he was organist of Rome’s St. Gregory’s Basilica and the Lugoano Cathedral, before coming to Canada, where after working briefly in Ottawa, in 1960 he was appointed organist at St. Basil’s Church and professor of organ and improvisation at St. Michael’s Cathedral Choir School. In 1963 he was appointed organist of Toronto’s St. Michael’s Cathedral, a position he held until his untimely death.

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**EARLY MUSIC**

by Frank Nakashima

Tafelmusik’s current season ends in grand style with the “premiere” of Handel’s magnificent oratorio, Deborah (May 5-8) which is based on the Old Testament story of the prophetess Deborah. Joining the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir and an expanded Tafelmusik Orchestra is a fine array of soloists, including soprano Gillian Keith and Ann Monoyios, countertenor Matthew White, tenor Benjamin Butterfield, and baritone Locky Chung. Though not as well known as The Messiah, this work clearly highlights Handel’s creative talents. For more details, see the Tafelmusik website: www.tafelmusik.org

The Toronto Early Music Centre presents the recorder/flute virtuoso Alison Melville in a special solo program “In the Company of Songbirds” in which she will perform selections from her new CD of 18th-century Scottish repertoire, music by van Eyck, Telemann, Bach and the ubiquitous Anonymous, as well as traditional and original tunes for the Norwegian ‘sjelefløyte’ (‘overtone’ flute) using an assortment of recorders, traverso, and the aforementioned sjelefløyte (May 15).

In Greek myth, Orpheus is the singer/poet par excellence, able to move the very stones to tears. In Toronto’s Metamorphosis Festival, a citywide celebration of the arts on the theme of transformation, the Toronto Chamber Choir (under the direction of David Fallis) looks at the musical portraits, both old and new, of this famous hero from Ovid’s Metamorphoses, seeking to move you, the listener, with works by Henry Purcell, with conductors such as Andrew Davis, John Eliot Gardiner, Roy Goodman and Leonard Bernstein. Track 10 on this CD is the Chacony from the Naxos CD of Purcell’s “The Tempest” with Nathan Charlton. For more information, visit the website: www.geocities.com/torontochamberchoir

Aradia Ensemble proudly announce the release of the 30th recording by Kevin Mallon for the Naxos label – the opus 2 symphonies by the 18th century English composer William Boyce. The Aradia Ensemble will be celebrating their latest CD on the Naxos label with a free concert including the Boyce symphonies and excerpts of instrumental music for the theatre by Henry Purcell (May 28).

Aradia and music director Kevin Mallon, have continued to receive international praise for their recordings. The April edition of Classic FM magazine from Britain, entitled “The Great British Issue”, features a cover CD called “The Best of British”. Included on that CD is music by Elgar, Holst, Delius and Purcell, with conductors such as Andrew Davis, John Eliot Gardiner, Roy Goodman and Leonard Bernstein. Track 10 on this CD is the Chacony from the Naxos CD of Purcell’s “The Tempest” with the Aradia Ensemble and Kevin Mallon. For more information, visit the website: www.aradia.ca

**Alison Melville**

Astonished by Ovid’s tales, including Hotteterre’s Ecos, excerpts from Gaultier’s La Rhetorique des Dieux for solo lute, and Mascitt’s violin sonata Psiche. All of the above will be interpreted by Teri Dunn (soprano), Alison Melville (traverso), Genevieve Gilardeau (violin), Lucas Harris (theorbo & lute), Borsy Medicky (harpischord) and Betsy MacMillan (bass viol).

**NAXOS RECORDS AND THE ARADIA ENSEMBLE**

www.tafelmusik.org

www.geocities.com/torontochamberchoir

www.aradia.ca
Sweet (Studio) Sixteen

Studio Sixteen is Toronto's newest choral ensemble (sixteen voices), the only one in Toronto specializing in early sacred polyphony of the 16th and 17th centuries, particularly the 8-part repertoire. Founded just recently in October 2004 by Kevin Komisaruk, currently on staff of the Historical Performance department of the Faculty of Music at the U of T, Studio Sixteen has already impressed listeners and connoisseurs alike in promoting the sublime and profound beauty of this infrequently-performed music.

These sixteen singers strive for purity and clarity, engaging the powerful impact of this music through rhythmic vitality. While these are not especially rare goals for a choral ensemble of this kind, in a very short time Studio Sixteen has proven themselves to be formidable advocates for the revival of this early repertoire. This month, May 23, at St. Paul's Basilica on Power Street, they will be presenting a concert entitled “Llama de amor viva” (Living flame of love), taken from one of the most famous poems by Renaissance mystical philosopher, San Juan de la Cruz. This program will feature 6, 7, and 8-part spiritual madrigals, responsories, and other sacred treasures from Renaissance Italy, Spain, and Portugal, chosen specifically to evoke the spirit of this poem, a meditation on the delicate balance of darkness and light in our lives. On this program will be some of the greatest choral masterworks of the sixteenth century: Carlo Gesualdo’s Tenebrae Responsories, Orlando Lassus’ Lagrima di San Pietro, motets by Alonso Lobo and Francisco Guerrero, and Tomas Luis da Victoria’s 8-voice Missa Alma Redemptoris Mater. It should be an enlightening experience to hear this magnificent music in the kind of reverberant acoustic for which it was intended.

Visit www.studiosixteen.ca
Frank Nakashima

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Choral Scene
by Larry Beckwith

May is a fitting month for WholeNote to publish a choral issue, for not only are many of the city’s choirs giving concerts, but audition notices are going up and plans are well underway for 2005-06 seasons.

It is remarkable that each year the number of choirs who send in information to be printed in this issue grows. Singing in choirs seems to be an increasingly popular past-time and the positive spin-off from this phenomenon is being felt in communities all across Southern Ontario.

On the concertizing front, the month of May gets underway with an all-Mendelssohn concert on May 1 by the Toronto Classical Singers, under Jurgen Petrenko’s directorship. They are performing Mendelssohn’s wonderful 2nd Symphony and shorter works for choir and orchestra. Jurgen is busy the next morning (May 2), accompanying the Elora Festival Singers in one of Roy Thomson Hall’s free noontime concerts.

Later in that first week (beginning May 5), the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir is front and centre in performances of Handel’s little-known oratorio Deborah. With a strong cast of soloists and a score which “borrows” liberally from Handel’s earlier works, this is an intriguing program.
Marque Smith's Caribbean Chorale of Toronto performs at St. Timothy's Church on May 7, the same evening that the Toronto Children's Chorus celebrates composer Eleanor Daley's birthday with a concert of her works.

The following weekend is chock-a-block with choral events, including the Bach Consort performing Bach's Magnificat, the Bach Children's Chorus delving into "world music", the Tallis Choir departing from their regular fare to sing Dvořák, Brahms and Bruckner, the Bell'Arte Singers honouring Canadian choral music with a wide selection of compositions from our fair land, and the Oriana Women's Choir jazzy up Grace Church on-the-Hill with selections from the repertoire of Judy Garland, Ella Fitzgerald, the Andrews Sisters and others.

On May 15, the Orpheus Choir of Toronto, led by Robert Cooper, premieres a new work by Derek Holman, entitled Sweet William. The same afternoon, Mary Legge's wonderful Pentheilia Singers delve into the relationship between music and poetry and the Toronto Chamber Choir pays homage to

CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

ANNOUNCING Teodora Georgieva, Artistic Director Riverdale Youth Singers

The Riverdale Youth Singers is proud to announce the appointment of Teodora Georgieva to the position of Artistic Director effective September 2005. Ms. Georgieva succeeds founding conductor Mark Bell.

Teodora received her master's degree in choral conducting from the State Music Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria. Ms. Georgieva is presently the children's choir conductor at the University Settlement Music and Arts School and was an assistant conductor and accompanist with the High Park Choirs of Toronto. She also conducts Apprentice Chorus II of the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus in Toronto.

The Riverdale Youth Singers are presently auditioning children and youth (ages 7 and up) for the upcoming 2005/2006 choir season. Please contact our choir manager at 416-875-1587 to arrange an audition appointment.

www.riverdaleyouthsingers.org

The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir is holding auditions for choristers

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WHEN: June 7, 14, 21 & 28
WHERE: Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Avenue (Yonge Street north of St. Clair)

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Auditions Tuesday June 14, 5:30-9:30 pm at St. Leonard’s Church.

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www.jubilatesingers.ca

Kammermusik AUDITIONS

Established in 1997, Kammermusik Toronto is a not-for-profit chamber choir and orchestra dedicated to performing and promoting a wide range of music from medieval to modern. This small SATB chamber ensemble consists of 22 dedicated and enthusiastic singers who rehearse Wednesday evenings on the campus of the University of Toronto.

Auditions for all voices will be held in May 2005.

Candidates will be asked to sing a brief vocal piece that they have prepared in advance, to be sung with or without accompaniment. The audition will also include some sight-reading and an examination of your vocal range.

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one of the great figures of music and poetry: Orpheus, in a Kafeemusik, which means lots of great music, some talking and good food.

Later in the month the Riverdale Youth Singers round out their season, as does the East York Choir with a well-conceived concert that brings in elements of world music, folksongs, spirituals and children’s music.

Next month, I will have a more in-depth look at the programming of the Soundsstreams’ Northern Voices Choral Festival.

Larry Beckwith can be reached at choralscene@thewholenote.com
May is South Asian Heritage Month, and there is no shortage of concerts to choose from reflecting the musical riches of this region. Small World Music presents four evenings of Indo-jazz fusion or South Asian hip-hop at the Lula Lounge (May 1, 12, 19, and 26) including the groups Tasa, LAL, auterickshaw, Galitcha and Tantra. Please visit www.lula.ca or www.smallworldmusic.com for details. In addition, Small World presents two concerts of Indian classical music, May 4 and 14 at Glenn Gould Studio. The first, “The Singing Violin” features violin virtuoso Kala Ramnath, and tabla player Vineet Vyas (who is also a member of the above mentioned Tantra); and May 14 features Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, inventor (and performer) of the Mohan Veena, a nineteen string modified guitar that blends techniques of Hawaiian guitar, sitar, sarod and veena playing. He will be joined by Subhen Chatterjee on tabla. If you live in the Hamilton area, there are a number of events there as well. A month long festival titled Spirit of South Asia 2005 presents events May 7, 21, 28 and 29, which will include dance, music, theatre, story telling and film. Consult our Beyond the GTA listings for details about music-related events, call 905-529-7865 or 905-383-1060, or visit the festival website www.ragamusicsschool.com for more information. Separate from this but also in Hamilton, the Indo-Canadian Networking Council presents “An Indian Classical Music Festival”, May 14 at Hamilton Place, featuring an array of musicians from Canada and India. If you’re looking for something to do on Mother’s Day (May 8), join Echo Women’s Choir in their 14th annual spring concert at Church of the Holy Trinity. The choir, lead by husband and wife team Alan Gasser and Becca White, presents a program of folk and classical music from Argentina, Bulgaria, Brazil, Republic of Georgia, India, South Africa and North America. Old-time music fans won’t want to miss fiddler/vocalist Erynn Marshall and her band of performers on banjo, guitar, harmonica, mandolin and bass, May 13 at the Gladstone Hotel (1214 Queen St. West). This concert celebrates the release of her first CD, Calico, featuring a selection of tunes primarily from West Virginia, Kentucky and North Carolina, and some traditional sounding originals, representing a culmination of several years of field research and study. I’ve heard a pre-release version, and it’s lots of fun! The concert will be followed by a jam session for musicians in the audience. Incidentally, her MA thesis in ethnomusicology, “Music in the Air Somewhere: The Shifting Borders of West Virginia’s Fiddle and Song Traditions” will be published by West Virginia University Press. Congratulations Erynn! The Lula Lounge will be alive with the sounds of Portuguese Fado and Brazilian music, May 25. Anima Fado, Nuno Cristo (Portuguese guitar), Larry Lewis (classical guitar) and Odalis Cuesta (bass) are joined by vocalist Sonia Tavares in a program dedicated to the songs of Mouraria and Alfama (Portugal); the six musicians of Wave combine elements of samba, bossa nova and “Musica Popular Brasileira” to create an exciting mix. Vocalist Karina Stone will be joined by guitar, bass, piano, drums and percussion. The Metamorphosis festival, conceived as an exploration of cross-cultural and cross-disciplin-
nary connections around the theme of transformation, continues this month with two productions having world music links. The contemporary Ensemble Noir presents The Orphan Boy, a Ma-sai tale of transformation, in collaboration with Dancelmmersion, (music by Ensemble Noir director Bongani Ndodana), May 26-28 at Artword Theatre. And Red Sky and the Toronto Consort present Underworlds. May 26 and 27 at Glenn Gould Studio. Red Sky’s Underworlds tells the story of an Ojibway hero whose journey to the Underworld brings music and dream quests to the land of the living.

The music is by Mexican composer Antonio Zepeda, who will accompany the performance on instruments that pre-date Europe­an contact, some 1000 years old. Visit their website at www.redskyperformance.com. Part two of this double bill features the Toronto Consort’s Eurid­ice Variations, a new take on the Greek myth of Orpheus in the underworld, told through Euridice’s eyes.

Looking ahead to June, the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the second world war in its 79th annual spring concert, June 5 at the Leah Posluns Theatre. They will be joined by the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra, and featured vocal soloists Miriam Eskin, Steve Szmutni, Belva Spiel and Herman Rombouts. The program’s main work is Max Helfman’s Di Naye Hagodet (The New Saga) which commemorates the Warsaw Ghet­to uprising. The program will also feature songs in Yiddish and He­brew, opera choruses in Italian and Russian, some Gershwins, and a French-Canadian folksong.

Last but not least, please mark Monday June 6 on your calendar; I’ll be hosting the eighth in a series of Salons presented by WholeNote Magazine at the Mu­sic Gallery, and this one will, of course, feature a variety of World Music ensembles. Check the June issue for more details. Hope to see you there!

Karen Ages is a freelance oboist who has also been a member of several world music ensembles. She can be reached at 416-323-2232 or worldmusic@thewholenote.com.

**Some Thing New**

by Jason van Eyk

TORONTO’S CONCERT MUSIC SCENE has drawn the lines so tightly around who does what, where and why that it’s easy to become skeptical when boundaries are overstepped. Although the Toronto new music community is vibrant and active in all its multiplicities, it tends to skepticism when older establishments try to ape

Conversely, these older establish­ments are skeptical of moving into seemingly “rarefied” or “exclusive” new territories, wary of re-deploying vast resources into unknown territory, where “organizational impacts” and “returns on investments” (namely bums in seats) are uncertain.

And from the sidelines, the cul­tural purists voice their own skep­ticism, mapping the moves, won­dering if the old guard will simply pay lip service to new music, ghet­toize it for an already acclimatized audience, or actually open new doors and create new appreciations for the concert music of our times.

To drop the veil, I’m referring to the TSO’s recent inaugural New Creations Festival. Many have questioned the impulse for its cre­ation, when new music has been such a meager and maligned part of TSO programming over the past years. Why were they ghettoizing new music into a five concert rut instead of creating new contexts for new music in their regular sub­scription series? Could this “or­chestral museum” possibly do jus­tice to today’s music?

Perhaps these skeptical ques­tions came too quickly. It turns out that Maestro Oundjian, who often gets tarred with a staunch classi­cal brush, persuaded the TSO Board of the need for New Creations and, in championing the con­cept, got his wish. And I have it on good authority that the Festival was cross-subscribed into a number of the TSO’s regular se­ries, and that 50% of the Festival was sold to subscribers before sin­gle tickets went on sale (That’s roughly 1,000 seats per night). Overall, the festival sold 9,000 tickets, had near-capacity audi­ences for several concerts and gar­nered positive feedback. I have heard numerous accounts of stand­ing ovations for the new commis­sions by Gary Kulesha and Kelly­Marie Murphy, R. Murray Schafer’s Four-Forty, and the re­hearing of Dutilleux’s recent Eu­ropean premiere. These go along with kudos for other works. Clear­ly, the orchestra can do justice to new orchestral music, and bring­ing 9,000 new enthusiasts to these works is admirable.

Now here’s to hoping this audi­ence will set their foot outside Roy Thomson Hall to find out more. And that the TSO has learned something about the power of cur­rent and Canadian music in their regular programming. I think they may have; we can expect New Creations to continue in 2005-2006, and there are whispers that 2006-2007 is already in the works. So skepticism be gone! Spring is not the time for it. Rather, it is the time of renewal. The new mu­sic community knows this all too well; May always brings new work and reviving experiences, and the end of the month is reserved for showcasing emerging composers’ work.

On May 3rd at the Music Gal­lery, pianist Christina Petrowska Quilico, a talented champion of Canadian work, gives the world premiere of Ann Southam’s complete, two-hour long Rivers cycle.

"Whether or not one understands the form and style," says Petrowska Quilico, "Rivers is such an evocative work that audiences can just immerse themselves in the music...it’s wonderfully hypnotic." Ms. Southam admits, "I didn’t think anyone would play this piece, but when Christina performed it, I loved the sound and what was happening as the hands interacted. And I loved the little tunes and motifs that could be heard in the interaction between the hands. I don’t how she does it!" Ms. Petrowska Quilico has also recorded the complete Rivers cycle for the Ann Southam Composer Por­trait set on the Canadian Music Centre’s Centrediscs label (for a review see the DISCoveries column in the March 2005 issue).

For more details visit www.musicgellery.org, or call 416-204-1080.

The following Friday, May 13, another pianistic feat will take place at the Glenn Gould Studio. Pianist Eve Egoyan, a devoted in­terpreter of new music, performs the world premiere, and launches her recording of, Wu, an elegant­ly minimalist, folkloric, concert­length work by Czech Canadian composer Rudolf Komorous. “An
News Roundup
Coalition of New Music Presenters
by Keith Denning

Spring has sprung, the grass is riz, and here is where the new music iz. (There's a lot of it, so hang on!)

May brings us two significant new music festivals in southern Ontario. NUMUS hosts the Open Ears Festival of Music and Sound in Kitchener with three concerts on May 1 in Kitchener. All events are free.

Throughout the month of May, New Adventures in Sound Art presents its Deep Wireless Festival, which focuses strongly on electroacoustic music, acoustamatics, and radio art. They kick off their festival on May 1 with a show at the Drake Hotel featuring electroacoustic bad boys Negativland. Tickets are $25, $20 in advance for this event.

Also May 1, New Music Concerts and the Goethe Institut present the music of Jörg Widmann, acclaimed composer and clarinettist, at the Glenn Gould Studio.

On May 2, Les Amis is performing a concert at the KW CMS Room in Waterloo which includes Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time, among other works.

At the Music Gallery May 3, Christina Petrowska Quilico performs the music of Ann Southam, one of my favourite composers.

Tapestry New Opera Works begins its remount of Nigredo Hotel May 5. Composed by Nic Gotham, with a brilliant libretto by Ann-Marie MacDonald, the run continues through May 15.

New Music Concerts returns on May 8 at 2pm for Mother's Day with a conversation and concert given by Robert and Dianne Aitken at the Music Gallery.

Later that same day Ensemble Noir has a concert called Eastern Revival at the Winchester Theatre, which features works by Lomon, Linding and Morehead.

Evergreen Contemporary Gamelan is also doing a concert of new and improvised music at 8pm con...
Composer to Composer
Eric Morin & Patrick Saint-Denis

Interviewed by Paul Steenhuisen, April 2005

This month’s interview is a transatlantic submission. I’m at the ISCM (International Society for Contemporary Music) World Music Days, in Zagreb, Croatia, where as President of the Canadian ISCM Section, I’m hosting Canadian composers Eric Morin and Patrick Saint-Denis. Morin lives in Montreal, and teaches at Laval University, while Saint-Denis currently lives in The Hague, where he studies at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Both are recent Jules Léger Prize winners, and will have their Léger pieces performed here. During the busy schedule of concerts, rehearsals, and meetings with other composers/performers from around the world, we managed to take some time to discuss their work. Eric Morin was present at the beginning of the festival, and a few hours after his departure, Patrick Saint-Denis arrived.

Steenhuisen: Eric, I first met you in Paris, then Toronto and Montreal. Now we’re in Zagreb for World Music Days. Is it important for you to travel and be part of your pieces in different places?

Morin: Yes. It’s better to be there, and to live it. It’s not the same thing to listen to recordings and look at scores. Now I want to go west of Toronto. I’ve only been west of there once. I’m sure that in Vancouver, with the ocean and those big mountains, it must change something in your writing.

Steenhuisen: So why didn’t you do that instead of going to Paris to study?

Morin: Going to Paris and Europe was a little fantasy I had as a teenager — an interest in French culture, and philosophy, Nietzsche in particular. But I specially went there to work with Gérard Grisey.

Steenhuisen: So what did you get out of going to Paris and studying with Grisey?

Morin: I gained a friend, actually. He didn’t teach me anything specific. There weren’t so many individual sessions with him, but more get-togethers. He showed us scores and made us listen to music. He talked a little about his own music, but not much (which is a good thing). He didn’t talk about spectral music, and he had nothing to sell us. That’s good teaching to me.

News Roundup

continued from page 25

that evening at the Music Gallery.

On May 14 at 8pm, the Music Gallery presents an evening of music by and about Italian master Giacinto Scelsi, and follows it up on the 15th at 3pm and 8pm with a concert featuring the music of Italian composers Berio, Nono and Donatoni. Stellar performances are bound to come from Janice Jackson, Wallace Halladay, and Stephen Clarke.

Winner for best title of a new music concert this month goes to: quasiMODAL, a concert of improvised music happening May 18, at the Art Gallery of York University. Eve Egoyan returns, under the Music Umbrella May 21, performing works by Satie, Tanaka, Norgard and others at Eastminster United Church at 8:00.

May 26-28, Ensemble Noir returns with a dance/opera The Orphan Boy, composed by artistic director Bongani Ndodana, at Artwork. Esprit Orchestra also has a concert May 26; works by Chris Paul Harman, Scott Wilson, and more. On May 27, New Music Concerts presents Wild Wired West, a concert of music for chamber plus electroacoustics featuring works by Keith Hamel, Paul Steenhuisen and more at the Music Gallery.

Finally, May 29, Arraymusic presents its Future Lab concert, a concert of music from their young composers' workshop. This concert is also at the Music Gallery.

May is full of new music. Take advantage of the fine weather and the good spirits that that brings you, and try something new.

At that time, I wrote Clone, for solo piano, which is the basis for D'un château l'autre, the piece being played here in Zagreb. D'un château is for string quartet and piano. I had eleven chords that came out of nowhere, and I knew I wanted to write a big piece with it. I had to write a piano piece, so I did Clone before the big piece.

Steenhuisen: What do you mean that the chords came out of nowhere?

Morin: The material dates from 1995, but I remember that I used the C-sharp in the middle of the piano, and the uppermost C and lowest D on the piano. All the chords are symmetrical around the C-sharp, and spread out around it. Then I rearranged the notes and voicings of the chords to find a good sonority that was pleasing to my ear. All of the music is these eleven chords.

Steenhuisen: But there is more going on than chords...

Morin: I think of them as harmonic fields, or reservoirs of notes. This way the material can be used as a chord, lines, or many things. With a harmonic field, the notes are spread out over time, and they are always used in the same octave. I also have multiple chords or harmonic fields active simultaneously. I call that a polyphony of processes. This relates to the title, which means "one castle, the other". It exemplifies the basis of the piece on these eleven chords, and how it moves from one to the other, from one architecture to the other. It has nothing to do with the novel of the same name by Louis-Ferdinand Céline. The title has fluidity, which is something I try to achieve in my music.

Steenhuisen: How would you describe the fluidity you're seeking in your music?

Morin: The thing I like the least in music is boxes, blocks — clear sectional divisions. Messiaen's music is full of blocks, and I have problems with that. But on the other hand if you take early spectral music, fluidity, that's all it is, one thing developing into another, slowly transforming. You need contrast too.

Steenhuisen: Tell me about how you rework one piece into another.

Morin: It's not really reworking the piece, it's a transcription. It forces you, of course, to make it work. There's Clone, but it's just a short section of D'un château l'autre. It's about six minutes, while D'un château is around eleven minutes. There are three versions of D'un château l'autre, and every version is the same music. The first version was for four solo strings and fifteen instruments. There is an orchestral version of it, which was played by the TSO, and the string quartet and piano version. In the last version, I had no choice but to really write for string quartet, where they do not part together, as well as solo parts.

Steenhuisen: Why did you make different versions?

Morin: It's really difficult to get your music played. I asked myself why shouldn't I do like Ravel, or Debussy, and write different versions of my pieces. It creates more opportunities for performance, but basically, I like doing it. It shows you another aspect of your creativity. You can imagine, when making an orchestral version of this chamber piece, all of the questions I had to ask myself when passing from one to the other. What to keep, what's really important in the piece.

Steenhuisen: Did you have a plan to make multiple versions of the piece when you started?

Morin: No, not at all.

Steenhuisen: So it's a bit like Berio does with the Cheremis series, and Corale, which are derived from the solo Sequenzas.

Morin: Yes and no. I think D'un Château works because I started with the large ensemble and reduced it for string quartet. It's much easier. It gives you more choice. If you write a duet for Bass Clarinet and Alto Flute, and want to make an orchestral version from this, you have to come up with many, many new ideas.

Steenhuisen: That's what Berio does, starting with a solo piece and expanding outwards.

Morin: That's another piece, which is why he changed the titles.

Steenhuisen: Don't you feel that by reducing it you are squeezing your ideas down?

Morin: No, because I include it all. That's the interesting part of it. I think it's better to do this and keep the same title than to rewrite the same piece over and over, changing the title each time like so many composers do.
saturday + sunday, may 14-15
the italian intensive
a music gallery special project: italian new music since 1950
THREE CONCERTS: $40 REGULAR/$30 MEMBERS/$15 STUDENT + SENIOR
TWO CONCERTS: $30 REGULAR/$20 MEMBERS/$10 STUDENT + SENIOR
SINGLE CONCERT: $20 REGULAR/$15 MEMBER/$5 STUDENT + SENIOR

saturday may 14 @ 8pm
why leaves are sounds: a tempo for scelsi
Performance for three interpreters between music and poetry of Giacinto Scelsi for the 100th anniversary of his birth, featuring Silvia Schiavoni (voice), Walter Prati, violoncello and electronics; Giancarlo Schiaffini, trombone.

sunday may 15 @ 3pm
electro-italian
Works by 20th century Italian new music titans Luciano Berio, Luigi Nono and Franco Donatoni, performed by dynamic Halifax soprano Janice Jackson (voice) with Toronto’s Wallace Halladay (saxophone) and Stephen Clarke (piano).

sunday may 15 @ 8pm
italian for beginners
Toronto’s acclaimed Madawaska String Quartet performs Italian 20th century classics by Scelsi, Donatoni, Lucio Garau and Luigi Dallapiccola, with special guests Janice Jackson (voice) and Stephen Clarke (piano).

tuesday may 3 @ 7:30pm
christina petrowska quilico
performs ann southam’s complete rivers cycle
THE COMPOSER NOW. COLLABORATIONS SERIES, $20/$10 STUDENT + SENIOR
Pianist Christina Petrowska Quilico, famed Canadian interpreter of new music, gives the world premiere of Ann Southam’s 19-part cycle Rivers in its entirety. The performance of the technically challenging and mystical two-hour work will include one intermission, and the concert will be followed by a reception.
Tremblay called There’s a series of novels by the dits de Victoire, French-Canadian author Michel salty things like “Don’t tell me that ing played here at the World Mu­ SAINT-DENIS: it me who’s crazy, or the rest of the world”, and that’s the sub-title of the is an honest girl”. She also says “is several stories, that’s the one in which she dies, and lines saying of Victoire’s. STEENHUISEN: So it’s layers, and how they interact? SAINT-DENIS: They aren’t layers, they’re one after the other. It’s a sequence of musical characters. Why that I say that it’s three different musics. Generally speaking, the materials are quite simple. The first is an A-minor chord, another is a unison and another is its consequent, a cloud of pizzicato. The third is a texture in the high register. STEENHUISEN: Do they main­ tain their character all the way through, or do you develop them? SAINT-DENIS: I develop them, yes. They’re all expanding in their own way. Otherwise, it’s completely abstract, and there’s no other musical information given in how they are ordered. I don’t know that you listen so much to how they are ordered, but it has a surprising effect. STEENHUISEN: You said you were interested in this story be­ cause of its nonlinearity. Why does nonlinearity interest you? SAINT-DENIS: It’s much more modern. It’s a much more con­ temporary way to tell a story. The rhetorical aspect of it is much more appealing to me, because things are less obvious, and as a listener you have to work harder. I’m breaking process and taking them farther into the piece, and they seem as though they’ve been erased by another music. It evolves over time. STEENHUISEN: The piece is for acoustic instruments - two string quartets. Yesterday you were talking about how you use the computer for processing mate­ rial to be used in an acoustic piece. How does that relate here? SAINT-DENIS: It doesn’t really relate to this piece, because it wasn’t done with the computer, although it could have been, be­ cause there are several processes in the piece that can be formalized. Very simple augmentation, basic processes of patterns, rhythm and harmonic patterns — but now I use the computer, and plan the ar­ chitecture of a piece, and the vari­ ous processes that will be involved on all the basic parameters and are subject to parametric control. STEENHUISEN: What do you use for this, and how? SAINT-DENIS: I use Open Mu­ sic, a software from IRCAM, mainly for interpolations between different chords. It’s something that I call morphing. I take a mel­ ody, and treat it as a soundwave, then I morph that with another soundwave. This enables me to morph one melody into another, over several periodicities. Another approach to using the software is more statistical. Re­cently, I wrote a piece for solo cel­ lo where I manipulate an Irish folk melody I recorded from a fiddler in Gaspésie. What happens in the piece is a process that resynthesiz­ es the folk melody using Markov chains. I first translate the notes of the melody into a sequence of letters, then do a Markov Analysis to find the patterns in it. Basically, what you hear in the piece is a gradual appearance of the folkish style as I travel through the different levels of the analysis. STEENHUISEN: Why does working this way interest you? SAINT-DENIS: I think the computer helps me to go somewhere that I cannot hear. So I go further than my ears, and I find things I never would have met. It’s not about hav­ ing a distance, or approaching things in a formalist, structuralist way, it’s getting to a place beyond intuition — powered intuition. Hearing powered by scientific technology. STEENHUISEN: What has arisen for you related to this festival? SAINT-DENIS: The program notes of another composer at the ISCM festival said that music, and art in general, had lost its social responsibility, that we haven’t got the same responsibilities as before. I kind of agree with him. The idea of social responsibility in art is old, like the twenties and thirties, up to the late sixties. I think that now, art has to deliver a much more fundamental message. STEENHUISEN: Such as what? SAINT-DENIS: Love, and more human issues. My music is in­ tended with these sensibilities, but it’s not easy, or soft listening. I think this is a big difference from music written in the second half of the twentieth century. STEENHUISEN: When did this change take place? SAINT-DENIS: In the ’80s. I’m completely obsessed by my time. I know very well that I’m not in the ’50s or the ’80s. I come after the guys who reacted to the big revolu­tion. I think it’s quite frightening to be after.
EACH MONTH when I receive the listings for the next issue of The WholeNote, I scan through the file looking for band concerts. Most of them tend to fall on the weekends. For some reason this month as I examined the schedule, I couldn’t help but think “Gee, why aren’t there any concerts on the third weekend of the month?” Then I realized — it’s May already, and that’s the next issue of The WholeNote, looking for band concerts. May aren’t there any concerts on the third weekend? Virtuoso Allen Vizzutti. The concerts will feature many of Vizzutti’s own works for concert band, as well as some of the standard trumpet showpieces like Carnival of Venice — though if you think you’ve heard that piece too many times, I think his rendition will still surprise you!

Hornist Joan Watson is guesting with the IntraBrass on May 29 in a program entitled “Horn of Plenty” at the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts. Joan is the horn player with the True North Brass and Principal Horn of the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra. She’s also served as Associate Principal Horn with the TSO and played for the Toronto run of “The Producers.”

The Hannaford Street Silver Band rounds out the month’s roster of guest artist concerts with trombonist Alastair Kay and conductor (also a trombonist) Alain Trudel on May 29. Kay is the trombonist with the True North Brass, and was lead trombone with Rob McConnell and the Boss Brass. This is an afternoon concert, and there will be a pre-concert chat with HSSB co-founder Ray Tizzard and maestro Alain Trudel.

Remember to check the main listings for complete info on these and many other worthy concerts. And band PR people — make sure you start getting your summer park concert listings together!

Woodwind doubler Merlin Williams is an Artist/Clinician for Jupiter Music Canada. If you would like an upcoming band event to be featured in the Bandstand column, contact merlinwilliams@sympatico.ca or phone 416-803-0275.

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Jazz Notes

by Jim Galloway

Events this month include a couple of fundraisers that put the spotlight on homegrown talent. Jazz Lives, May 12 at Convocation Hall, U of T, is a star-studded fundraiser for JAZZFM91. The line-up is who’s who of jazz in Canada and there will be more talent on stage than you can shake a baton at. If you already have a ticket you are one of the lucky ones because the concert is sold out. Who knows, maybe some of the scalpers who used to be at Toronto Maple Leafs games will have something to do that night!

Then, on May 16, the 7th Annual Fundraising Gala for the Ken Page Memorial Trust will be held at the Montreal Bistro, home of the event since its inception. The music will be provided by the Tribute To Moe Koffman Band led by long-time member of Moe’s Quintet, Bernie Senensky, and promises to be another standing room only celebration.

Joe Lovano has a mini tour in the area this month with dates in London May 12 at Wolf Performance Hall, May 13 at Hamilton Place Studio Theatre, and May 14 at Toronto’s Jane Mallett Theatre.

On May 21 the Classic Jazz Society will present Sonny Monk Society Jazz Band from England at Estonian House. The band is a visually striking professional group of British trad musicians who present the old favourites with Sonny on trumpet, Avo Avison on trombone, Geoff Patterison on clarinet, Bob Evans on bass, Terry Illingworth on banjo and Tony Cowlishaw on drums and vocals.

Time was when being a jazz vocalist was a really tough way to get a gig, but times change and jazz is seeing a huge resurgence in the vocal art. May 28 Sophie Milman will be in concert at the Glenn Gould Studio accompanied by Cameron Wallis, saxophone; Paul Shrofbel, piano; Rob Fahie, bass and Robbie Kuster, drums.

On a personal note, last month I had the great fortune to play three nights with Jay McShann who has been, since I first met him almost 35 years ago, one of my favourite people. I had, of course, known about him and his contribution to jazz - the much touted ‘discovery’ of Charlie Parker, who made his first recordings as a member of McShann’s big band in the late 30s is probably the most quoted event in his long career; but that is to do a disservice to Jay, for his influence and worth as a musician are so much more important than that relatively short period of time that Parker was with him.

Jay has earned his own place in the history books and his big band of that early period captured the spirit of the era perfectly. Overshadowed by the Basie band which went on to world-wide fame, Jay’s band had a spirit and drive as well as a ‘looseness’ that captured the wide open feel of Kansas City during the Prendergast days. For those of you who may not know, Thomas J. Prendergast was a crooked politician who became extremely rich in the beer business and made even more money selling suds at skyrocket prices during Prohibition, all the time masquerading as a fine Catholic benefactor of the city. He virtually owned K.C. and ruled over an assortment of crooked magistrates, attorneys, police and businessmen.

By 1929, Kansas City was wide open twenty-four hours a day. There were clubs galore - the Cuban Gardens, the Reno Club, the Yellow Front Saloon, the Spinning Wheel - and every club needed musicians who helped keep up a steady flow of customers. Prendergast was eventually convicted for tax fraud in 1938, but he had founded what was in effect the forerunner to Las Vegas and had also unintentionally helped to create the Kansas City sound in jazz.

Jay McShann was one of those musicians and he still lives in Kansas City. I am privileged to know him as a friend.

In the Jazz Listings...
On OPERA
by Christopher Hoile

THE OPERATIC HIGHLIGHT this May is the remount of “Nigredo Hotel” by Tapestry New Opera Works. It runs May 5-15 in the Fermenting Cellar in the Distillery District. Not only is it rare for a Canadian opera to have a second production, but this work marked a breakthrough for Tapestry, now celebrating its 25th anniversary.

“Nigredo Hotel” by composer Nic Gotham to libretto by the young Ann-Marie MacDonald had its world premiere in 1992, unusually enough, as part of the Tarragon Theatre’s subscription and went on to runs in Vancouver, Victoria, Glasgow and Brighton plus a second run in Toronto. The “operatic thriller” concerns a stressed-out neurosurgeon who checks into a seedy hotel whose innkeeper leads him on a path of enlightenment. The Jungian view of alchemy as psychological journey found in MacDonald’s popular play “Goodnight, Desdemona (Good Morning, Juliet)” becomes the central metaphor of the libretto. In general terms, the alchemist’s soul, like the philosopher’s stone he tries to create, passes through parallel stages of nigredo (blackening and depression) to albedo (whitening and growth) to rubedo (reddening and turning to the outside world). Tapestry has reassembled the creative team from 1992. The piece will star Patricia O’Callaghan as the innkeeper and Alexander Dobson as the surgeon. Wayne Strongman will conduct and Banuta Rubess will direct.

Tapestry’s return to “Nigredo Hotel” presented a fitting time to speak to Founder and Artistic Director Wayne Strongman and Producer and General Manager Claire Hopkinson to reflect on the company’s own metamorphosis over the past 25 years. Starting as the Tapestry Singers, the company began as an ensemble of soloists with an emphasis on music theatre in the most general sense. When the singers disbanded and re-formed, Strongman realized the future lay in newly commission work with strong dramatic appeal. Its first large production was the musical “Anne of Green Gables” in 1989. Even more successful was its 1994 production of Jim Betts’s genre-breaking musical “Colours in the Storm” about painter Tom Thomson that toured for seven weeks to 30 communities throughout Ontario.

With the arrival in 1991 of Hopkinson, who had worked with Comus Music Theatre in the 1980s, the objective became, as she says, “to create a repertory of Canadian music theatre and opera” and “a company about the artists that starts with the artist, as well as to develop an audience for the art form”. “Nigredo Hotel”, the first work that Hopkinson produced for Tapestry broke the mold of what constitutes “opera” and helped bring experimental opera into the mainstream.

After “Nigredo Hotel” a crisis arose as money for touring began to dry up. The success of “No No Miya” (1995) by John Kormorous turned the tide and the Canada Council after seeing it decided to include contemporary opera in its “opera funding envelope”. The presence in Toronto and partnerships with local theatre companies. Thus, “Still the Night” (1996) by Theresa Tova played at Theatre Passe Muraille, Stephen Sondheim’s “Passion” (1997) was produced in association with the Canadian Stage Company, and Rodney Sharman/Atom Egoyan’s “Elsewhereless” (1998) and Linda Catlin Smith’s “Facing South” (2003) premiered as part of the du Maurier World Stage Festival. Tapestry’s largest-scale work to date was “Iron Road” (2001) by Chan Ka Nin and Mark Brownell that played to 8,110 people over nine performances at the Elgin.

In the future the long-term goal is to have a regular season of pro-

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ductions in Toronto. The Opera Briefs program, in which 10-15 minute operas are created in a “Lib Lab” that brings composers and potential librettists together, has yielded evenings that now sell out. Strongman and Hopkinson foresee this “Opera-to-Go” format every second year, alternating with a mainstage production.

In its endeavours Tapestry has discovered other like-minded companies abroad leading to new international collaborations. Spring 2006 will see the premiere of a 45-minute work by James Rolfe and Camyar Chai created for the Manhattan School of Music. Also on the way is a contemporary version of “Antigone” by Christos Hatzis and Jocelyn Clarke, dramaturge for the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, in conjunction with Music Theatre Group of New York and famed director Anne Bogart’s SIT! Company, to premiere in 2008. Hopkinson says, “It’s a wonderful opportunity for our artists to have-premieres and receive exposure outside of Canada.” In general, Tapestry has moved beyond conventional notions of what kind of subject matter Canadian operas should treat, what “opera music” is and where opera can be performed. How has Tapestry found so much success? As Strongman says, “Because new opera works.”

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Operas at Home

How To Film Opera

Two Masterful Butterflies

by Phil Ehrensaft

Filming opera on location, or in the studio, presents challenges distinct from those involved in capturing a performance on the opera house stage. In the latter instance, whether the filming is before a live audience or not, the film director’s job is effective communication of performance goals that have been defined by the conductor and the stage director.

If there are too many full stage views, the film is a static bore. If there’s too much zooming in and out, the result is distraction akin to a Mexican jumping bean. A successful balance requires both a deep knowledge of opera and cinematic talent.

The ante is upped when the performance is filmed on location or in the studio. In this case the film director becomes the stage director, and a stage director with a bigger bag of tricks than is available even on the stages of the great international opera houses. Go on location or in the studio, and the cinematic tail really gets a chance to wag the opera dog.

Film directors can imagine themselves to be the next Orson Welles (not bloody likely), and the opera is lost in a flurry of offbeat camera angles. The director’s energies must be united with those of first-class musicians responsive to the distinctive demands of on-site or in-studio performance. Scenes are shot in slices according to physical context rather than the actual sequence of the opera.

If the great castle hall scenes occur at the beginning and end of the opera, you shoot these first, and then move to the middle battlefield scenes. The cast and director, however, must convince you that all is proceeding normally.

Two very different films of Puccini’s Madama Butterfly, both now available on DVD, are paragons of how the right chemistry can be sustained and captured on the silver screen. The first is a 1974 on-site film directed by “the father of modern opera films,” Jean-Pierre Ponnelle. Universal has done its usual sterling job in transferring the class act images and sound of the original 35 mm film to DVD. Von Karajan conducts the Vienna Philharmonic. Mirella Freni is Butterfly, Placido Domingo is Pinkerton, and Christa Ludwig is Suzuki, all under 40 and thus visually and musically matched to their roles. Oh my.

Understated colours convey Puccini’s sense of Japan’s emotional climate. Unusual camera angles work beautifully because they communicate Ponnelle’s deeply informed reading of Puccini’s angle on the matter at hand. Ponnelle directed 16 opera films as a life’s mission. Arias, as con-
vevors of internal emotional dialogue, are sometimes preceded by the protagonist standing silently while his or her singing plays in the background. This may or may not be your cup of tea (it certainly is mine). What's clear is the impressive confluence of a great film director, great opera and great musicians.

In 1956, the director/actor/screenwriter Mario Lanfranchi upset the Italian opera world’s applecart by casting a 24-year-old opera student from Wayne, Pennsylvania, in the title role for an RAI television production of Madama Butterfly. Remember that the general Italian public followed opera on TV with passions equal to that for the national sport, soccer. The younger was Anna Moffo. All of Italy promptly fell in love with the kid from Pennsylvania. That included Lanfranchi, who married her the next year. RAI gave Moffo a national TV show. Moffo became one of the Metropolitan Opera’s top sopranos.

What we see on VAI’s recently issued DVD transfer is a grainy, black-and-white film of a rightfully legendary performance, albeit with a surprisingly good mono soundtrack. The camera work deserves to be studied in film schools. The great opera conductor Olivero De Fabritius wields the baton. A young Renato Cioni also makes his debut as the Pinkerton that Puccini intended.

Today Pinkerton is habitually portrayed as a narcissistic young naval officer. Puccini’s Pinkerton is an arrogant Yankee imperialist, full of bite. Italians in the 1950’s remembered all too well how Churchill, at the conclusion of World War II, suppressed the Italian resistance movement because it included too many Reds. Cioni, backed by Lanfranchi and De Fabritius, give us Puccini’s Pinkerton.

Order of Canada: Three TMA members will be invested into the Order of Canada. Congratulations to Paul Hoffert, founding member of Lighthouse, hi-tech guru and educator, to Fern Watkin, recently retired long-term Musical Director for the Charlottetown Festival, and to singer-songwriter Susan Aglukark, who has been making her mark internationally. All three are honoured for the contributions they make to the community above and beyond their musical endeavours.

JUNO Winners: Congratulations to Local 149 JUNO winners: Best Album & Group - Billy Talent; Best Rock Album - Sum 41; Vocal Jazz Album - Diana Krall; Contemporary Jazz Album - Hilario Duran; Traditional Jazz Album - David Braid; Classical Album Large Ensemble - Tatelmusik; Reggae Recording - Sonia Collymore; World Music Album - African Guitar Summit (Adam Solomon and Madagascan Slim members); Music DVD - Blue Rodeo. Local 149 shone in just about every category except International - which goes to non Canadians!

Music Education Program: The TMA launched our new Music Education Program in Toronto area schools Wednesday April 27th at St. Boniface Catholic School in Scarborough. St. Boniface is identified and dynamic career. He was President Emeritus of the TMA and a member of the Board of Governors and beneficiaries.

Music Education Committee of the TMA is very excited about the potential of our program to provide support for music teachers and music programs, and to offer musical dimensions which may not be available to students otherwise. The members of the TMA are uniquely suited to providing supplementary music teaching programs, often being more than qualified educators as well.

The program, intended for students in grades 6, 7 and 8 who may not have had exposure to a music program before, is a unique introduction to concepts of rhythm, and can be fun and challenging for students at all levels in this age group. The full program comprises elements of improvisation, movement, and Latin-based rhythms.

For more information contact: Nancy Neal or Jim Brios at 416-497-4702; bj bios@torontomusicians.org; view www.torontomusicians.org.

Music Scholarship: On November 28, 2003, Toronto Musicians’ Association past-president J. Alan Wood passed away after a dedicated and dynamic career. He was President Emeritus of the TMA and a long-serving Vice President from Canada on the International Executive Board of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada. Alan’s accomplishments on behalf of Canadian musicians over his career are more than space allows but one of the most rewarding for him was his stewardship of the AFM-EPW Fund (Canada) which currently provides monthly benefits to over 1500 pensioners and beneficiaries.

Throughout his career, Alan supported and promoted the education of young Canadian music talent. His commitment to the National Youth Orchestra of Canada was well known by all who knew Alan. In honour of Alan’s career and in order to continue his dedication to the training of young Canadian musicians, the J. Alan Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established with the support of the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada and many of Alan’s former colleagues. The scholarship is to provide assistance talented needy NYOC students.

The TMA urges you to consider becoming a financial supporter of the J. Alan Wood Memorial Scholarship. Any donations to the Scholarship will be used solely for the purposes of providing assistance to the students. The Scholarship would appreciate donations of any amount. All donations are tax deductible.

Please make cheques payable to the NYOC - J. Alan Wood Memorial Scholarship Fund and send to the NYOC, 258 Adelaide St. E., Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1N1. For more info call 416-497-4702 or contact Barbara Smith, Executive Director of the NYOC.

We’d like to hear from you: The TMA invites WholeNote readers to give us your feedback on this new column. Please include your suggestions for new items relating to members of the TMA, please forward them to Brian@Blain.com. Please include the word “wholenote” in the subject line.

SING FOR THE LOVE OF OPERA? WE MIGHT HAVE A PART FOR YOU. The Toronto Opera Repertoire, under Artistic Director Giuseppe Macina invites trained singers to try out for a role. We will present 2 of: Offenbach’s Tales of Hoffmann, Verdi’s Rigoletto, and Lehár’s The Merry Widow.

Tenors and Baritones are particularly encouraged to audition.

Auditions 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, June 10, 2005

call Mr. Macina 416-698-3287

No Audition required to sing in Chorus

Come and Enjoy our 39th Season in February 2006!
Shearing turned down the opportunity to become a Steinway artist because he would have had to give up his beloved Bosendorfer.

There's no music without instruments, whether they're acoustic, electric, or computer-driven. Great musicians flourish with great instruments, and the characteristics of the instruments available undoubtedly influence what composers write and how the music is performed. The Royal Ontario Museum's collection of historical musical instruments, the most important in Canada, has been languishing in storage since 1991, following the last round of renovations. A whole generation of students and music-lovers has been deprived of this fascinating collection, which includes the virtuoso double bass player Dragonetti's own instrument from 1600, an Italian virginal from 1650, an early piano forte by Broadwood, and an entrancing collection of dancing tric, or computer-driven. Great musicians flourish with great instruments, and the characteristics of the instruments available undoubtedly influence what composers write and how the music is performed. The Royal Ontario Museum's collection of historical musical instruments, the most important in Canada, has been languishing in storage since 1991, following the last round of renovations. A whole generation of students and music-lovers has been deprived of this fascinating collection, which includes the virtuoso double bass player Dragonetti's own instrument from 1600, an Italian virginal from 1650, an early piano forte by Broadwood, and an entrancing collection of dancing masters' pocket violins. The president of the ROM, William Thorsell, was quoted in the Globe and Mail on April 16 saying that in the newly rebuilt galleries 'all the ROM's collections will be represented. Each will have its own permanent gallery.' It's time that the ROM's musical instrument collection is included in 'all the ROM's collections', and is finally put back on display.

his left hand forced him to give up performing as a violinist. When his hearing started deteriorating, he got a hearing aid, which he hid by growing his hair long. His students nicknamed him 'the old hippy'. His encounters with extraordinary musicians like Stokowski and Beecham, and his extensive travels, when he took Canadian music and musicians around the world, are especially fascinating.

**Alexander Brott: My Lives in Music by Alexander Brott and Betty Nygaard King Mosaic Press 241 pages, photos; $24.95**

As a violinist, composer, conductor, and teacher, Alexander Brott had an enormous impact on Canadian music. From the dizzying descriptions in his autobiography, published just before he died on April 1, he seems to have accomplished enough for a few lives. Written with the sensitive co-authorship of Betty Nygaard King, this delightful memoir effectively conveys the distinctive voice of this audaciously colourful character. Right from his early years in Montreal, when music represented a 'dream world which in one could escape from our impoverished life', he was driven by a strong vision. His wife Lotte, a cellist, later shared in his professional endeavours, undeterred by debilitating illnesses, until her death in 1998. Their two sons, both musicians, have provided affectionate, telling introductions. Brott reveals that problems with

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**Winter Music: Composing the North**

By John Luther Adams Wesleyan University Press 228 pages, photos, examples from scores; CD enclosed; $31.00

Composer John Luther Adams’ writings reveal his passionate engagement with his environment. That relationship is clearly at the heart of his music. After he sees ‘space that is almost too big’, on a trip to the Arctic National Wildlife Range, he uses this vision to write *Earth and the Great Weather*. His purpose is ‘to celebrate a sacred place, and to invite the listener on an aural journey through its landscapes, both imaginary and real’. In fact, he sees his role as a composer moving beyond self-expression to social activism, bound up with fighting for the protection of his beloved Alaskan homeland. Adams draws on an array of influences, but his teachers Morton Feldman and James Tenney, who taught at York University for twenty-four years, loom largest. Adams started out as rock drummer, then eventually realized he ‘wanted to combine the energy of rock music with the rhythmic complexity of “art” music.’

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**Django: The Life and Music of a Gypsy Legend by Michael Dregni**

344 pages, photos; $36.95

‘What troubles he gave me’, recalls violinist Stéphane Grappelli, Django Reinhardt’s partner in the legendary Quintette du Hot Club de France, in Michael Dregni’s lively biography of the elusive guitarist. Reinhardt could hear everything and play anything. Even after a horrendous fire in his caravan when he was eighteen left the fourth and fifth fingers of his left hand immobilized, his improvisations were extravagantly virtuosic. Dregni traces the development of his musical style, from his traditional Gypsy roots, to his innovative adaptation of the pumping rhythmical style of the Paris dance halls, to jazz. Throughout, Dregni offers vivid descriptions of the extraordinary recordings which remain Reinhardt’s glorious legacy.

Although we learn a lot about Reinhardt’s ‘uncensored’ character, what’s missing is his inner life. But this is no failing on Dregni’s part. He vividly describes the very strange Gypsy values that shaped this genius who lived ‘purely for the moment’. But Reinhardt learned to read and write only late in his short life. So, even though he died just fifty years ago, very few documents exist. Fortunately, Dregni never indulges in speculation about Reinhardt’s thoughts and feelings, relying on his thorough research as well as his own first-hand investigations. ‘Above all’, Dregni writes in this superb biography, Reinhardt ‘lived for the music’.

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Kyle Gann’s thoughtful introduction questions and explores the connection between musical expression and geography. To their credit, Wesleyan University Press has included a disc of Adams’ music with this thought-provoking, well-produced collection of writings, several of which have previously appeared in Toronto’s Musicworks magazine.

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**Lullaby of Birdland: The Autobiography of George Shearing by George Shearing with Alyn Shipton**

Continuum 271 pages, photos; $36.50 hc; $18.95 paper

The title of jazz pianist George Shearing’s autobiography comes from his most popular song, and sets the tone for this gentle, candid memoir. Shearing attributes the hardship of his childhood in England not to his blindness, but to the lack of affection among the members of his large family. Since he was blind from birth, he never missed having vision. In fact, he sees blindness as a gift, providing a unique perspective which he describes with insight. Out of both his blindness and his alienation from the poverty, alcoholism, and lack of ambition that marked his family, he developed his extraordinary ‘ability to conceptualize the world through sound’.

When Shearing first arrived in New York at the beginning of bebop, he ‘knew there was a necessity for a softer, more romantic approach’. Thus evolved his famously elegant, subtle style, with his atmospheric voicings and distinctive ‘locked hands’ technique. ‘The funkiest of the funky’ his long-time partner, singer Mel Tormé, called him. Now eighty-five, he eventually started working in small groups like his duos with Canadian bassists Don Thompson and Neil Swanson. Co-author Alyn Shipton has skillfully polished Shearing’s distinctive, charming voice, while preserving his genial - and often corny - humour and his compelling self-awareness.
WholeNote's Annual
Canary Pages
A Choral Directory

May 2005
Welcome

to the Canary Pages 2005, WholeNote’s annual choral directory! This year’s directory includes 159 Ontario choirs—large and small, for young and old, auditioned and not, singing in a number of musical styles and from many different traditions.

Choirs are listed alphabetically in the main part of the directory. Each listing includes a 100-word description of the choir or choral organization followed by contact information. The directory is useful for choral fans and canaries of all sorts: if you are a potential chorister (or already singing but looking for something with different challenges and opportunities), it gives you information about sign-up and/or audition procedures for each choir; if you are a concertgoer, it gives you general information on the repertoire and concert planning of the choirs.

At the back of the Canary Pages, choirs are listed by category. You can use the categories at the back to help narrow your search. If a choir description catches your imagination, look to see when they are performing and go and hear them, sit in on a rehearsal, or check out the choir’s website. If you’re still interested, call them up and join or book an audition!

If you’ve got a dream to sing, you’ll find a choir to sing in, right here. I’m a big advocate for choral singing and have witnessed how profoundly the simple act of getting together with others to make music builds community and raises the spirits of that community. A choir can make a meaningful difference in the lives of its singers and its audience.

There is so much fantastic repertoire available for choirs today, from the great oratorios and passions of Handel, Elgar, Mendelssohn and Bach to the remarkable music being written in Canada today by first-rate choral composers such as R. Murray Schafer, Ruth Watson Henderson, and Harry Freedman. Add to this Ontario’s roster of exceptionally talented choir conductors, and an always expanding choral repertoire available including jazz, world, folk, and popular music, and you have one of the most vibrant choral scenes in the country right at your doorstep.

As you read on, please consider getting involved in a choral community. If you have a choral background and want a committed choral experience, or just simply like to sing in the shower and think it would be fun to raise your voice with others, your life will be enriched by the act of joining a choir. Even if you can’t sing, you can learn! Or be on the sidelines and offer your services in another capacity, such as ticket-taking, envelope-stuffing, setting up chairs, or sitting on a Board of Directors.

From personal experience, I can say that choral singing truly does make one a better person. The transcendent experience of breathing in, breathing out, and assigning pitch, duration, and text, without an instrument, just using my natural voice, and doing this alongside friends; well, there truly is no better feeling. I recommend it highly.

With 159 choirs at your fingertips, there is no excuse to not get involved with a choir. So read on, and get out there and sing!

Larry Beckwith
Achill Choral Society

This mixed 85-voice community choir of accomplished amateur singers, under the direction of A. Dale Wood, delights local audiences in Alliston, Beeton, Caledon, Orangeville, Shelburne and Tottenham. Founded in 1982, the choir has attracted many guests and companions of the highest calibre. Our extensive library of classical and contemporary repertoire is available to other choirs through our website. Having toured in England, Holland, and Ireland, we plan to celebrate our 25th anniversary with a Canadian tour. Concert series are performed in November and April, in addition to community events. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings in Hockley. Auditions are held twice annually.

Cathy Whitcombe: 519-941-9966
www.achillchoral.on.ca

Alexander Singers and Players

The Alexander Singers started in 1987 as a summer choir. Under the enthusiastic direction of Angela Hawaleshka, Alexander Singers has evolved to enjoy near-professional status. With a strong educational mandate, members grow in their ability to sing and in performances skills. Indeed, many have gone on to enjoy successful professional careers. The choir’s annual spring productions have included Merry Widow, Die Fledermaus, Sweeten Todd, Fiddler on the Roof, The Most Happy Fella and several G&S operettas. Each December a choral concert is presented, with rehearsals commencing in September. All are welcome to join this Festival Choir.

hawaleshka@sympatico.ca
Angela Hawaleshka: 416-324-1259
www.alexandersingers.com

All the King’s Voices

ATKV is a mixed-voice community choir dedicated to enabling amateur singers to experience the joy of singing works from a wide variety of choral genres. Founder and conductor David J. King, assisted by a highly trained accompanist and 6 section leads, provides professional leadership. Annual sight singing courses help choristers improve their musical skills. Next season’s concerts include Christmas for Kids, November 27, Christmas Classics, December 17, Songs of Love and Laughter, February 11, and An Evening of Gilbert and Sullivan, April 29. ATKV rehearses September to May on Tuesdays 7:30-10pm at Willowdale United Church, 349 Kenneth Avenue, Toronto.

annexsingersoftoronto@gmail.com
David King: 416-225-2225
www.allthekingsvoices.ca

Annex Singers of Toronto

The Annex Singers Choir is a non-auditioned high-spirited choir with a quickly growing reputation. We welcome new members with a wide range of vocal experience. Rehearsals are weekly, beginning the first Monday in September and the first Monday in January and the first Monday after the Easter concert. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at 7.30pm at St. Thomas Anglican Church, 383 Huron Street, Toronto. Director Lawrence Goudge will be leaving the choir in June and the search is on for a new director.

Richard Parlington: 416-968-7747
www.anexsingers.com

Amabile Choirs of London

The Amabile Choirs of London, Canada are celebrating 20 years of musical excellence. Amabile is recognized as one of the premiere choral ensembles for children and youth. Approximately 300 choristers ages 8-24 rehearse weekly with the following choirs: Amabile Youth Singers, John Barron and Brenda Zadorsky, conductors; Junior Amabile Singers and Amabile DeCapo (Training) Choir, Jacqueline Norman and Wendy Gee, conductors, Amabile Boys Choirs (Treble Concert Choir, Young Men’s Ensemble, Primus Choir), Carol Beynon and Ken Fleet, conductors; and Amabile Chamber Choir, John Barron, Brenda Zadorsky, Carol Beynon and Ken Fleet, conductors. Auditions for the 2005-2006 season are in May/June.

admin@amabile.com
519-641-6795
www.amabile.com

Amadeus Choir

The Amadeus Choir is the 100-voice, semi-professional choir-in-residence at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. Lydia Adams is the conductor and artistic director. The choir rehearses Tuesday evenings in the Don Mills Road/Lawrence Avenue area. The 2005/2006 season includes a four-concert series, single performances, run-outs and recording sessions, and will feature Handel’s Messiah, along with works by Glick, Daley, Togni, Distler, Brahmns and Vaughan Williams, sometimes with orchestral accompaniment. Membership is by audition, held in May/June each year.

amachoirdirect.com
Judith Young: 416-446-0188
www.amadeuschoir.com

Anniversary of Toronto

The Annex Singers Choir is a non-auditioned high-spirited choir with a quickly growing reputation. We welcome new members with a wide range of vocal experience. Rehearsals are weekly, beginning the first Monday in September and the first Monday in January and the first Monday after the Easter concert. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at 7.30pm at St. Thomas Anglican Church, 383 Huron Street, Toronto. Director Lawrence Goudge will be leaving the choir in June and the search is on for a new director.

Richard Parlington: 416-968-7747
www.anexsingers.com

Anno Domini Chamber Singers

ADCS was established in 2000 as a chamber choir committed to artistic excellence through the performance of sacred choral music. We are a dedicated and enthusiastic group of 18 choristers from a variety of backgrounds. We perform in concert three to four times per year and sing at charity events and weddings. Our repertoire ranges from chant and Renaissance polyphony to more contemporary works. We rehearse on Monday evenings from September to June. If you are an experienced chorister with good reading skills, a passion for sacred music, and are looking for an intimate choral experience, please contact us for an audition.

David Jafelice: 416-696-0093
davidjal@sympatico.ca

Arcady

Arcady is an ensemble dedicated to the recording and performance of the music of Ronald Beckett. The choir has established a reputation for its energetic and imaginative performances of early music. It combine outstanding young Canadian performers, mostly performance majors or recent graduates, with established professional instrumentalists and singers. Arcady offers between 20 and 30 performances in Toronto and southwestern Ontario each year, with programs ranging from flute and piano duos to full choral-orchestral performances. The choir has appeared on TVO’s On Stage at Studio 2 and is heard frequently on classical radio. Audition inquiries are welcome.

info@arcady.ca
Ronald Beckett: 519-428-3185
www.arcady.ca

Bach Children’s Chorus and Bach Chamber Youth Choir

BCC consists of 180 auditioned singers in choirs of differing ability levels—three treble choirs for children aged 6-16 and an SATB choir for changed voices and girls aged 16 and up. All choirs rehearse weekly in east Scarborough and perform twice yearly at the Toronto Centre for the Arts, and also appear regularly at Toronto events. Each choir participates in weekend excursions involving festivals, workshops and concerts with other youth choirs and world-renowned clinicians. BCC has released four solo CDs and has won provincial and national choral awards. Founder and music director Linda Beaupré is a well-known Toronto guest conductor and clinician.

bachchildrenchorus@bellnet.ca
Jane Greenwood: 416-431-0790
www.bachchorus.org

Bach Consort Chorus

The Bach Consort is a group of instrumentalists, vocal soloists and choristers who gather together two or three times a year to perform concerts in aid of charity. The Bach Consort involves some of Canada’s finest instrumentalists and singers. The Bach Consort Chorus brings together some of the finest choral singers in the country, many of them hailing from celebrated groups like the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir and Exultate Chamber Singers. Contact timojo58@hotmail.com to book an audition for the fifth annual presentation of Bach’s Christmas Oratorio (complete; with intermission meal) under the direction of the returning Yannick Nézet-Séguin on December 16, 2005.

timojo58@hotmail.com

May 2005
WWW.THEWHOLENOTE.COM
Canady Pages
Bach Elgar Choir of Hamilton

The Elgar Choir was first established in 1905, while the Bach Choir was organized in 1932. Following the war, the two choirs amalgamated into the Bach Elgar Choir, which has performed for Hamilton and Canadian audiences ever since.

The Bach Elgar Choir is the premiere symphonic oratorio chorus in the Hamilton Region and is the second-oldest choral organization in Canada. The choir is now entering its 110th year. We perform many premieres, including Verdi's Requiem and Henryk Gorecki's Miserere. We have a four-concert season and regularly feature the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra.

Bachelgar@sympatico.ca  
Kathleen Foster: 905-527-5995  
www.bachelgar.com

Bell’Arte Singers

The Bell’Arte Singers, founded in February 1988 by Dr. Lee Willingham and a group of enthusiastic colleagues, is one of Canada’s finest community choirs. Audience demand led to a yearly three-concert series as well as several guest performances with many notable ensembles. The choir has established itself in all genres of repertoire and styles through concerts, recordings, and broadcasts. The Bell’Arte Singers participate in special benefit concerts for charity and church outreach organizations. Rehearsals are held on Saturday mornings. Auditions are held as required to fill vacancies in the group.

manager@bellartesingers.ca  
Jim Service: 416-699-5879  
www.bellartesingers.com

Blessed Trinity Choir

Since 1970, Blessed Trinity Choir has enjoyed performing a varied repertoire in Sunday Mass and other liturgical celebrations, and performances at various Ontario and Quebec churches. The choir has a recorded, sung and sung through Italy, including High Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica and the City of Rome Concert. Planning and rehearsals for our 2006 tour of Strasbourg and Vienna are underway.

info@bramptonfestivalingers.ca  
Carol Barber: 905 450-5659  
www.bramptonfestivalingers.ca

Brantford Children’s Chorus

The Brantford Children’s Chorus was established in 1994 under the name Brant County Youth Singers. It is an auditioned treble chorus open to children and youth ages 6–18 from Brantford and Brant County. In 2004, the name changed to Brantford Children’s Chorus. Now in its eleventh year, the Chorus has become a high-profile representative of the City of Brantford and Brant County in the field of choral music. Since its inaugural year, the Chorus has grown from one choir with 45 members to three choirs with 85 members.

info@brantfordchildrenschorus.ca  
Glenys Gould: 519-759-7349  
www.brantfordchildrenschorus.ca

Bloor Street Gospel Chorus

The Bloor Street Gospel Chorus is a non-denominational, non-auditioned community choir, directed by Paul Wisniewski. Rehearsals are Monday evenings 7:30–9:30 pm at Bloor Street United Church, 300 Bloor Street West. We are active from September to May, and perform two concerts each year along with other occasional events.

Founded in 1997, the Chorus is a project of the Worship Committee at the Bloor Street United Church (BSUC). Chorus members need not belong to BSUC or any other church. We welcome a variety of spiritual perspectives. Our repertoire is based on gospel anthems, popular music, and traditional African music.

megan.parry@rogers.com  
Megan Parry: 416-530-1710

Brampton Festival Singers

BFS is a community choral ensemble, serving Brampton since 1985, striving for excellence in music from classical to pop. We are always looking for new voices, especially tenors and basses, for the 30-person choir. Rehearsals are every Tuesday evening at St. Paul’s United Church, 30 Main Street South in Brampton. We perform three concerts a year with often more than one performance per concert. The artistic director of the choir is Stéphane Potvin.

info@bramptonfestivalingers.ca  
Carol Barber: 905 450-5659  
www.bramptonfestivalingers.ca

Canadian Boys’ Choir

The Canadian Boys’ Choir exists to provide boys aged 7 and up with the opportunity to enjoy singing at the very highest level. The Boys’ Choir is a non-liturgical community choir which presents an annual series of concerts. Rehearsals are held once a week in mid-town Toronto. Theory, musicianship and workshops with professional artists all combine to provide boys with a well-rounded musical education. Recreational activities are also offered, complementing the choir’s artistic goals to create a happy environment particularly suited for musical boys. Auditions are held from May to September. Enquiries are welcome.

canadianboyschoir@sympatico.ca  
Thomas Bell: 416-807-8714

Canadian Children’s Opera Chorus

In its 37th season, the CCOC consists of five choirs: Principal (ages 10–16), Youth (ages 14–19), Apprentice II (ages 9–11), Apprentice I (ages 7–9), and Ruby (ages 5–7). It is the only permanent children’s opera chorus in Canada to regularly commission and produce operas for children. The programme prepares young people for the complex, vibrant world of opera, while offering excellent musical and dramatic training. Members regularly perform with the Canadian Opera Company, and throughout the GTA. Rehearsals take place weekdays after school in the downtown area. Auditions are held in May/June. Artistic director: Ann Cooper Gay.

info@canadianchildrensopera.com  
416-366-0467  
www.canadianchildrensopera.com

Canadian Orpheus Male Choir

The Canadian Orpheus Male Choir, now in its 28th season, is a well-balanced auditioned ensemble of 75 singers. Now under the direction of David Davis, the choir has performed to 500 concerts nationally and internationally, with a repertoire of classical, sacred, pop, jazz, and gospel music. The choir has toured the UK, continental Europe, Ireland, Canada and the USA, and has been invited back to Royal Albert Hall in 2006 to perform as part of the 1000-male-voice Welsh Festival in London. Through its annual concert series in southern Ontario, the choir has helped raise more than $700,000 to date for charities.

twavo@hotmail.com  
Ted van Overdijk: 905-659-7046  
www.com.ca

Canadian Singers

The Canadian Singers are a semi-professional vocal group of eight experienced singers who perform an exciting repertoire of all-Canadian music ranging from Healey Willan to Shania Twain under the direction of Harvey Patterson. The Singers have performed in Roy Thomson Hall, Markham Theatre, Hart House and Nathan Phillips Square with such artists as Liana
Cantabile Choirs of Kingston
The Cantabile Choirs of Kingston, an award-winning multi-choir educational programme founded in 1996 by Mark Sirett, consists of seven choirs: Training Choir (ages 8-9), Children (ages 10-13), Girls (teens), Young Men (teens), Youth Singers (teens), Madrigal Singers (teens) and an adult Women’s Chorus. Auditions are held in the spring of each year for the upcoming season that runs from early September until the end of May. Season subscriptions for the concert series held at Sydenham Street United Church, Kingston, are available until October 20. Touring, guest choirs, and recording form a major component of the organization.

info@cantabile.kingston.net
613-542-9616 x24
http://cantabile.kingston.net

Cantabile Chorale of York Region
Cantabile Chorale is a 40-voice mixed adult choir founded in 1973 by Robert Richardson that gives 8-10 performances a year, mainly in the southern York Region. The choir has a broad repertoire embracing classical and contemporary works, both sacred and secular, and frequently performs with other local musical ensembles. Membership is by audition and new choristers are always welcome. Applicants should have good sight reading abilities and be committed to the joy and discipline of good choral singing. Rehearsals take place on Monday evenings in Thornhill from September to June. An annual weekend retreat is also held in September.

cantable@primus.ca
Robert Richardson: 905-731-8318
www.cantabile.ca

Cantores Celestes Women’s Choir
Founded sixteen years ago, this highly-trained 40-voice women’s choir, whose motto is ‘Share Your Song’, has produced three CDs to rave reviews and performed live on CBC Radio. The choir relies on audience attendance and corporate sponsors instead of government grants, and always donates some concert proceeds to local charities. Directed by Kelly Galbraith, the choir’s repertoire includes von Bingen, Pergolesi, Vivaldi, Fauré, Holst, contemporary composers, and gospel and Celtic music. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7-9pm at Runnymede United Church in Bloor West Village, September to May. The choir has been chosen to participate at Newfoundland’s Festival 500, July 2005.

sing@www.cantorescelestes.com
Kelly Galbraith: 416-236-1522
www.cantorescelestes.com

Caribbean Chorale of Toronto
The Caribbean Chorale of Toronto was formed in 1993 and comprises members of Caribbean heritage from the choirs of St. Michael the Archangel Anglican Church, New Dawn Moravian Church, and the Toronto East Seventh Day Adventist Church. This group was further incorporated in 1995 as a non-profit group. The choir’s wide repertoire includes music from various categories along with folk music from the Caribbean Islands.

Reginald Cornelius: 416-421-3301

Cellar Singers
The Cellar Singers, directed by Albert Greer with Blair Bailey as accompanist, are in their 37th year. They present four major concerts each season (two are repeated) in the Huronia-Muskoka area. Performances include complete traditional oratorios, with professional vocal soloists and orchestras, shorter works, and Canadian compositions. The eighty members, chosen by audition, rehearse weekly for three hours. The choir has participated in many special performances and toured internationally. The Cellar Singer’s second CD was released last fall. As well as volunteering for some organizational duties, all choristers participate in fundraising.

mjarvis@csolve.net
Jan Jarvis: 705-326-2619
www.thecellarsingers.com

Centenary Choir of Hamilton
The 30-member auditioned choir of Centenary United Church in Hamilton sings weekly services and presents regular concerts from September to June. The choir has collaborated in the past with the Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Symphony and the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, and last year performed guest composer Paul Halley’s Earth Mass and an Ontario premiere of Karl Jenkins’s The Armed Man: A Mass For Peace for chorus and chamber orchestra. Our Choral Scholarship program established by the late Mr. James Morrow annually gives up to five students the opportunity to sing while continuing their secondary or post-secondary education. Shawn Grenke is the minister of music.

shawn.grenke@utoronto.ca
905-522-6843
www.centenaryunited.com

Choirs of the Church of St. Mary Magdalen
The choirs of the Church of St. Mary Magdalen are composed of two separate ensembles: the Ritual Choir, which sings plainchant, and the Gallery Choir, which sings unaccompanied polyphony, and is especially known for its interpretation of the compositions of Dr. Healey Willan. The choirs rehearse on Thursday evenings for the hymns, Masses and motets sung at the 11am Sunday Mass, and occasional concerts. The choirs welcome new members. Please contact director of music Dr. Willis Noble or assistant conductor Judith Young to arrange an audition.

smmsingers@hotmail.com
Willis Noble: 416-978-3611
Judith Young: 416-446-0188
www.stmarymagdalen.ca

Chorus Niagara
St. Catharines’ premiere choir organization, now in its 42nd season, has grown considerably and now has 100 singers. In 1989, Robert Cooper became artistic director. His presence has enhanced their performances significantly. Chorus Niagara now provides the St. Catharines community with the opportunity to hear and participate in choral masterworks under the direction of one of Canada’s leading choral conductors. Throughout its 42 years, Chorus Niagara has continued to perform mainly classical works, with commissions and light classical work rounding out its repertoire. Chorus Niagara is committed to programming that offers quality and excellence with a strong awareness of Canadian content.

cnadmin@becon.org
Johanna Cotte: 905-371-1518
www.chorusniagara.ca

Choirs Ontario
Choirs Ontario is an arts organization that promotes and celebrates choral music-making in Ontario. Our members, both organizations and individuals, believe that choral music is vital to our lives and enriches society. We serve the needs of choirs, conductors, choristers, composers, administrators, and educators as well as anyone who enjoys listening to the sound of choral music.

info@choirsontario.org
Katherine MacDonald: 416-923-1144
www.choirsontario.org

Christ Church Deer Park
At this dynamic Anglican parish in mid-town Toronto, there are three choirs, all under the direction of Bruce Kirkpatrick Hill. The Senior Choir, led by eight professionals, sings the best of Anglican liturgical music every Sunday morning at 11am, with concerts and other special events, September to June. They rehearse Thursday nights at 7:30pm. A less ambitious adult choir, led by four professional singers, rehearses Thursdays, 6:45-7:15pm and sings twice a month at the early service. The Junior Choir rehearses Wednesday afternoons, and sings twice a month. Music theory and the fundamentals of singing are taught.

bkhill@christchurchdeerpark.org
Bruce K. Hill: 416-920-5211 x28
www.christchurchdeerpark.org
Common Thread: Community Chorus of Toronto

Common Thread is a 70-voice non-auditioned choir conducted by Isabel Bernaua, promoting community and social justice through a repertoire based in multicultural folk music traditions. We welcome singers with a wide range of musical experience and cultural backgrounds. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 6:45-9:30pm at Cecil Community Centre (Spadina and College) September through May. Our season includes two small concerts plus two performances of a full-length concert at the end of May. Orientation and vocal placement sessions for those on our waiting list are held in March and June with intake of new members in September.

cchorus@interlog.com
Angelina Mihaljic: 416-410-5022
www.interlog.com/-ctchorus/

Coro San Marco

Founded in 1995 by current artistic director Daniel Colla, the choir’s 50 members share a love for folk, classical and operatic music, and participate in many concerts and festivals, averaging over ten concerts a year. They have performed at Roy Thomson Hall, at the Museum of Civilization in Ottawa, founded the annual multicultural choral festival Singing Together, and have performed with the Nova Amadeus Orchestra from Rome. With the Esprit Alliance Orchestra they premiered Albinoni’s Magnificat and G. Posocco’s Ave Maria. Coro San Marco has two recordings: Va’ pensiero / Longing Spirit, and songs of the Italian migration: Addio Patria Mia / Farewell My Homeland.

colladaniel@hotmail.com
www.corosanmarco.com

County Town Singers

CTS started as a small community choir to celebrate Canada’s centennial year. Under the direction of Barbara Ouellette, we are still “singing for the love of it” 38 years later. We are a 60-70 voice auditioned choir with a varied repertoire: show tunes to spirituals, folk to classical. We hold two major concerts per year, December and May, and concerts at smaller venues such as nursing homes or special functions like the final game of the Kia Cup Curling Championships in Whitby, Feb 2005. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:30-10pm at the Whitby Seniors Centre. Auditions are the first three Wednesdays of September and January.

jonesone@rogers.com
Linda Jones: 905-668-0083
www.countytownsingers.com

Darbazi

Darbazi is currently a ten-member Toronto-based vocal ensemble specializing in the richly varied harmonies of the Republic of Georgia, from the sublimely sacred to the uproariously secular. Formed in 1995, Darbazi has performed around southern Ontario, in Montreal and in St John’s. In October 2002, Darbazi was honoured to sing at the First International Symposium on Georgian Polyphony in Tbilisi, Georgia. A cappella or accompanied on traditional instruments, there are generally three vocal parts: two tenor voices and a baritone line (bani). We are actively seeking bass/baritones. Formal vocal training not a prerequisite but be up for a challenge. Weekly rehearsals.

colladaniel@hotmail.com
baniquest@sympatico.ca
Ray Kinoshita: 416-917-8571
www.darbazi.com

DCAT Chorus

DCAT (Drum Corps Alumni Toronto) is a non-audition choir consisting of more than sixty women and men, performing a broad repertoire of songs ranging from Broadway favourites to folklore, from pop to traditional, all in six-part harmony. The chorus is under the professional direction of Mr. Ted Key and has been entertaining audiences for the past ten years. The chorus has a performance schedule of twelve to fifteen shows per year. Rehearsals are 7:30-10pm Wednesdays at Estonian House, 958 Broadview Avenue, Toronto. Our goals are to provide a great activity for our members and wonderful performances for our audiences.

johnnye@rogers.com
lindajones@sympatico.ca
Becca Whitla:
www.dcatchorus.ca

Durham Community Choir

J.C. Coolen directs this mixed-voice community concert choir based at Durham College, University of Ontario Institute of Technology in Oshawa. As a non-audition choir, it welcomes all people 16 years of age and older who love and wish to sing, and aims to provide them with a joyful, educational and enjoyable music-making experience. In collaboration with professional guest musicians, it performs two concerts each year; Handel’s Messiah in late November and a secular program in early May. In advance of each concert, weekly rehearsals occur Mondays, 7:30-9:30pm, in Room C-113 of the Durham College UOIT Main Campus in north Oshawa.

jccoolen@hotmail.com
CarolyndJohnston: 905-668-0998
www.durhamcommunitychoir.ca

EAST York Choir

The EYC, founded in 1988, performs repertoire from classical, folk/world, jazz and musical theatre genres. Larger works, such as Carmina Burana, the Mozart Requiem and Handel’s Messiah have been performed with orchestra or instrumental ensemble. The EYC’s new artistic director is Jenny Crober, accompanist is Kristina Noj. We perform two regular concerts, and two or more community concerts each season. Our upcoming concert, “Legends and Lore”, will feature children’s chorus, narration, and African percussion, Saturday, May 28. Next season includes Vivaldi’s Gloria, and Messiah excerpts with the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra. Rehearsals are Monday evenings, Leaside Presbyterian Church, 670 Eglington, east of Bayview.

eastyorkchoir@sympatico.ca
Jenny Crober: 416-463-8225
www.eastyork.org/leychoir.html

ECHO Women’s Choir

ECHO is a 70-voice community choir open to women from all walks of life. ECHO sings each Tuesday night at Holy Trinity (beside the Eaton Centre), performs at city-wide grass-roots events, and holds December and May concerts. ECHO, a non-auditioned choir co-led by Becca Whitla and Alan Gasser, aims to build a strong, varied and vibrant culture and community through song. There is currently a waiting list. Repertoire includes music from village singing traditions around the world and newly-commissioned music. Membership fees and concert tickets are sliding scale. ECHO’s spring concert, “Under the Apple Tree”, is May 8 at 3pm at Holy Trinity.

info@echowomenschoir.ca
Becca Whitla: 416-588-9050 x3
www.echowomenschoir.ca

Elmer Iseler Singers

ELS is a twenty-voice professional chamber choir based in Toronto. Founded in 1979 by the late Dr. Elmer Iseler and now under the artistic direction of the acclaimed Lydia Adams, the Singers are known for their beauty of tone and wide interpretive range. They are highly valued for their contributions to master classes and workshops for schools and community choirs. The Singers are the professional...
Annual auditions are held in April/May at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Music. Weekly rehearsals, a Toronto concert series, and touring and recording make the Elmer Iseler Singers one of Canada’s most illustrious choral ensembles.

info@elmerselersingers.com
Jessie Iseler: 416-217-0537
www.elmerselersingers.com

ELORA FESTIVAL SINGERS
The Elora Festival Singers, founded by Noel Edison in 1980, is the principal vocal ensemble for the Elora Festival. The 24-voice professional choir performs regularly in Elora and Toronto and choristers rehearse weekly near Guelph. The EFS is also the core of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and the Mendelssohn Singers. Next season will highlight the Singers touring western Canada and recording for NAXOS.

info@elorafestivalsingers.org
519-846-0331
www.elonorafestivalsingers.org

ENSEMBLE TRYPTYCH
Chamber Choir
Ensemble Tryptych, a mixed choir of 30 singers, enters its fifth season in 2005/6 under the direction of Lenard Whiting, performing renaissance to contemporary music in 4 concerts a year, as well as joining Tryptych in their opera-in-concert performances. The choir is open to all, and rehearses at North Central Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2737 Bayview (just steps from the Bayview subway station), Tuesdays, September–May 7:30–9:30 pm. Repertoire includes oratorios, opera and smaller works, including 20th-century composers. Auditions are by appointment throughout the year, but most take place at the beginning of the concert season.

info@tryptych.org
Lenard Whiting: 416-782-8077
www.tryptych.org

ETOBICOKE YOUTH CHOIR
Music director Louise Jardine, now in her 11th season, helps develop the musical skills of the 40-50 members of the choir (ages 7-17, male and female) by inspiring artistic performance and making music fun. Choristers gain self-discipline, self-confidence, and self-reliance while sharing their talents. The choir performs contemporary, theatre, classical, and sacred repertoire. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings at Humberside United Church, 1447 Royal York Road, from September to June, with two main concerts, various community performances, and a cabaret featuring individual choristers. Fall and Spring Workshop Weekends provide intensive rehearsing and bonding. Entry by simple audition in January and May.
neyc.secretary@sympatico.ca
George: 416-231-9120
www.etobicokeyouthchoir.org

ETOBICOKE CENTENNIAL CHOIR
The 60-voice Etobicoke Centennial Choir is now in its 38th season of bringing the joy of choral music to our community. Under the skilled direction of Dr. Harris Loewen, the choir is continually challenged to pursue choral excellence. The three-concert season encompasses a varied repertoire of classical and contemporary works, including songs written for the choir. Choristers share great camaraderie and welcome new singers. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays 7:15–10pm from September through May at St. Andrew's United Church. Interested singers are invited to attend a rehearsal. Membership is by audition.

methernton@sympatico.ca
Mary Thornton: 416-620-1855
www.etobicookesings.com

EXULTATE CHAMBER SINGERS
Over a 24-year history, Exultate has garnered praise as a precise, passionate ensemble with a wide-ranging repertoire. Established by conductor John Tuttle, Exultate is enriched by the musicianship and varied backgrounds of its 22 members. Exultate’s third CD, The Present Time, was released in 2001; their fourth will be released in 2005. In 2004, Exultate was awarded both the First Place Prize in the Chamber Choir category and the Healey Willan Grand Prize in the CBC Radio Competition for Amateur Choirs. Exultate presents a four-concert subscription series in Toronto and makes guest appearances in various Ontario communities. Auditions are held as required to fill vacancies.

exultate@on.aibn.com
Alexandra D’arcy: 416-971-9229
www.exultate.on.ca

FANSHAWE CHORUS LONDON/
GERALD FAGAN SINGERS
Founded in 1979 by Gerald Fagan, artistic director, and Marlene Fagan, accompanist and general manager, the Chorus is a world-class, community-based ensemble of 110 with a sister organization, the Gerald Fagan Singers, a chamber choir of 28. Both are accompanied by the Concert Player Orchestra in a variety of concerts every year. Four CDs have been released recently, and the Chorus has twice earned a Lieutenant Governor’s Award for the Arts. Repertoire includes all the major choral works and contemporary works with a particular focus on Canadian composers. Singers who audition to join must read music and assist in some aspect of the organization’s operation.

info@choruslondon.com
Marlene Fagan: 519-433-9650
www.choruslondon.com

Forte
THE TORONTO MEN’S CHOIR
Forte, founded in 1997, is a non-profit, auditioned group of individuals dedicated to highlighting the talents of the gay community and building bridges to other communities through performance of a diverse repertoire of music and theatrical presentation. Under the musical direction of Edward Connel, the 30-member TTBB chorus mounts annual holiday and spring productions as well as performing at many community events. The choral season runs from the first week of September until after the annual Toronto Pride Week activities. Auditions are held in September and January. Rehearsals are held every Monday from 6:45-9:30pm at St. Andrew’s United Church, 117 Bloor Street East.

info@forte-chorus@rogers.com
Terry Thompson: 416-961-5708
www.forte-chorus.com

GEOGETOWN BACH CHORALE
Started in 1999, this non-profit chamber choir has a membership of 16 voices. Whilst emphasizing J.S. Bach, other classical composers’ works are performed as well. Concerts include four to five in the fall, Advent/Christmas, and spring concerts featuring choral and orchestral works, solo and instrumental items, and local and international artists. The choir performed in the Advent Festival in 2000 in Prague. Artistic director Ronald Greidanus has an established career as a concert pianist in Canada and abroad, and has performed for the Rachmaninoff Societies of England, USA, and Austria, and given recitals in France, Germany and Spain.

www.shuttleworth@hotmail.com
William Shuttleworth: 905-877-8321

GEORGIAN BAY CHILDREN’S CHOIR
The Georgian Bay Children’s Choir, conducted by Linda Hawkins, is a 35-voice community treble choir for children and youth ages 6–18, drawing its members from the southern Georgian Bay region of Ontario, with Owen Sound as the major centre. It was founded in 1986. There is a vocal assessment upon joining the choir. Georgian Bay Children’s Choir concerts are held twice a year in December and May. In addition, the choir has numerous singing engagements in the community. Repertoire includes traditional, British and Canadian contemporary, folk songs, spirituals and sacred. Fees vary according to choir level. Rehearsals are Mondays from September to June.

info@gbcc.ca
Margaret Blender: 519-371-4627
www.gbcc.ca

GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-HILL CHOIRS
For over 130 years, Grace Church, with Owen Sound as the major centre, has supported a quality music program for singers of all age groups and genders. Choristers perform some of the best of Anglican litur-
gical music during Sunday services, and have the opportunity to participate in concerts, festivals, social events, recordings, and tours. Our Choir of Men and Boys (8-14 unchanged voices) is a professional-calibre choir which sings at the 11 am services, the St. Cecilia Girls’ Choir (8-17) sings at the 9:15am services, and the Women’s Choir has a flexible schedule. Scholarships are available for both boy and girl choristers.

gracemusic2@rogers.com
Melva Treffinger Graham: 416-488-7884 x17
www.gracechurchonthehill.ca

HARLEQUIN SINGERS
The Harlequin Singers were founded in 1967 as a support group to Hamilton Theatre Inc., becoming a separate choir in the mid-seventies. The 35-voice mixed choir with members from the Hamilton and Halton region specializes in popular music with repertoire coming from Broadway musicals, films, pop charts, jazz and big band. At the recent 2005 spring concert, the choir performed medleys from Crazy For You, Les Miserables, ABBA, and Chicago. The choir hosts two major cabaret concerts yearly at Christmas and spring and also performs for service organizations, charities, churches, and retirement homes. Singers interested in auditioning should be able to read and memorize music.
John Packer: 905-575-9360
www.harlequinsingers.com

HARMONY SINGERS OF ETOBICOKE
Celebrating 40 years of music-making, the Harmony Singers, under director Harvey Patterson, continue the tradition of singing and entertaining in their community that was begun back in 1965. We are a non-audition ladies choir that performs music in a lighter vein; our repertoire includes popular, folk, show, and semi-classical music. The choir entertains at community events and seniors’ residences and presents two annual concerts. Rehearsals are Mondays, 7:30–10pm at Martin Grove United Church. Join us for our 40th Anniversary Concert, Songs for All Seasons, on May 27 and 28 at 8pm at Martin Grove United Church.
doriproc@sympatico.ca
www.harmonysingers.ca

HART HOUSE SINGERS
The Hart House Singers are a 110-voice non-auditioned choir made up of musically talented students, faculty, and alumni of the University of Toronto. Rehearsing on Monday nights from 7:15 to 9:30pm under the enthusiastic and expert musical direction of David Arnot-Johnston, this choir provides an opportunity for first-time and more experienced singers to share in the joy of choral singing, learn the art of song, have fun, and sing culturally diverse repertoire without the pressure of auditioning. The Singers perform three end-of-term concerts in December, April and August in the Great Hall of Hart House.
meaghan.roberts@utoronto.ca
Meghan Roberts: 416-978-6315
http://hhchorus.sa.utoronto.ca/

HEALEY WILLAN SINGERS
Canada’s first professional youth choir. The best of the best. This highly talented group, now finishing its successful first season, serves as the developmental and feeder choir to the six adult professional choirs in Canada. It presents a subscription series of four concerts, as well as gala benefit performances and corporate fundraisers. Its members are comprised of musicians between the ages of 18 and 29 across the GTA. Rehearsals are conducted on select Saturday mornings, and auditions will be held this summer. Contact the artistic director, Ron Ka Ming Cheung, for more information or to arrange for an audition.
healeywillansingers@yahoo.ca
Ron Ka Ming Cheung: 416-924-0753
www.healeywillansingers.ca

HUMBER VALLEY UNITED CHURCH
Our choirs sing classical, contemporary, gospel, and world music repertoire. There is no audition. Senior Choir is open to all adults who love to sing. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 8–10pm weekly. This choir sings at Sunday morning services and special services (Christmas Eve, Good Friday). We invite young people to take part in our music programs. Revelations is a teen vocal/instrumental ensemble that sings Christian contemporary praise music and other sacred music. Membership is open to grade 7 and up. Rehearsals are Thursdays, 6–7:15pm. There is a Junior Choir for children in grades 2–6. Deborah Bradley is the director of music.
dbradley2001@rogers.com
Deborah Bradley: 416-231-2263 x28
www hvuc.ca

INTER-MENNONITE CHILDREN’S CHOIR
The Inter-Mennonite Children’s Choir is a community choir in the Waterloo Region with a long tradition of providing music opportunities to young voices. The choir strives for excellence in performance, although its main purpose is to give children an opportunity to
gain a life-long appreciation for the music of the Christian heritage and culture. The choir averages about 40-55 singers between the ages of 8 and 15 and performs annual Christmas and spring concerts as well as at various functions throughout the region including a variety of choral festivals and competitions. Current conductors are Carolyn Neumann and Judith Bean.

vsbender@sympatico.ca
cneumann@golden.net
Sherri Bender: 519-664-2122
www.mennosingers.com

Irish Choral Society of Canada
The Irish Choral Society of Canada works to promote the study of choral music and to provide opportunities for the advancement of the arts of the Irish culture. Although much of the repertoire is of Celtic origin, the choir works hard at collaborating with other musical groups for adventures in different musical genres and cultures. The choir is made up of volunteer men and women and no audition is required. Rehearsals are held weekly in Toronto and will soon be expanding to include weekly rehearsals in Mississauga.

csoc@canada.com
Karen D’Aoust: 416-653-9102

Jubilee Chorale
Orillia’s Community Choir is an auditioned, 50-voice mixed choir that sings from a repertoire of SATB pop and religious tunes. The choir is led by three music professionals: director Bev Orr and pianists Shirley Snell and Maryllis Dongelmans. The Jubilee Chorale holds two major concerts each year as well as performing at community functions in Simcoe County and the surrounding areas. Highlights include performances in Westminster Abbey, the Gravenhurst and Orillia Opera Houses, and Casino Rama. Practices are on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:30pm at St David’s Anglican Church, 133 James St. There is a membership fee and a wardrobe fee.

bullocks@hotmail.com
Angie Bullick: 705-329-0675

Kammermusik Toronto
Established in 1997, Kammermusik Toronto is a not-for-profit chamber choir and orchestra dedicated to promoting and performing eclectic music. This SATB ensemble of 22 dedicated and enthusiastic singers rehearses Wednesday evenings on the campus of the University of Toronto. The choir performs a wide range of music from medieval to modern in concerts held in December, March and May/June each year. Auditions for all sections will be held in May 2005 for the fall term, starting September 2005. Please contact the artistic director for more information.

keithmuller@rogers.com
Keith Müller: 416-778-1898
www.kammermusiktoronto.com

King Edward Choir
Since its inception in 1952, the King Edward Choir of Barrie has become the area’s largest mixed community choir, now numbering about 80 choristers. It has always enjoyed the reputation of performing the best in choral music, ranging from the most challenging of the classics to contemporary music. Under the direction of conductor Barbara McCann, the choir performs three concerts a year. Most performances are held in Collier Street United Church, Barrie, with its fine acoustics and excellent organ. Experienced choristers can contact our director to discuss membership and to arrange an audition. Rehearsals are held every Monday evening at Grace United Church, Barrie.

Garineh by Dikran Tchoukhadjian.
David Varjabed: 905-417-2802

Lachan Jewish Choir
Cantor Benjamin Z. Maissner created Lachan (meaning melody in Hebrew) eleven years ago with a group of enthusiastic Toronto-based musicians who shared a love of music. The choir’s primary purpose was to showcase the best of Jewish music sung by the best of Toronto’s voices. The choir is known internationally for its musical virtuosity and its comprehensive repertoire spanning thousands of years. Lachan has performed in Canada and Europe, appeared on television, and recently produced a CD. The 30-member auditioned volunteer choir rehearses Mondays 8-10:30pm September to June at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto. A good level of sight-reading is expected.

larryjacobs@rogers.com
Laurence Jacobs: 416-425-1253 x23
www.lachan.org

Leaside United Church Choir
This church choir, under director Sharon Beckstead, has four paid section leaders who help the choir sing an eclectic variety of anthems for Sunday worship services and other choral events during the year. The choral highlight is the Festival of Lessons and Carols each December. Rehearsals are Thursdays 7:30-9:30pm, Saturday to May. Sunday services are at 10:30am and the choir sings September to June.

sharonbeckstead@sympatico.ca
Sharon Beckstead: 416-425-125 x23
www.leaside.org

Les Voix du Coeur
L’ensemble vocal Les Voix du Coeur was founded with the support of the Conseil des Ecoles Francaises de la Communaute Urbaine de Toronto and celebrated its 10th anniversary last year. Les Voix du Coeur is the only French community choir in Toronto. Under the
Milton Choristers

The Milton Choristers are currently celebrating their 36th year of continuous song with a series of concerts entitled “Catch the Sound.” This group is a vital component of the Milton community, providing the Halton region with excellence in choral music with a minimum three-concert series annually. We also participate regularly in various community events. The repertoire presented varies from the classical to the contemporary and from the sacred to the secular. This non-auditioned choir is looking for new singers. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings 7:30-10pm at Knox Presbyterian Church, 170 Main Street, Milton.

inquiries@miltonchoristers.com
Sonja van de Hoeif: 905-876-3203
www.miltonchoristers.com

Mississauga Festival Youth Choir

The MFYC, Deborah Bradley, artistic director, is open by audition to youth ages 9–19, treble and changed voices. Rehearsals are held on Monday or Wednesday nights September to June by age and choir level. The 85-member choir offers a developmental program for beginning singers ages 9–11 and intermediate and advanced singers ages 12–19. There is also the chamber choir, a 16-voice advanced ensemble. Our diverse repertoire includes classical, contemporary, jazz, and gospel, with special emphasis on world music. Tuition assistance is available to students with financial need. The advanced choir tours yearly.

admin@mississaugafestivalyouthchoir.org
Deborah Bradley: 905-276-5732
Helene Green: 905-608-9186
www.mississaugafestivalyouthchoir.org

Men of Note Male Voice Choir

Founded in 1999 with 16 members, the choir now numbers 42. It rehearses every Monday evening in Toronto. Men of all ages who love to sing are always welcome.

The choir has recorded two CDs, video-taped a 90-minute Christmas program, and travelled to France, England, Wales and Germany for concerts. Men of Note travels throughout Ontario singing about ten concerts a year, performing an extensive repertoire ranging from the classics to show music.

Dr. Margot Rejskind (doctorate-Choral Music) is the choir’s musical director, and John Mole is the accompanist. Soprano Susan Brown is a frequent guest soloist with the choir.

Menno Singers

Menno Singers has been part of the Kitchener-Waterloo choral community since 1955, when Abner Martin founded the choir with the intent of providing Menonnette choristers with opportunities to study and perform sacred choral music. The 55-voice choir has expanded its repertoire to include secular works, a cappella and accompanied texts, hymns and oratorios. The choir sponsors the Menonnette Mass Choir, giving choristers the opportunity to perform larger works such as Handel’s Messiah.

Peter Nikiforuk, artistic director since 1998, is an active organ recitalist and clinician, co-owner and editor of Kelman Hall Publishing, and is new to the Board of Directors of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.

peterm@golden.net
Peter Nikiforuk: 519-571-8113
Linda Janzen: 519-576-9853
lindajanzen@sympatico.ca
www.mennosingers.com

Metropolitan United Church Choir and Festival Choir

The auditioned, 32-member Church Choir has eight lead singers, rehearses Thursday evenings, and sings Sunday mornings and on special occasions. Repertoire is medieval through 21st century. Singers must have some sight-singing ability. A waiting list exists; contact the director late spring or early fall.

The Festival Choir adds 10-15 singers to the core choir, and rehearses Sunday afternoons for six weeks prior to Good Friday. Past concerts featured works by Bach, Mozart, Fauré, Durufle, Gilles, Schütz, and Distler. The Metropolitan United Choral Society has a 7-11 Youth Choir (12+), and Metropolitan Handbells are groups open to all.

patricia@metunited.org
Patricia Wright: 416-363-0331 x26
www.metunited.org

Miles Nadal JCC Community Choir

The MNJCC Community Choir is a dynamic 70-member community of singers who love to make music. Founded in 1997 by director/conductor Harriet Wichin, the choir is known for high energy performances and varied repertoire including world, folk, jazz, R&B, gospel, celtic, classical, Canadian, and Jewish music. This is an auditioned SATB group with varying abilities. Everyone is encouraged to audition. The members are a diverse and committed group who share a love of music. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:30–9:30pm September to June, and are structured as enriching experiences themselves as well as preparation for performance.

harrietw@mnjcc.org
Harriet Wichin 416-924-6211 x133
www.mnjcc.org (see Music)
WOMEN’S CHORUS

The MNJCC Women’s Chorus: to the south of France in October with a variety of musical genres and women who want to put the music back into their lives. Meetings every second Monday night 8–9:30 pm, September to June. Registration required.

MILES NADAL JCC YOUTH CHOIRS

The MNJCC Youth Choirs, directed by Samantha Clarke, are the Choir Kids for grades 1–3 and the Youth Singers for grades 4–6. These choirs were founded in 2004 with the ideas of diverse music and a fun and inclusive atmosphere. There is no audition or experience required for these groups! We have a wide range of ability levels. Our rehearsals prepare for performances throughout the year and raise the musical skills of our singers. We rehearse from September to May on Thursdays from 4:15–5 pm for the Choir Kids and 5:15–6 pm for the Youth Singers.

NATHANIEL DETT CHORALE

Brainerd Blyden-Taylor is founder and artistic director of the Nathaniel Dett Chorale, Canada’s first professional choral group created with an expressed mandate to perform Afrocentric music both in its Toronto home and on tour. The Chorale is comprised of 21 classically trained musicians and provides a forum for promoting public awareness of, and interest in, original works of Afrocentric composers past, present and future. The Chorale is involved in developing an active musical commissioning program, and curriculum for use in schools, lectures, demonstrations and master classes. Auditions by appointment only; one piece each of classical, jazz and gospel/R&B. Sight reading necessary.

NORTH 44° ENSEMBLE

North 44° Ensemble was founded in the year 2000 by artistic director Geoffrey Butler. An affiliate of the Toronto Choral Society, the ensemble consists of 22 auditioned members who are dedicated to excellence and eclecticism in choral music. North 44° was featured on the Juno-nominated CD The Children of Lir by Loretto Reid. Performances include two major concerts per year, as well as special engagements. North 44° rehearses once a week on Tuesday evenings in the Toronto core.

ONOSCATOPoeIA

THE HART HOUSE JAZZ CHOIR

Onoscatopoeia is a 20-voice choir auditioned from musically talented students, faculty, and alumni of the University of Toronto. Formed in 2000, it has become one of U of T’s most recognized, high-quality ensembles. The choir performs everything from established jazz standards to tunes by the Jackson 5—all a cappella vocal arrangements. In addition to other engagements, the jazz choirs rehearse on Monday nights from 5:10–7 pm and performs twice annually in the Arbor Room at Hart House as part of the Jazz at Oscar’s series.

ONTARIO PRESBYTERIAN CHORUS

The Ontario Presbyterian Chorus was formed in 1989 as a non-auditioning chorus seeking to promote sacred choral music from the 1600s to the present. Using voice and instruments, our repertoire includes classics, anthems, hymn arrangements and gospel songs. Featuring mainly in southern Ontario, we average two programs per month September–May and tour approximately every three years. Although Presbyterian in origin, are transdenominational in membership and concert schedule. Directed by Alastair McCallum, we rehearse bi-weekly on Tuesdays in a North Central location on the subway line. New members warmly welcomed.

ONTARIO YOUTH CHOIR

The Ontario Youth Choir is an auditioned choir of 40 of Ontario’s finest singers ages 16–22. This year’s programme will be held at the University of Ottawa from August 21–28. The Ontario Youth Choir challenges singers with exciting repertoire at a very high standard of performance. Under the guidance this year of Lydia Adams and Gerald Fagan, the choristers push the boundaries of choral excellence, enjoying the music with colleagues of like talent and interests.

OPEN VOICES COMMUNITY CHOIR

Open Voices is a non-auditioned, mixed-voice adult choir in Kingston led by Andy Rush, founder and artistic director. The choir actively supports the musical education of...
our members, and we welcome invitations to sing locally in support of other community groups that share a common vision to promote awareness about important social issues and foster a sense of community. Open Voices has about 110 singing members and about 180 members in total. The choir rehearses its folk, jazz, spiritual, and sacred music in two different venues throughout the week. We offer a variety of sessions each year that include a two-week term and a festival in May 2005; see our website for details. The choir presents four concerts each season, including collaborations outside Toronto. Under the energetic leadership of artistic director Robert Cooper, repertoire is both sacred and secular, a cappella to full orchestral accompaniment, and aims to combine the traditional with the less-well-known, offering something a little different to concertgoers. The choir also provides opportunities for young singers to gain experience as soloists through its Sidgwick Scholarship. Admission is by audition in May/June and periodically throughout the season.

info@orianachoir.com
www.orianachoir.com

Oriana Women’s Choir
Oriana Women’s Choir, one of the finest choirs in Canada, was formed in 1972. This 40-voice auditioned choir is committed to choral excellence that provokes a passionate response to the power, beauty, and joy of song. The choir received “Best Performance of a Canadian Work” in the 2004 CBC National Choral Competition. Our final concert of the 2004-2005 season is Saturday, May 14, 2005; see our website for details. The choir presents subscription concerts in November, March, and May each year. Concerts are held at Grace Church on-the-Hill. Auditions are held August 31 for the fall term starting September 14. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:45pm.

info@orianachoir.com
www.orianachoir.com

Orpheus Choir of Toronto
Founded in 1964, the 60-member mixed-voice Orpheus Choir just celebrated its 40th season. The choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church near Yonge and St. Clair and performs 4-5 concerts each season, including collaborations outside Toronto. Under the energetic leadership of artistic director Robert Cooper, repertoire is both sacred and secular, a cappella to full orchestral accompaniment, and aims to combine the traditional with the less-well-known, offering something a little different to concertgoers. The choir also provides opportunities for young singers to gain experience as soloists through its Sidgwick Scholarship. Admission is by audition in May/June and periodically throughout the season.

opeuschoir@sympatico.ca
Helen Coxon: 416-530-4428
www.orpheus.on.ca

Owen Sound Children’s Choir
Our purpose is to bring together children in our community who wish to sing music of high quality in an atmosphere of learning and fellowship. Founded in 1995, the Children’s Choir encourages young people to develop their vocal musical abilities, self-discipline, and sense of community. We learn a varied repertoire, both secular and sacred, in English and other languages, with an emphasis on Canadian composers. In addition to performing in two major concerts annually, the Chorus also sings at various functions and venues in the community.

singsoscc@sympatico.ca
Nancy Stewart: 519-371-6559

Oxford Churchmusic
Oxford Churchmusic, now in its 12th year, is a two-week singing vacation which takes place in Oxford, England. (July 22 to August 6 this year). Forty or more singers gather together to sing the best of church choral music, from Gregorian chant to gospel, presented by three highly experienced choir conductors: Tim Elia from Toronto and two English conductors. No audition is necessary. This is not an existing choir but a new group every year of people interested in combining their love of singing with a travel/cultural experience. Singers live in single ensuite rooms in a modern Balliol College residence. More details on website.

oxfordchurchmusic@rogers.ca
Tim Elia: 416-766-6136
www.oxfordchurchmusic.ca

Palestrina Chamber Chorus
Founded by Com. Alberto Di Giovanni in 1997, the Palestrina Chamber Chorus is a semi-professional mixed-voice choir with 35 members, all of whom have received formal training in vocal music. Under the direction of Maestro Sabatino Vaccia, Palestrina is gaining a reputation as one of the finest choirs in Toronto. The repertoire of the choir consists of works from the Italian school. Participation is by audition only.

music@centroscuola.ca
Franca Di Giovanni: 416-256-4808

Penthetia Singers
Penthetia Singers is a dynamic ensemble of 20 young women committed to excellence in performing a diverse and musically sophisticated repertoire in several languages, spanning the Renaissance to the 21st century. Founded in 1997, the group was named Penthetia after an ancient Egyptian priestess-musician. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:30-9:30pm at Rosedale Presbyterian. Concerts are held in December and May/June. The choir was a semi-finalist in the 2002 CBC radio competition. Penthetia Singers are touring the North this April. Spring concert is May 15 at 2pm. Singers with good sight reading skills should contact artistic director Mary Legge to audition for the fall season.

m.legge@rogers.com
Mary Legge: 416-229-0522
www.penthetia.com

Peterborough Children’s Chorus
The Peterborough Children’s Chorus is an auditioned choir open to all children and youth aged 8 to 25 years living in Peterborough and the surrounding area. The choir’s purpose is to promote the enjoyment of music and to provide opportunities for young people to develop their musical expertise through a varied repertoire and performances. The choir is an independent, non-profit organization operated by a volunteer board of directors. Music director Maureen Harris-Lowe has
a bachelor of musical arts from the University of Western Ontario.

Joanne Culley: 705-748-5353
www.peterboroughchildrenschorus.com

PETERBOROUGH SINGERS
The Peterborough Singers is a 90-member auditioned choir now in its 12th season. Under the direction of Sydney Birrell, the choir has performed over a decade to packed houses and has featured many guest artists including Gary Relyea, Mark Dubois, Sally Dibblee, Maisha Bruggersgosman, Brett Polega-to, Curtis Sullivan and violinist Martin Beaver. The Peterborough Singers were thrilled to place second in the 2004 CBC Radio Choral Competition. The choir presents four or five concerts in their annual concert series and membership is by audition where choristers are re-auditioned annually.
singers@peterboroughsingers.com
705-745-1820
www.peterboroughsingers.com

QUEENSMEEN OF TORONTO MALE CHORUS
The Queensmen of Toronto Male Chorus of over 30 members is directed by Harry Learoyd, organist and church choir conductor. For over fifty years, the chorus, dedicated to good singing, fellowship and community service, has gained an international reputation for a well-blended sound and a broad repertoire of show tunes, popular songs, spirituals and sacred music. The Queensmen rehearse Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm at Central Etobicoke High School, 10 Denfield St., and perform at community events, church functions and 'Big Sings' in Ontario and neighbouring states. On Friday April 30, the Queensmen rehearse together to celebrate the diversity of our community and to build bridges through song. All are welcome: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered or straight. We sing an eclectic repertoire suiting a unique community and practise two-and-a-half to three hours. Wednesday evenings in Guelph. The Chorus is pleased to announce its Carnegie Hall debut, February 19, 2006 as part of a mass choir performing the moving AIDS requiem "When We No Longer Touch".
margiejjohnson@yahoo.com
Margie Johnson: 519-767-9989
www.rainbowchorussw.com

RAINBOW CHORUS
Rainbow Chorus of Waterloo/Wellington is proud of its survival as one of the few gay choruses outside a major Canadian city. The Chorus is a charitable, non-profit organization of amateur singers joined together to celebrate the diversity of our community and to build bridges through song. All are welcome: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered or straight. We sing an eclectic repertoire suiting a unique community and practise two-and-a-half to three hours. Wednesday evenings in Guelph. The Chorus is pleased to announce its Carnegie Hall debut, February 19, 2006 as part of a mass choir performing the moving AIDS requiem “When We No Longer Touch”.
margiejjohnson@yahoo.com
Margie Johnson: 519-767-9989
www.rainbowchorussw.com

RAINBOW VOICES OF TORONTO
Rainbow Voices of Toronto was founded in 1999 and is a non-auditioned community chorus of 50-60 women and men. Their mandate is to build bridges between the straight and gay communities through the power of song. The group rehearses Wednesday evenings at St Luke’s United Church in downtown Toronto in preparation for their December and May concerts. Rainbow Voices also performs at various community events throughout the year. The repertoire ranges from traditional choral, modern pop, and gospelpop music to show tunes. Everyone who loves to sing and have fun is welcome to join!
info@rainbowvoicesoftoronto.com
Tom Wilson: 416-925-9872 x2166
www.rainbowvoicesoftoronto.com

Renaissance Singers
The Renaissance Singers were founded by Raymond S. J. Daniels in 1972. The choir’s early reputation was based on its polished performances of renaissance a cappella literature. Today, the choir sings music from the masters of all centuries. The Renaissance Singers have also commissioned and premiered the works of leading Canadian composers. The choir has four recordings to its credit, and has performed on four tours of England. Under the musical direction of Richard Cunningham, the choir looks forward to its 33rd season.
info@sacredmusicsociety.com
Harold Marcotte: 416-515-0767
www.sacredmusicsociety.com

Riverdale Youth Singers
The Riverdale Youth Singers is dedicated to providing exceptional musical education and artistic excellence in choral music performance while fostering the self-esteem and personal growth of the choristers. Since its creation in 1999, RYS has engaged in an active performance calendar, staging popular winter and spring concerts within its home Riverdale community and participating in various festivals and concerts throughout GTA. Last season the RYS expanded to more than 100 choristers with the introduction of a Young Singers division. Membership in RYS is open to all children ages 7 and up. Auditions for placement in RYS are held in May and June each year.
conductor@riverdaleyouthsingers.org
Laurie Smith: 416 875-1587
www.riverdaleyouthsingers.org

Sacred Music Society
SMS, founder of the World Youth Day 2002 Choir, is a world-renowned performing arts and educational institution with repertoire ranging from Gregorian chants to classical music, and including contemporary and commissioned works. SMS embraces people from a range of professions who have a gift for music and a desire to share it. Choir members dedicate significant time to rehearsing, recording, touring and performing. The choir accepts applications in early June and September. Auditions include range, sight-singing and solo tests. The three SMS Choirs include the 30-member Chamber Choir, Sagra Sinfonia, and the 70-member World Youth Day 2002 Choir. Rehearsals are in central and eastern Toronto.
info@sacredmusicsociety.com
Sylvia: 905-686-4097

Scarborough Choralaires
The Choralaires were formed in 1993 and are led by Maria Case. The choir is an SATB community choir which rehearses on Tuesday evenings at Knob Hill United Church, 23 Gage Avenue, Scarborough. The choir presents two formal concerts each year, Christmas and springtime, and in addition they perform at senior's residences and fundraising events for community organizations. Their repertoire ranges from light classical to show tunes, including spirituals and folk songs. Membership requirements include a simple audition, sight reading ability, some choral experience and a desire to spend time with others who enjoy the magic of singing.
brian.coker@sympatico.ca
www.choralaires.ca

Scarborough Sweet Adelines
In 1956, Scarborough Chorus was founded as part of Sweet Adelines Inc., an international organization of 30,000 women promoting four-part singing. The 35-member group sings for local seniors and service clubs and participates annually in regional competitions, where the group has previously won three times. Past highlights include the 1977 International Chorus Competition at Royal Albert Hall in London, UK, and singing the national anthems at a Toronto Rock pro-lacrosse game at Maple Leaf Gardens. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7pm at St Paul’s L’Amoreaux (3333 Finch Ave. East). Cindy Raskin directs. Ability to read music is not essential, but there is an audition process.
ambarker@sympatico.ca
Sylvia: 905-686-4097

Schneider Male Chorus
The Schneider Male Chorus, sponsored by J.M. Schneider Inc. and directed by Laurence Rowbotham, has been providing quality performances for 65 years throughout southwestern Ontario, and on several tours
across Canada, in the USA, Bermuda, the British Isles and Europe.

The chorus of 40 members presents about 10-12 concerts annually, re-
hearsal each Monday evening at 7:30 pm in Calvary Memorial United
Church, Park and Glasgow Streets, Kitchener. Membership require-
ments: love of singing, short
probation, commitment to 90% at-
tendance at concerts and rehearsals.
Repetoire: sacred and secular
music, from classical to modern
composers.

Serenata Choir
Serenata Choir, under the direction of
conductor Gary Heard, is ap-
proaching its 20th anniversary in the
Midland area. The 30-voice mixed
SATB choir sings a varied repetoire consisting of sacred and secu-
lar music from ancient times to
modern. No audition is required to
join the choir. There is no experi-
nce necessary, only a love of mu-
sic and the desire to perform quali-
ty choral music. The choir
rehearses once a week on Monday
nights from September to June, and
performs two to three times a year,
and at various community functions, as the opportunity arises.

Wolf Glage: 705-526-9715

Serenata Singers
The Serenata Singers, directed by
Audrey McLeod, is a 65-voice
SATB self-sustaining performing choir of retired senior men and
women. The choir appears at
seniors’ residences and community
events on request. The Singers’ repetoire includes folk, spirituals,
golden oldies, Broadway show-
tunes and pop melodies, showcased at an annual spring concert. The
choir rehearses Wednesdays morn-
ings from September to May at the
Willmar Heights United Church,
963 Pharmacy Ave, Scarborough.
A simple audition is required; mu-
sic sight-reading skills and choral
experience is helpful. The enjoy-
ment of singing and associating with a very friendly group of adults is an
added bonus.
audrey.e.mcleod@sympatico.ca
Audrey McLeod: 416-497-5952

Shevchenko Ensemble
The Shevchenko Choir, an integral
part of the Shevchenko Musical
Ensemble (mixed-voice choir, man-
dolin orchestra and dancers) was
formed in 1951. The choir’s repetoire consists of Ukrainian, Russian,
Canadian and other folk songs, clas-
sical choruses and arias, and origi-
nal Canadian works. Lyrics are
written in phonetics for those who
do not read cyrillic. In addition to
Ukrainian, members of the 40-voice
choir are Russian, Italian, Dutch,
Jewish, Serbian, English, and
Scottish. Conductor is Alexander
Veprinsky, and rehearsals are held
Sunday mornings at Columbus Centre.
Anyone wishing to join for four
to five exciting performances a
year is welcome to audition.
info-sme@bellnet.ca
Ginger Kauft: 416-533-2725

www.geocities.com/shevchenko1951

Society of Singers
The Society of Singers is a non-
 auditioned four-part mixed choir,
under the direction of Ashley W.
Tidy. The choir performs varied
and interesting repertoire in seniors’
centres and retirement homes, av-
eraging one or two afternoon con-
certs per month from September to
May. Rehearsals are on Monday
afternoons from 1-3 pm at Blyth-
wood Baptist Church, Blythwood
Road, east of Yonge Street, where
there is ample parking. All voices
with previous choral experience are
welcome.
K. Horsley: 416-466-5014
Ed. Gilmore: 416-783-9490

Sound Investment
Community Choir
The 35-member SATB choir was
formed in 1974 as a Ladies Glee
Club by Ann Sneyd. In 1990 it was
expanded to a mixed choir and is
currently under the direction of
Velma Cook. The choir’s repetoire
includes classical, sacred, folk
songs, spirituals, Broadway musi-
cals, contemporary songs, Gilbert
and Sullivan choruses, Christmas
selections, and traditional works
such as Handel’s Messiah, Vivaldi’s
Gloria, Fauré’s Requiem and
Mozart’s Requiem. Sound Invest-
ment performs throughout the Georgi-
ian Triangle area for various com-
munity and church events and
presents Christmas and spring con-
certs each year. Rehearsals are
held Monday evenings at All Saints’
Anglican Church. Please contact the
director for auditions.
velma.cook@sympatico.ca
Jim Vair: 705-422-0717

St. Andrew’s Anglican
Church Choir
This forty-year-old adult choir has
25 members, all of whom read
music, and most of whom have a
West Indian Anglo-Catholic litur-
gical background. Rehearsals are
Thursday evenings 8–10 pm, with
one sung Eucharist or Matins Sun-
days at 10 am. Other commitments
include Advent and Easter Carol
Services, Ash Wednesday, the Holy
Week Liturgies, and extra services
observing major Feast Days. Di-
rector Edward Moroney explores
neglected corners of the extensive
repertoire, including musically
challenging plainsong and material
spanning 500 years. In 2006, the
Parish will celebrate its 50th anni-
versary with new choral works.
The organ has been restored and
extended. New singers are always
welcome!
standrewscarb@ca.inter.net
Edward Moroney: 416-447-1481

Saint Anne’s
Anglican Church Choir
Saint Anne’s offers excellent litur-
gical music in a superb acoustic
space decorated by members of the
Group of Seven. The 20-member
SATB choir, directed by John
Stephenson, sings the Sunday
Eucharist each week at 10 am,
Evensong on the first Sunday of each
month at 4:30 pm, and concerts
throughout the year. Recent repetoire
has included works by Byrd,
Darke, Fauré, Holman, Howells,
Leighton, Stanford and Vierne.
Membership is by audition; music
reading skills important, rehearsals
Thursday evenings at the easily-ac-
cessible 270 Gladstone Avenue (one
block east of Dufferin and north of
Dundas).
pjhs@sympatico.ca
John Stephenson: 416-767-7290

St. Clement’s Anglican
Church Choirs
The Psallam Spiritu Choir is a tre-
ble-voice choir for boys and girls ages
8–17 who lead the music at the 9:15 am Sunday liturgy. Vocal train-
ing with emphasis on sight-reading is
given based on a program devel-
oped by the Royal School of Church.
Rehearsals take place every Thurs-
day afternoon 4:30–5:30 pm from
September to the end of May.
The Senior Choir is a 25-voice au-
ditioned mixed-voice choir that sings
a wide range of sacred repertoire
from plainsong to music of the 21st
century. The choir sings at the 11am
Sunday liturgy and the occasional
Choral Evensongs. Thomas Fitches
is the organist and director of mu-
sic.
tfitches@stclements-church.org
Thomas Fitches: 416-483-6664
www.stclements-church.org

St. James’ Cathedral
St. James’ music program is based
on worship, community and musi-
cal outreach. Various choirs sing
three Sunday choral services. The
Choir of Men and Boys sings Sun-
days at 9:30 am, and 4:30 pm evensong
twice a month. The Parish Choir,
a volunteer mixed-voice adult
choir, sings the 9am Sunday serv-
ices. The Choral Society, a 35
mixed-voice community choir,
performs major sacred works and
provides choral experience to those
desiring a mix of liturgical and non-
liturgical repertoire. The St. James’
Singers is an auditioned semi-pro-
fessional mixed-voice chamber
choir performing sacred music of
every age. For information on lead
opportunities please contact
Michael Bloss for application de-
tails.
music@stjamescathedral.on.ca
Michael Bloss: 416-364-7865 x 231
www.stjamescathedral.on.ca

St. Marys Children’s Choir
and Festival Youth Singers
Now in its 24th season, St. Marys
Children’s Choir and Festival Youth
Singers consists of 100-120 singers
ages 7–22, from St. Marys, Strat-
ford and surrounding southwestern
Ontario, under the direction of
Eileen Baldwin. Training includes
vocal technique, sight reading.
music theory and general musicianship. Repertoire ranges from unison to multi-part sacred and secular songs. Choristers are divided into four choirs: Piccolo (6 and up), Brio (training), Presto (senior treble) and Festival Youth Singers, for boys with changed or changing voices and girls over 16. Presto is the main performing and touring choir. Choristers rehearse weekly, separately, and attend joint rehearsals monthly. Auditions take place in May/June for the coming year.

email@stmaryschildschoi.ca
519-284-8009
www.stmaryschildschoi.ca

ST. MICHAEL’S CHOIR SCHOOL
St. Michael’s Choir School is an all-boys’ school located in the heart of Toronto and was formed in 1937. The school is unique in that enrollments of 260 students carry a full academic load and are required to master one or two musical instruments. They receive daily choral training under the dynamic leadership of St. Michael’s Choir School conductors. The choir tours select communities in Canada and the United States twice a year. A regular duty of the choirs is singing at St. Michael’s Cathedral every weekend Mass except during summer break.

Father J.M. Missio: 416-393-5518
Mr. D. Malino: 416-393-5518
www.smcs.on.ca

ST.-SIMON-THE-APOSTLE CHOIR
St. Simon’s offers a unique opportunity for boys and girls to sing together in a professional environment. For over 125 years the choir has consisted of children aged 7-14 with experienced, professionally led adult singers. Our programme includes weekly practices and services, singing lessons, an annual concert with a professional orchestra (most recently Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass), choir camps and social events. Choristers receive an exceptional musical education within a nurturing Christian environment; emphasis is placed on both musical development and the sheer enjoyment of choral singing. We welcome new members. The Church is located steps from the subway on Bloor Street east of Sherbourne.

stsimon@on.aibn.com
Thomas Bell: 416-923-8714 x208

STUDIO SIXTEEN
Studio Sixteen is an auditioned sixteen-voice, eight-studio of early music dedicated exclusively to the Renaissance. Founded and directed by Kevin Komisaruk, the ensemble’s repertoire spans Josquin to Victoria; texture minimum is six parts. Rehearsals are unaccompanied. Entrance is by ongoing audition; associate positions are also available for rehearsal or performance call on a standby basis. Please contact the director for more information, or visit the studio’s website for positions available. October 2004, and is volunteer-only until the budget permits.

Kevin Komisaruk: 416-559-2586
www.studiosixteen.ca

TAPESTRY CHAMBER CHOIR
Founded in 1988, the Tapestry Chamber Choir offers an interesting array of choral repertoire to a widening audience from Newmarket, Aurora and the surrounding area. Under the direction of Andrew Slonetsky (B.Mus. B.Ed. ARCT) and accompanist Sheila Vandikas (B.Mus. ARCT), Tapestry’s choral musicians aspire to create “weavings of song” with rich colours and textures, while remaining free to explore the artistry of any composer of any period. Although most of the choir’s repertoire is a cappella, Tapestry has frequently welcomed opportunities to perform with instrumentalists. If you would like to become one of the threads in a choral tapestry, please contact us.

tapestry@aci.on.ca
Catherine Bydson: 905-836-8589
www.tapestrychoir.ca (fall ‘05)

Tempus Choral Society
A youth choir in the 1970s, Tempus reformed in 1999 as an SATB community choir with over 60 voices. Directed by Brian Turnbull (Mus. Bac. (Hons), B.Ed.), an accomplished musician with several published works, our repertoire includes swing, Broadway, inspirational and contemporary music. Members are 18 years and over and we rehearse Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9:15pm September to June at 262 Randall Street, Oakville. We conduct voice assessment for section placement only, and there is a one-time membership fee of $75 to help defray the cost of music.

bbuyless@rogers.com
Heather Crisp: 416-699-8112
www.geocities.com/tempuschoirsociety

Toronto Chamber Choir
David Fallis, a well-known expert in early music, is music director of the Toronto Chamber Choir. First established in 1968, the Toronto Chamber Choir’s season includes four concerts featuring authentic performances of baroque and renaissance music, often paired with thematically related works from later periods. The 40-voice choir rehearses Monday nights from 7:30-10pm in the church hall of St. Patrick’s Church, at the corner of Dundas and McCaul Streets, with additional rehearsals prior to concerts. Singers with good sight reading ability may request an audition at any time during the season.

brettcrisp@rogers.com
Heather Crisp: 416-699-8112
www.geocities.com/torontochamberchoir

Toronto Children’s Chorus
Founded and directed by Jean Ashworth Bartle, the TCC, for children ages 7-15, is one of the world’s leading choirs. Entering its 27th season, the Chorus has more than a dozen CDs and has toured widely, nationally and internationally. The Chorus recently recorded Mahler’s Symphony No. 8 with
Sir Simon Rattle in Birmingham; the CD is now available on EMI Classics.

The TCC (Main Chorus and four Training Choirs) presents an annual Subscription Series; the Chamber Choir and Choral Scholars, sub-sections of the Main Chorus, perform additional concerts and record. The Chorus also offers a West End Training Choir for children in grades 3-6.

info@torontochildrenschorus.com
Heather Wood: 416-932-8666 x223
Margaret Lam: 416-932-8666 x221
www.torontochildrenschorus.com

TORONTO CHORAL SOCIETY
COMMUNITY CHOIR
The Toronto Choral Society was founded in 1845. The 120-member community choir is a non-auditioned choral group dedicated to enhancing the community by providing an opportunity for enthusiastic choristers to perform contemporary and traditional repertoire for Toronto audiences. The choir is currently working on their upcoming concert “Missa Gaia”. This will be performed Wednesday, June 1, 2005 at Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave., (west of the Chester subway station) at 7:30pm. The choir rehearses once a week on Wednesday evenings at Eastminster United Church. We are currently accepting openings for first sopranos, tenors and basses.

Deborah Micucci: 416-410-3509
www.torontochoralsociety.org

TORONTO CHORisters
James Maben directs this non-auditioned 100-voice choir which is now completing its 12th season. It consists mostly of retired employees from Boards of Education in the Toronto area. Repertoire is light and varied, from classical to modern. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 1pm at Wilkinson Public School from October through May. Because the choir is so large, women wishing to join the choir will be placed on a waiting list, but men will be accepted immediately. This years’ annual spring concert takes place on Wednesday, May 18th, 7:30 pm, at St John A. Macdonald Collegiate, Pharmacy Ave., Scarborough.

brucenell@rogers.com
Bruce Snell: 416-284-2647

TORONTO CLASSICAL SINGERS
The Toronto Classical Singers are 100 people who love the choral/orchestral classics. Each season we present three concerts featuring guest soloists and the Talisker Players orchestra. Our conductor is the CBC’s Jurgen Petrenko, who brings an infectious enthusiasm to the proceedings. In the past twelve years, we have presented major works by, among others, Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Gounod, Saint-Saens, and Vaughan Williams. We rehearse Monday evenings 7:30-9:30pm, September through April at Christ Church Deer Park (Yonge Street, two blocks north of St. Clair). We welcome new members. To set up an audition or for ticket information, please contact us.

heatherwocx:t@torontochildrenschorus.com
Jane Petrenko: 416-443-1490
www.torontoclassicalsingers.org

TORONTO JEWISH FOLK CHOIR
Started in 1925 by immigrant needle-trade workers, the SATB chamber choir continues to perform beloved Yiddish folk songs, excerpts from the classics on Jewish themes, contemporary music in Yiddish, Hebrew, Judeo-Spanish, Russian and English, and music of other cultures. Its annual spring concert features excellent guests—this year the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra is performing with the choir at the Leah Posluns Theatre on June 5. The season includes Chanukah and other concerts around Toronto and the annual Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Commemoration. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:30-10pm at the Winchesky Centre, 585 Cranbrook Avenue (Bathurst-Lawrence).

tfolkchoir@sympatico.ca
Alexander Veprinskya: 416-593-0750
www.wincheskycentre.org

TORONTO MENDELSSOHN CHOIR
The Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir, founded in 1977, provides training and performance opportunities for young singers aged 15-23 from diverse backgrounds. Annually, the TMYC presents a three-concert subscription series and appears at least once with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Past highlights have included a performance in Italy in 1997 to rave reviews, joining the TMC in July 1998 at the National Arts Centre for the opening of Festival Canada, performing in the round of Ottawa’s Parliament Buildings in spring 2004, and the release of a recording of seasonal music under the direction of composer/conductor John Rutter. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7-9:30pm. Auditions for the 2005-2006 season will begin in June.

tmyc@tmchoir.org
Linda Morana: 416-598-0422 x27
www.tmchoir.org

TORONTO MENDELSSOHN YOUTH CHOIR
The Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir, founded in 1977, provides training and performance opportunities for enthusiastic choristers to perform contemporary and classical repertoire. It has a three-concert subscription series and appears at least once with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Past highlights have included a performance in Italy in 1997 to rave reviews, joining the TMC in July 1998 at the National Arts Centre for the opening of Festival Canada, performing in the round of Ottawa’s Parliament Buildings in spring 2004, and the release of a recording of seasonal music under the direction of composer/conductor John Rutter. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7-9:30pm. Auditions for the 2005-2006 season will begin in June.

tmyc@tmchoir.org
Linda Morana: 416-598-0422 x27
www.tmchoir.org

TORONTO NORTHERN LIGHTS CHORUS
This talented group of singers has represented Ontario at the Barbershop Harmony Society International Championship each year since 1998, bringing home Silver medals in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004. The repertoire of the Toronto Northern Lights Chorus ranges from barbershop to Broadway, vocal jazz to doo-wop, and from Gershwin to the Beatles. Open rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at St George’s Anglican Church, 5350 Yonge Street, halfway between the North York Centre and Finch subway stations. TNL is an auditioned chorus, but all music is learned with learning tapes.

John Tonus: 416-512-2090
www.northernlightschorus.com

TORONTO POLICE ASSOCIATION MALE CHOIR
The Toronto Police Association Male Choir was founded in 1966 to entertain by singing in four-part harmony for citizens’ groups and at police and civic functions throughout the GTA, thus forging bonds between the police service and the community. The membership is comprised of active and retired police officers, and police-supportive male community members who share an enjoyment of male choral music. The repertoire consists of sacred and secular selections including show tunes, folk, pop, country, and classics. The choir rehearses most Monday evenings from 7:30-9:30pm at the Toronto Police Association Building, 180 Yorkland Boulevard and performs on average of three shows per month.

tpmc@hotmail.com
hmccarthy@sympatico.ca
Harry McCarthy: 416-923-4525
416-496-0461
www.torontopoliceassoc.ca/
malechorus.html

TORONTO SWEDISH SINGERS
The Toronto Swedish Singers perform in Swedish and English under the direction of Lloyd Thompson, who also arranges much of the choir’s repertoire. The choir presents annual spring and Christmas concerts, participates in Swedish cultural events, and serves as the resident choir for the Swedish Lutheran Church in Toronto for major celebrations. Membership is open to anyone interested in Swedish culture who enjoys choral singing and preferably has some facility with Swedish. Ability to read music is desirable but not essential. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from September to June at Agricola Lutheran Church, Yonge and York Mills.
The choir was founded in 1995 to kindle the tradition of four-part Welsh male voice singing. Under the leadership of director David Low, associate director Lenard Whiting, and accompanist Kathryn Tremills, the choir has grown to an ensemble of 60 men from many ethnic backgrounds, performing approximately ten concerts a year. Membership requires an elemental audition, and an ear for, and a love of, choral music. Repertoire includes: opera choruses, folk songs, show tunes, spirituals, and traditional Welsh music. Practices are held Wednesdays 7:15–10pm, September to June at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, at Yonge/Lawrence.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO CHOIRS
The University of Waterloo Music Department invites all students, faculty, staff and community members to join any of its three choirs. All groups present at least one concert during the term, begin rehearsals the first week of the fall and winter terms, and rehearse in the Conrad Grebel University College Chapel on campus. Rehearsal and performance attendance is mandatory. The 30-voice Chamber Choir, under Richard Cunningham, meets Tuesday and Thursday, 4–5:30pm. The larger University Choir, under Gordon Burnett, meets Tuesday 7–10pm. The 35-voice Chapel Choir, under Leonard Enns, meets Monday 3:30–5pm and Wednesday 3:30–5:30pm and participates in chapel services (Wednesday 4:30–5:30pm).

UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT COMMUNITY CHOIR AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR
The 30-member adult mixed-voice University Settlement Community Choir started 6 years ago. Conductor Teodora Georgieva leads the choir in a wide variety of repertoire from madrigals to show tunes. Rehearsals are on Thursday nights from 7:30–9:30pm.

University Settlement Children's Choir began in September of 2003. This fun group meets Mondays from 5:15–6:30pm. The choir, for ages 8–13 with unchanged voices, is led by Teodora Georgieva in singing songs from a wide variety of musical styles.

Both choirs are non-auditioned and no experience is necessary. They perform several times a year at different venues but rehearse at University Settlement, 23 Grange Rd., Toronto.

Upper Canada Children's Chorus
The UCC, under musical director Brian Rawlins, provides the York region with a world-class children's choir. Comprised of 120 singers ages 6–17, the UCC program includes concerts, workshops, retreats and tours. Rehearsals are weekly: Choir III meets Mondays 6:30–9pm, Choir II meets Tuesdays 4:45–6pm, and Chamber Chorus meets selected Thursdays and Saturdays. Highlights from 2005 include a fundraising dinner gala with Robert Pilon, "The Spirit of Christmas" at the Toronto Centre for the Arts, Canadian and Irish Folksongs with Colm Wilkinson (TCA) and a tour of Eastern Canada. Auditions are held April through July.

Upper Canada Choristers
The Upper Canada Choristers is a non-auditioned SATB community choir of about 50 voices, under the direction of Laurie Evan Fraser. Now in its 12th season, the choir is a vibrant, growing organization with a commitment to excellence. Weekly Monday rehearsals are 7:30–9:30pm at the Salvation Army Community Church (Eglinton Avenue just east of Yonge). The choir prepares and performs two programmes a year in two public concerts. We then take the programmes to community venues such as hospitals, nursing homes, seniors’ residences, schools, and churches. The diversity of our choir is reflected in a wide range of choral repertoire.

Laurie Evan Fraser: 416-256-0510
www.chorister.org

Uxbridge Chamber Choir
The Uxbridge Chamber Choir, co-founded by director Thomas Baker and Anne Mizen Baker, had its debut on January 28, 1984. Last year, the choir celebrated a very successful 20th anniversary reunion, reprising A Medieval Bestiary, a commissioned work by R. Murray Schafer, with an augmented choir of former members. Major works in the repertoire are Carmina Burana, Mozart's Requiem, Haydn's Creation and a wide range of classical and contemporary music. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings 7:30–10pm with three concerts each season. The choir will perform J. S. Bach's Mass in B Minor with orchestra on Saturday, May 14, at 8pm at Trinity United, Uxbridge.

canrainel@sympatico.ca
Hilary Balmer: 905-852-2676
uxbridgechamberchoir.ca

Vesnivka Choir
Founding director Halyna Kvitka Kondracky established Vesnivka Choir in 1965. This award-winning 40-member women's ensemble has delighted audiences around the world with its rich repertoire of Ukrainian liturgical, classical, contemporary and traditional folk music. The choir is often accompanied by professional soloists and a chamber ensemble of area musicians. There are three major concerts per season, as well as Christmas and Easter Liturgies. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7–9:30pm at 4 Bellwoods Ave., Toronto, commencing September 2005. Contact the artistic director for auditions. Male singers are welcome to audition for The Toronto Ukrainian Male Chamber Choir, an ensemble formed in partnership with Vesnivka.

nykola@vesnivka.com
416-763-2197
www.vesnivka.com
**Victoria College Choir**
The Vic Chorus is a mixed-voice, non-auditioned choir at Victoria College. U of T, made up of students, alumni, faculty and staff. The fall concert, one of two the choir presents each year, is in the Victoria college chapel and features classical choral works. The spring concert is held in the new Isabel Bader Theatre and features an eclectic range of choral music from Bach to folksongs from around the world and a Broadway medley. The choir also provides musical leadership at numerous college events, including Charter Day, Christmas dinners and graduation. The choir has become an integral part of campus life.

[Contact information]

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**Victoria Scholars Men’s Choral Ensemble**
The essence of the Victoria Scholars’ music is the clarity and balance of sound characteristic of renaissance music. The ensemble's repertoire encompasses medieval plainchant, works from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras, and contemporary and newly commissioned works. The choir rehearses weekly in preparation for their concert series, consisting of three performances annually. If you are an experienced musician with excellent sight reading abilities and are looking to join one of Canada’s finest male ensembles, please call or email to set up an audition appointment.

[Contact information]

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**Village Voices**
Village Voices was founded in 1989 as a not-for-profit, mixed-voice community choir of 45+ members. While maintaining a community outreach program, and performing public concerts at Christmas and in the spring, the choir continues, under the direction of Joan Andrews, to expand its repertoire and artistic level, often accompanied by professional soloists and musicians. The choir has twice taken part in the Music Alive Festival in Newmarket and is a member of Choirs Ontario and SOCAN. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings, 7:30pm at Unionville Presbyterian Church, 600 Village Parkway, Markham. New members are always welcome.

[Contact information]

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**VIVA! Youth Singers of Toronto**
VIVA! Youth Singers of Toronto, comprised of three choirs, was founded in 2000 at a time of widespread cuts to public school arts programs. The Preparatory Chorus (ages 5–7) engages young singers in fun, age-appropriate musical activities. Singers in two older choirs—Main Chorus I (ages 7–12) and Main Chorus II (ages 12–18) receive regular instruction in vocal technique, theory, sight-singing, and private vocal coaching. Three annual concerts feature repertoire varying in musical style and languages. VIVA! gives young singers the opportunity to participate in artistically excellent endeavours with an integrated arts approach. Rehearsals are Monday nights at Trinity-St. Paul’s United Church.

[vivayouth@vivayouthsingiers.com]

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**VocalPoint Chamber Choir**
Founded in 1997 by musical director Ian Grundy, VocalPoint is one of the country’s finest chamber choirs. The choir received national attention by reaching the semi-finals in the past three CBC Radio competitions. In addition to an annual subscription series of concerts presented in the acoustically-superb Grace Church on-the-Hill, VocalPoint has also performed on Roy Thomson Hall’s noon-hour series for Organ and Choir, at the Glenn Gould Studio on CBC Radio Two’s “Music Around Us”, and at the Sharon Temple. Members of the choir are experienced soloists, teachers, or conductors and come from the top church choirs in Toronto. Auditions are held Wednesday nights during June.

[vocalpoint_choir@lycos.com]

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**Vox Huronia**
Vox Huronia is a community-based non-auditioned choir based in Midland, Ontario. Highlights from this, our 5th year, included Britten’s *Ceremony of Carols* (with harp), a Mostly Mozart spring concert, a recital by local professional baritone Steven Pitkanen, and the premiere of a new commission by Nancy Telfer. We welcome singers of all ages and skill levels. We encourage other musicians in the community to be involved in our activities and we are always interested in being involved in community events.

[Contact information]

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**Wayne Gilpin Singers**
The Wayne Gilpin Singers is an auditioned 40-voice chamber choir that presents an annual series of public concerts and performs on request at social and charitable functions. The choir performs a wide variety of music ranging from choral repertoire classics to excellent modern works. A recent review raved that the Singers’ “diction was crystal clear. Especially enjoyable was the mellow feeling of relaxed tempos and the rich blending of the parts.” The choir rehearses on Monday evenings from 7:30–9:30pm at Luther Village Chapel in Waterloo from September to June. Wayne Gilpin: 1-800-867-3281

[Contact information]
Just as every canary’s song is slightly different, every chorister is unique. Following is a listing of the choirs in the Canary Pages by category to aid in the search for a singing group that matches a prospective choir member’s age, interest, ability, music preferences, and location.

Categories include Adult Community Choirs; Non-Auditioned Choirs; Men’s, Children’s and Youth; Women’s; Sacred Music and Church Choirs; Large Adult Choirs over 100 voices; University Choirs; Professional and Semi-professional Choirs; Chamber Choirs under 25 voices; World, Jazz and Folk; and Communities of Interest. Choirs are also listed by region if outside Toronto, with the breakdown being by County Town Singers careful reading of the description sent in by the choir. We apologize to Humber Valley United Church Caribbean Chorale of Toronto which categories to place a choir in was a subjective exercise, based on member’s age, interest, ability, music preferences, and location.

A word of caution: these categories are not comprehensive. Deciding which categories to place a choir in was a subjective exercise, based on careful reading of the description sent in by the choir. We apologize to choirs for any misinterpretations or oversights. And we urge readers not to treat these categories as definitive. Happy searching and singing!

**ADULT MIXED-VOICE COMMUNITY CHOIRS**

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<th>Choir Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Mississauga Choral Society</td>
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<td>MNJCC Community Choir</td>
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<td>Vesnivka Choir</td>
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<td>Victoria Scholars Men’s Choral Ensemble</td>
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**NON-AUDITIONED CHOIRS**

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**CHILDREN’S & YOUTH CHOIRS**

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Continued on next page
### SACRED MUSIC & CHURCH
- Anno Domini Chamber Singers
- Blessed Trinity Choir
- Bloo Street Gospel Chorus
- Choirs of the Church of St. Mary Magdalene
- Christ Church Deer Park
- Grace Church on-the-Hill
- Humber Valley United Church
- Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir
- Lachlan Jewish Chamber Choir
- Levantine United Church Choir
- Menno Singers
- Metropolitan United Church Choir & Festival Choir
- Ontario Presbyterian Chorus
- Oxford Churchmusic
- Sacred Music Society
- St. Andrew's Anglican Church Choir
- St. Anne's Anglican Church Choir
- St. Clement's Anglican Church Choirs
- St. James' Cathedral Choirs
- St. Mary's Children's Choir
- St. Michael's Choir School
- St. Simon-the-Apostle Choir
- Toronto Swedish Singers
- University of Toronto Gospel Choir
- University of Waterloo Choirs
- VocalPoint Chamber Choir

### LARGE ADULT - OVER 100 VOICES
- Amadeus Choir
- Chorus Niagara
- Fanshawe Chorus London/Gerald Fagan Singers
- Hart House Singers
- Kitchener Waterloo Philharmonic Choir
- Open Voices Community Choir
- Sacred Music Society
- St. James' Cathedral Choirs
- Toronto Choral Society
- Toronto Choristers
- Toronto Classical Singers
- Toronto Mendelssohn Choir

### UNIVERSITY
- Hart House Chorus
- Hart House Singers
- Onoscatopoeia-The Hart House Jazz Choir
- University of Toronto at Scarborough Concert Choir
- University of Toronto Gospel Choir
- University of Waterloo Choirs
- Victoria College Choir

### PROFESSIONAL AND SEMI-PROFESSIONAL
- Alexander Singers and Players
- Amadeus Choir Arcady
- Canadian Singers
- Christ Church Deer Park
- Elmer Iseler Singers
- Elora Festival Singers
- Exultate Chorale Singers
- Healey Willan Singers
- Leaside United Church Choir
- Mississauga Choral Society
- Palestrina Chamber Chorus
- St. James' Cathedral Choirs
- Tallis Choir
- Toronto Mendelssohn Choir
- VocalPoint Chamber Choir

### CHAMBER - 25 VOICES OR UNDER
- Anno Domini Chamber Singers
- Canadian Singers
- Counterpoint Chorale Darbazi
- Elmer Iseler Singers
- Elora Festival Singers
- Exultate Chorale Singers
- Georgetown Bach Chorale
- Hamilton Chamber Choir
- Kammermusik Toronto
- Kitchener Waterloo Philharmonic Choir
- Mississauga Festival Youth Choir
- Nathaniel Dett Chorale
- North 44 ° Ensemble
- Onoscatopoeia-The Hart House Jazz Choir
- Pentebilia Singers
- St. Andrew's Anglican Church Choir
- St. Anne's Anglican Church Choir
- Studio Sixteen
- Toronto Camerata Voices

### WORLD, JAZZ AND FOLK
- Bloor Street Gospel Chorus
- Caribbean Chorale of Toronto
- Common Thread Community Chorus of Toronto
- Coro San Marco
- Counterpoint Chorale Darbazi
- East York Choir
- Echo Women's Choir
- Hamilton Harbortown Sound Irish Choral Society of Canada Jubilate Singers
- Komitas Choir

### COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST
- Caribbean Chorale of Toronto
- Darbazi
- Forte-The Toronto Men's Chorus
- Irish Choral Society of Canada
- Komitas Choir
- Lachlan Jewish Chamber Choir
- Les Voix du Coeur
- Nathaniel Dett Chorale
- North 44 ° Ensemble
- Onoscatopoeia-The Hart House Jazz Choir
- Pentebilia Singers
- St. Andrew's Anglican Church Choir
- St. Anne's Anglican Church Choir
- Studio Sixteen
- Toronto Camerata Voices

### 905 AREA CODE - WEST/SOUTH
- Bach Elgar Choir of Hamilton
- Brampton Festival Singers
- Burlington Civic Chorale
- Canadian Orpheus Male Choir
- Centenary Choir of Hamilton
- Chorus Niagara
- Georgetown Bach Chorale
- Hamilton Chamber Choir
- Hamilton Harbortown Sound
- Harlequin Singers
- Milton Choristers
- Mississauga Children's Choir
- Mississauga Choral Society
- Mississauga Festival Youth Choir
- Oakville Children's Choir
- Oakville Choral Society
- Peel Choral Society
- Tempus Choral Society

### 519 AREA CODE
- Achill Choral Society
- Amable Choirs of London
- Arcady
- Brantford Children's Chorus
- Eiora Festival Singers
- Fanshawe Chorus London/Gerald Fagan Singers
- Georgian Bay Children's Choir
- Inter-Mennonite Children's Choir
- Kitchener Waterloo Philharmonic Choir
- Menno Singers
- Owen Sound Children's Chorus
- Rainbow Chorus
- Renaissance Singers
- Schneider Male Choir
- St. Mary's Children's Choir
- University of Waterloo Choirs
- Wayne Gilpin Singers
- Windsor Classic Chorale

### 613 AREA CODE
- Cantabile Choirs of Kingston
- Ontario Youth Choir
- Open Voices Community Choir

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**May 2005**
We are all Music’s Children

By Masha Buell

May’s Child

“Don’t let nobody steal your joy.”

Identify this uplifting member of our music community who “always has dice or cards on her” (photo: December 1957) for a chance to win tickets or a recording. Think you might know who it is? Send your best guess to musicchildren@thewholenote.com.

(Winners by random draw among entries received by May 15 2005.)

April’s Child .... was John Tuttle

John Tuttle, conductor, founded the Exultate Chamber Singers in 1981 to provide a group of graduating university students with high standards the opportunity to continue performing choral music. He continues to share this dedication with the current members of Exultate as they prepare to celebrate their 25th anniversary concert season including the launch of a new CD and an exciting anniversary gala. In addition, as organist and choirmaister of St. Thomas’s Church, conductor of the Hart House Chorus, adjunct associate professor of organ at the Faculty of Music, U of T and organist to the U of T, John is known and loved for uncompromising musicianship and droll humour.

In 2000, “Mr. Tuttle” retired as music director of the Canadian Children’s Opera Chorus after 15 years of inspiring young singers to be “people who make things happen”, to love only their own very best musical efforts, and to turn off all beeping wristwatches.

The Exultate Chamber Singers final season concert is Friday, April 29. They also give a free noon hour concert at Roy Thomson Hall May 30, John Tuttle conductor and organ (info 416-971-9229 or exultate@on.aibn.com). John’s other commitments include a Gala Concert celebrating the work and life of Alexander McCurdy (his teacher) at Princeton University Chapel in May.

And Our Winners...

“John Tuttle, of course. Just look at the mouth”

Adeodata Czink and a guest will be the guests of the Exultate Chamber Singers at the September concert of their upcoming 25th anniversary season and receive a copy of their brand-new CD.

“...I was pulled back in time to my years in the Canadian Children’s Opera Chorus, which brought a smile to my face...”

Emese Zaduban and a guest will also attend the September concert.

“...Just put a beard on the boy!”

Anne Massicotte will also receive Exultate’s new CD.

Congratulations Adeodata, Emese, and Ann!

Readers beware! Our music community does not consist only of performing musicians! Watch this column for conductors, composers, instrument makers and more!

Know someone whose photograph should appear in this space? Send your suggestions to musicchildren@thewholenote.com.

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

WHOLENOTE MAGAZINE SEEKS

responsible people to join our listings department

LISTINGS FIELD WORKERS

gather concert and music theatre listings within an assigned area enter and proofread listings data for assigned area maintain area listings files

LISTINGS COORDINATOR

takes field worker responsibility for one area supervises field work team takes responsibility for over-all completeness and accuracy of listings

The listings coordinator is a 30-hour/week position The field worker positions range from 20 to 80 hours a month

Both positions require a good general knowledge of music and particularly of the classical music scene a commitment to accuracy and comprehensiveness, computer skills and the ability to work to deadline

Positions commence in early August 2005 with training during the late spring and early summer

To apply, please send resume, with covering letter, to WholeNote Media Inc., 720 Bathurst St., Suite 503, Toronto ON M5S 2R4 Attention Simone Desilets

WHOLENOTE HIRINGS

WWW.THEWHOLENOTE.COM

May 1 - June 7 2005

35
NEW MUSIC CONCERTS and GOETHE INSTITUT present THE MUSIC of JÖRG WIDMANN

Sunday May 1

Glen Gould Studio

Richard Hunt United Church
May 1st at 7 p.m.


Sunday, May 1

Welcome to WholeNote's Live Listings (GTA)

Readers please note: Presenters' plans change; and we occasionally make mistakes!
Please always use the phone numbers provided to call ahead.
For Concerts Beyond the GTA see pages 51-53.
For Music Theatre and Opera Listings see page 54.
For Jazz Listings see pages 54-55.

Monday May 02

- 12:00 noon: Royal Conservatory of Music Community School. Fiddle Class Concert. Students of Anne Lederman. Lob. 90 Croatia St. 416-408-2824 x321. Free.
- 7:00: Royal Conservatory of Music Community School. Percussion Ensembles Concert. Paul Houle, director. RCM Concert Hall, 90 Croatia St. 416-408-2824 x321. Free.

Tuesday May 03

- 1:00: St. James' Cathedral. Music at Midday: Willis Noble, organ. 65 Church St. 416-364-7861. $3.00, family rate. Proceeds to Aids Orphans in Africa through Presbyterian World Service and

Chrylark Arts & Music
The Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir

10th Anniversary Season
Spring Gala Performance

In concert with
Shannon Mercer, Soprano

David Low – Music Director
Lenard Whiting – Associate Conductor
Kathryn Tremills – Piano Accompanist

An evening of Welsh hymns and songs; North American folk songs and spirituals; operatic choruses; and Broadway show tunes

Wednesday May 4th, 2005 at 7:30pm
Cathedral Church of Saint James

Tickets: $25.00
Call: 416-410-2254 or e-mail: info@twmvc.com
Charitable Organization Number 88374 4385 RR0001

Elmer Isler Singers
Lydia Adams, Conductor

The Celtic Spirit

Concert Series presented by Miele

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2005 7:30 PM
GLENN GOULD STUDIO
250 Front Street West
Toronto

Special Guests: Mark Haines & Tom Leighton
“A TWO-MAN FOLK FESTIVAL” — BOREALIS RECORDS

Down East music and superb singing that will make you tap your feet and leave with a song in your heart.

FOR TICKETS OR INFORMATION
CALL 416-217-0537 TICKETS $35 and $30
FRIDAYS @ EIGHT
CONCERT SERIES 2004-2005
presents
SING FOR CANADA!
with
The Choir of Lawrence Park Community Church
Mark Toews, Director of Music
Ronald Jordan, organ & piano
&
Kimberley Briggs, soprano
Jo-Anne Bentley, mezzo soprano
Glyn Evans, tenor
Peter Fisher, baritone
Music of Paul Halley, Ruth Watson Henderson & Oscar Peterson
Friday, May 6th, 2005 at 8:00 pm
Tickets: $20.00, $15.00 (Sen/St) General Admission
Lawrence Park Community Church
2180 Bayview Avenue, Toronto
(416) 489-1551 Ext. 21
(south of Lawrence Ave. East)
**Toronto Children's Chorus**

Jean Ashworth Bartle, C.M., O.Ont. Founder/Music Director

**Happy Birthday, Eleanor Daley!**

Saturday, May 7, 2005 7:30 p.m.

Featuring all choirs of the Toronto Children's Chorus (including the Choral Scholars and Boys' Choir) and special Guest Artists, Amabile Young Men's Ensemble (Carol Beynon and Ken Fleet, conductors) and Baritone Giles Tomkins performing the music of Healey Willan, one of Eleanor's favourite composers.

This special birthday tribute to Eleanor Daley, a great Canadian composer of choral music, will include her specially commissioned new work, *Vestigia*, with poetry by Bliss Carman.

**George Weston Recital Hall, Toronto Centre for the Arts**

5040 Yonge Street (just north of Sheppard)

Adults: $25/$22.50; Students & Seniors: $18/$16.25

Please call TicketMaster at 416-872-1111 or visit the Toronto Centre for the Arts Box Office (Mon-Sat: 11-6; Sun: 12-4)

**Performance Sponsor:**

CIBC

**Toronto DEER PARK CONCERTS**

129 St. Clair Avenue West (just east of Avenue Road)

Saturday-Night Organ Recital Series

Presents its 9th season

**Organist**

**William Wright**

May 7, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

**Performing**


General admission $ 20.00

Students and Seniors: $ 15.00

Call 416-481-2979 for ticket information or visit www.deerparkunitedchurch.ca, click "Concerts"

Parking courtesy of Imperial Oil next to concert venue.
Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus

a staged workshop production of excerpts from a new opera by Andrew Ager and librettist William Whita
8:00 pm MONDAY MAY 9
Trinity Presbyterian Church
2737 Bayview Ave. at 401
Admission by donation 416-791-6983 presented by Tryptych

The Cirrus Ensemble
performing works by Bach, Adaskin, Hindemith, Schwantert, Haydn and Schumann
— featuring —
Caitlin Broms-Jacobs, oboe
Michelle Zapf-Bélanger, violin
in J. S. Bach's
Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin
with a special guest appearance by Quartetto Constanze
Wednesday, May 11 at 8:00 p.m.
Palmer Road Baptist Church, 188 Lowther Ave.
(just north of Bloor, west of Spadina)
Admission by donation
For information: 416-535-6728

Monday May 9

1:00 - St. James' Cathedral. Music at Midday: Bangor Ladies' Choir. 65 Church St. 416-368-2604.

Tuesday May 10

8:00 - Festival Wind Orchestra. Springtime Serenade Concert. Grenada Gaffer, conductor. Fairview Library Theatre, 35 Fairview Mall Dr. 416-899-4255. $15, $10(st).

Wednesday May 11


... CONCERT LISTINGS: GTA ...

Lunchtime Chamber Music: Tracy Montgurdy 593-4828. $27-$105.

Hall, 31 King's College Circle. 416-978-8849. PWYC.

Music by Purcell, Monteverdi & others. Christ Church Deer Park, 1585 Yonge St. 416-291-8023. $20,$10. Proceeds will go to support the STM Middle East Mission Team.

Music by di Rore, di Lasso, de Wert and others, Christ Church Deer Park. 1585 Yonge St. 416-291-8023. $20,$10. Proceeds will go to support the STM Middle East Mission Team.


Sun, 15 May 2005, 2:00 pm

Concert only, adults: $30
Concert only, students and seniors: $25

Concert and ‘Meet the Artists’ Reception: $60
Reception 6:00 - 7:30 PM (reserved concert seating)

To reserve tickets call 416-481-1141 ext 250
Visa or MasterCard accepted

A Fundraising Event in support of Habitat for Humanity and Pibo Bowman School for Ballet and Creative Movement

Concert by The Bach Consort

The Bach Consort Chorus and Orchestra with YMI Dancing
Friday 13 May 2005 8:00 PM

Conductor: Ivars Taurins
Soprano: Monica Whicher
Contralto: Elizabeth Turnbull
Tenor: James McLennan
Bass: Sean Watson
Eglinton St. George’s United Church 35 Lytton Blvd (halfway between Eglinton and Lawrence, one block west of Yonge)

Concert only, adults: $30
Concert only, students and seniors: $25

At the door:
Adults: $30
Students (with ID): $15
Seniors (65+): $7

To reserve tickets call 416-481-1141 ext 250
Visa or MasterCard accepted

Eve Egoyan
performs the world premiere and CD launch of
WU
by Rudolf Komorous
for solo piano

May 1 - June 7 2005

MAY 1 - JUNE 7 2005 www.THEWHOLENOTE.COM
I Concentrate on You
An Intimate Evening of Song
Janet Catherine Dea
Soprano
Brahm Goldhammer
Pianist
Handel, Debussy, Joseph Marx, Cole Porter
Sat., May 14, 8 pm
Heliconian Hall
35 Hazelton Avenue
Tickets: $25 416-429-4502 or email muzent@sympatico.ca
Presented by Muzent Productions

The Bachelor Children's Chorus and the Bachelor Chamber Youth Choir
Join us for a celebration of Toronto's diversity!

Saturday, May 14, 2005
at 7:30 pm
Toronto Centre for the Arts
George Weston Recital Hall
5040 Yonge Street (north of Sheppard Ave.)
Tickets: $20 and $22 at the Toronto Centre box office or TicketMaster at 416.870.8000

The Canadian Welsh Singers from London, Ontario join Unionville's Village Voices in a celebration of traditional songs from England, Ireland, Scotland and of course Wales!

Saturday May 14th, 8:00 pm
Central United Church
131 Main Street, Unionville
Tickets: $12 at the door or call 905.294.8687 Children 12 and under free. Please visit www3.sympatico.ca/villagevoices
neth Ave. 416-225-2255. $15, $10(str/st), $5(child).


- 8:00: City of Brampton Concert Band. Allen Vizzutti, trumpet. St. Paul’s United Church, 30 Main St. South, Brampton. 905-874-2800. $25; $15, $10(12 and under).


- 8:00: Harbourfront Centre. Toronto Tabla Ensemble/Chhandam Dance Company: ONE. Harbourfront Centre Theatre. See May 13.

- 8:00: Living Arts Centre Mississauga. Fabulous Crooners. Galaxy All-Star Orchestra; singers from the Stardust Serenaders. Hammerson Hall, 1414 Living Arts Drive. 905-306-6000. $10 $49.


- 8:00: Oakville Symphony Orchestra. Last Night of the Proms. Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto #1; Gershwin: Summertime; Puccini: O mio babbino caro; Pops highlight & other music. Guests: Leslie Fagan, soprano; Catherine Wilson, piano; Roberto De Clara; conductor. Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, 130 Navy St. 905-815-2021. $26; $21(str), $12(1st). *SOLD OUT*.


- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music. Music Theatre Workshop. RCM Concert Hall, 90 Croatia St. 416-408-2824 x321. Free.

- 8:00: Small World Music Festival. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, Mohan Veena (9-string modified guitar); Subhen Chatterjee, overtone flute. Holy Trinity Church, 10 John St. 416-205-5555. $35.


Music by van Eyck, Telemann, Bach; Anonymous; traditional music. Guests: Leslie Fagan, soprano; Karen Quinton, piano; Vivian Waters, violin. RCM Concert Hall, 90 Croatia St. 416-408-2824 x321. Free.

- 2:00: Toronto Early Music Centre. Musically Speaking: In the Company of Songbirds: Music by van Eyck, Telemann, Bach; Anonymous; traditional & original tunes for the Norwegian selseljfylte. Alson Melville, recorders, traverso. Norwegian overtone flute. Holy Trinity Church, 10 Trinity Square. 416-966-1409.

- 3:00: Harbourfront Centre. Toronto Tabla Ensemble/Chhandam Dance Company: ONE. Harbourfront Centre Theatre. See May 13. Fund raiser for the Bhopal project.

- 3:00: Music Gallery. The Italian Intensive: Electro-Italian. Works by Berio, Nono, others. Ian Sadler, voice; Tullio Pellicci, guitar; Stephen Halladay, saxophone; Stephen Clarke, piano. St. George the Martyr Church, 197 John St. 416-204-1080. $20, $15(member), $5(str/st).


Concert Listings: GTA...
Penthelia Singers
Mary Legge, Director

Poetry in Song
Sunday, May 15
3:00 pm
Rossedale Presbyterian Church
129 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Tickets $15 $10 $5
416-229-0522
www.penthel.com

Spring Music on the Hill
Free Lunchtime Concerts - Thursdays, 12:15 pm
May 19 - Amy Rivard, jazz vocalist; George Grosman, guitar
May 26 - Bellanmusica Chamber Ensemble - Maria Thorburn, soprano; Ines Pagliari, violin; Michelle Kyle, cello; Marianne Gast, piano
June 2 - Douglas Tranquada, baritone; Sabatino Vaccia, piano
June 9 - Joanne Averill-Rocha, flute; Marianne Turner, piano
June 16 - Nathalie Nadon, cabaret singer; Michael Barber, piano
June 23 - Arrane, the folk music group
St. John's York Mills Church, 19 Don Ridge Dr.
416-225-6611
With the support of the Toronto Arts Council

Silver Creek Chamber Players
Special Benefit Concert
FEATURING
Shauna Rolston, Scott St. John, Lydia Wong, and members of the Gryphon Trio; Roman Borys, Annalce Patipatanakoon, and Jamie Parker

WALTERHALL, 80 QUEEN'S PARK
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005, 8:00 PM
ADMISSION: Suggested $20 at the door

Proceeds from this concert will provide scholarships for students attending the chamber music workshop at the Faculty of Music in August. For more information: 416-585-4464

The Wholenote May 2005
CONCERT LISTINGS: GTA ...

SIXTEEN VOICES. EIGHT PARTS. ONE PASSION.

Llama de amor viva (living flame of love). 6, 8-part music by Gesualdo, Lassus, Lobo, Victoria & Guerrero. Kevin Komisaruk, conductor.

STUDIO SIXTEEN
KEVIN KOMISARUK

Toronto's new Studio of Early Music.

Tickets $20
2 for 1 admission with this ad

CONCERT LISTINGS: GTA...

MONDAY, MAY 23, 8:00 P.M.
ST. PAUL'S BASILICA
83 Power Street, Queen at Parliament

Llama de amor viva

Spiritual madrigals, responsorials, and treasures from the Iberian peninsula

MIDY, MAY 23, 8:00 P.M.
ST. PAUL'S BASILICA
83 Power Street, Queen at Parliament

- 12:15: Harbourfront Centre, Milk International Children’s Festival of the Arts: 100% War. Maori traditional and contemporary styles in music & dance. CBC Stage, 235 Queens Quay West. 416 873-4000.
- 8:00: Brampton Festival Singers. Cantate Domino. Masses and music from the Renaissance. St. Paul’s Church, 30 Main St. South, Brampton. 905 451-1405. $20, $17, $10 (under 12).
- 8:00: Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra. Annual Fund Raising Pops Concert. Strauss: Thunder and Lightning; Nicolai: Merry Wives of Windsor; Overture; Borodin: Polovetsian Dances; Rodgers: Oklahoma selections. Robert Raines, conductor; Bruce Harvey, accompanist. Metropolitan Centre, 3840 Finch E. 416-879-5566. $15.
- 8:00: Harmony Singers. A Song For All Seasons. Popular old favourites, show, folk and semi-classical music. Guest: Sandy MacIntyre, Cape Breton fiddler; Harvey Patterson, director; Bruce Harvey, accompanist. Martin Grove United Church, Martin Grove and Mercury. 416-239-8251. $15, $10, child under 10 free.

**Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra**

**Pops Fundraising Gala**

**Friday May 27**

CBSO/Optimist Award recipient Giovanni Amenti performing classical pops favourites. Also on the program, the music of Strauss, Nicolai, Borodin and Rogers. New venue: Metropolis Cultural Centre St. Nicholas Church, 3840 Finch Avenue East Scarborough

Robert Raines
Principal Conductor
Music Director

Wine and cheese reception 7:00
Music 8:00
Tickets $50
For tickets call 416-879-5566

**New Music Concerts**

**Presents**

**KEITH HAMELS**

**Wild, Wired West at the Music Gallery**

**Friday May 27**

Live music & radioscapes; works by Daoust, Oroumeva, Siskind, Todorovici, Thorton and Wadhams. Eric Leonardson, Chris Brookes, Anna Friz, Evelyn Parry, performers; Darren Copeland & Mark Cassidy, directors. The Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. West. 416-910-7231. $10 (advance), $15 (door).

**Friday May 27, 2005, 7:30**

At Historic St. Basil’s Church

50 St. Joseph Street at Bay Street

For information: 416-926-7110

Performing Organists
William Wright, William O’Meara and Gordon D. Mansell

**Special Guest Organist**

**Peter Togni**

Also performing:
The senior choir of St. Michael’s Choir School

Limited seating. Advanced tickets recommended.

General Admission: $15.00
Seniors and Students: $10.00

**Natalie Choquette in Gala with La Diva**

**Toronto Sinfonietta**

Music Director Matthew Jaskiewicz
celebrated Canadian soprano and comedienne

Natalie Choquette

Mikhail Glinka, overture to Russian and Ludmila opera arias by Puccini, Verdi, Lehar, Gershwin, and others

**Saturday May 28, 2005, 8 pm**

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front Street East

Box Office 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754

Tickets: Regular $65, Upper Balcony $40

**Saturday May 28**

- 12:00 noon: RCM Community School. Lobby Concert. Students of the School in performance. Centre Stage, RCM Concert Hall, 90 Croatia St. 416-408-2824 x321.
- Free.
- 7:00 & 8:00: Common Thread Community Chorus of Toronto. Our Working World. Contemporary Andean music; multicultural, multilingual folk repertoire. Guest: Ayekan. Walmer Road Church, 188 Lowther Ave. 416-410-5022. Advance: $12, $7 (child/unwaged), door: $15, $10 (child/unwaged).

2:30: Harbordfront Centre. Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts: 100% Wai. CIBC Stage. See May 27.


7:30: Brampton Folk Club. Annual Showcase Concert. Wide variety of music featuring many artists of the BFC. Sanderson Hall, St. Paul's United Church, 30 Main St. South, Brampton. 847-233-3655. $10, $15.


7:30: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Salute to England: Walton: Spitfire Prelude and Fugue; Arban: Westminster Waltz; Vaughan Williams: The Lark Ascending; Elgar: Chanson de matin; Salut d'amour; Enigma Variations. Corey Cerovsek, violin; Bramwell Tovey, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 416-593-4028. $25-$45. $80: Baroque Music Beside the Grange. Ovid @ Versailles. Clarimbaulet: Orgue; Montéclair: Pan et Syrinx; Hotte terre: Ecoc; Gautier: La Rhétorique des Dieux; Mascitti: Psiche. Teri Dunn, soprano; Susan Hoeppner, flute; Russell Watson, horn; Bram Gregson, music director. St. George the Martyr Church, 197 John St. 416-588-4301. $22, $15.

7:30: Etoitobie Centennial Choir. Choral Favourites from Renaissance to the Present. Choral classics in a wide range of musical styles. Guests: Our Lady of Sorrows Chamber Choir; Michele de Boer & Harris Leeowen, conductors; Anne Marie Leonard, piano & organ. All Saints Kingsway Church, 2650 Bloor St. West. 416-239-1131 x43. $20.

8:00: Harmony Singers. A Song For All Seasons. Martin Grove United Church. See May 27.

8:00: JAZZ.FM91. Sophie Milman, jazz vocals. Cameron Wallis, saxophone; Paul Shroefel, piano; Rob Faire, bass; Robbie Kuster, drums. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. West. 416-205-5555. $32.25, $25.


8:00: VRN. A Song For All. Ovid@ Versailles. Esprit; Wood: Dance Sequence; Mozart: Overture to The Magic Flute; Marthy: Suite for Band; Bernstein: Overture to Candide & other works. Alastair Kay, trombone; Alain Trudel, conductor. 2:15: Pre-concert chat with Alain Trudel, Ray Tizard, host. Jane Mallett Theatre, 27 Front St. East. 416-386-7723. $30, $25(sr), group rates.

9:00pm & 11:00pm: Distillery Jazz Festival. John Kameel Farah: Piano Improvisations. Merging the soundworlds of baroque counterpoint, improvisation & ambient minimalism. Gibsone-Jessop Gallery, Distillery Historic District, 55 Mill St. 416-588-9094. $25 (advance), $30 (door).

May 29

2:00: International Conductors' Symposium Concert. Toronto Children's Chorus; Judy Loman, harp; David Hetherington, cello; Susan Hoeppner, flute; Russell Hartenberg, percussion. Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 416-932-8666 x231. $25, $18.


2:00: Music at Metropolitan. Mayhem with the Metropolitan Choir and Metropolitan Silver Band. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. East. 416-363-0331. Donations accepted.

2:00: Memorial Drive. A Spring Concert of Classical Music. Local musicians, students of Becky's Piano Studio, performers. Royal Bank Theatre, 4141 Livings Arts Drive. 905-306-6000. $10-$20.

2:15: Harbordfront Centre. Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts: 100% Wai. CIBC Stage. See May 27.


3:00: Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association. Erbobicke-Mississauga Branch. Teachers-in-Concert. Adelaide Bell, Margaret Parsons, Mary Gardiner, pianists; Susan Naccache, cello; Su...
Toronto Children's Chorus
Jean Ashworth Bartle, C.M., O.Ont.
Founder/Music Director
Presents
International Symposium
Conductors' Concert
With Guest Conductor, Henry Leck
And delegates of the Symposium
Sunday, May 29, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.
Christ Church Deer Park
1570 Yonge Street
Tickets: $25/$18 416-932-8666, ext 231

The week-long International Conductors' Symposium concludes with a concert highlighting great choral works for treble chorus.

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San Spier, violin & other performers. Noel Ryan Auditorium, Mississauga Central Library, 301 Burnhamthorpe Rd. West. 905-238-7150. $15; $10(st), $20(family).
- 7:00: Parkdale People's Concerts, Performers & music tba. Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen St. West. 416-533-7779.

- 7:30: Orchestra Toronto. The Three B's - Really! Beethoven: Leonore Overture #3; Bach: Suite #2; Brahms: Violin Concerto. Louis Papachristos, flute; Catherine Manoukian, violin; Errol Gay, music director. 6:30: Pre-concert talk by Artist-in-Residence Catherine Manoukian. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111. $30, $25 (st), $10 (child 18 & under).
- 8:00 & 10:00: Distillery Jazz Festival. Eve Egoyan, piano in recital. De Alvear: Asking, Distillery District, 55 Mill St. 416-872-1212. $25 (advance), $30 (door).

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The Hannaford Street Silver Band
presents
A Lighter Shade of Brass
Sunday, May 29, 2005, 3 p.m.
Jane Mallett Theatre
To conclude our season, we welcome the celebrated Canadian trombone virtuoso and rising star in conducting circles, Alan Trudel, as he makes his debut on the HSSB podium. A delightful programme of rousing marches, cherished classics, virtuoso solos and brass band showpieces will be performed by an array of Hannaford Band soloists. Featured works will include Dorothy Gates' Soul Reflections, Martin Ellerby's New World Dances and Gustav Holst's beloved St. Paul's Suite.

Call the St. Lawrence Centre Box Office

"Silver-plated music making all the way"
William Littler,
The Toronto Star

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Toronto Symphony Orchestra.
Concerts throughout May.
Call the St. Lawrence Centre Box Office: 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754.
THE TORONTO ORGAN CLUB continues its seventh season of concerts, featuring Phil Lapenna, formerly the organist at Maple Leaf Gardens, playing the magnificent Hammond X66 and Allen Classical Organ. A wide variety of regular and classical music will be on the agenda.

Monday May 30th 2005 at 8:00 p.m.
St. James United Church in Etobicoke.
400 Burnhamthorpe Rd. (just East of Hwy 427, on South side)
$10.00 at the door, children under 10 free.
Free refreshments, free parking at rear of the church.

THE WHOLE NOTE
May 1 - June 7 2005
www.thewholenote.com

Tuesday May 31

- 1:00: St. James’ Cathedral. Music at Midday: Father John Palmer, organ. 65 Church St. 416 364-7865 x231. Free.
- 7:00: Hummingbird Centre for the Performing Arts. Dora the Explorer Live: Dora’s Pirate Adventure. Musical for children. 1 Front St. East. 416 872-2262. $25-45, group rates. For complete run see music theatre listings.

Wednesday June 1

- 8:00: Talisker Players Chamber Music. L’amour et la Vie. Fauré: La bonne chanson; Chausson: Chanson perpétuelle; Rapoport: Fragments de Verlaine; Foley: L’amour du mensonge; Mœbres: Vicki St. Pierre, mezzo; Alexander Dobson, baritone; Talisker Players; Peter Longworth, piano. Trinity St. Paul’s Centre, 427 Bloor St. West. 416 466-1800. 25, $20(s), $10(st).
- 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Czech Voices. Roy Thomson Hall. See June 1.

Thursday June 2

- 2:00: Northern District Library. Gypsy Songs. Songs by Brahms, Dvorak, de Falla & others. Livia Beysovc, soprano; Karen Bender, mezzo; Brahim Goldhamer & Camilla Matuk, piano. 40 Orchard View Blvd. 416 393-7610. Free.
- 8:00: Nathaniel Dett Chorale. And Still We Sing...Scenes from the Life of a Martyr. Smith Moore: Scenes from the Life of a Martyr & other works. Guest: Dr. Carl Harris organ; Brainerd Blyden-Taylor, artistic director. George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 416 872-1111. 28, $20-43, $50, $120 (child under 12).
- 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Czech Voices. Roy Thomson Hall. See June 1.

Friday June 3

- 7:00: ROM Friday Nights. Muhtadi Toronto International Drumming Festival. Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen’s Park. 416 586-8000.
- 8:00: Via Salzburg. Phantasies and Crazyanthems; Glenn Gould Studio. See June 2.
- 8:00: Zonnebloem Chamber Ensemble. Brahms: Clarinet Trio in G Op.114; Beethoven: String Trio in G Op.9 #1. Amande Lee, violin; Pam Betgter, viola; Monica Fedrigo, cello; Julia Hambelton, clarinet; Stephanie Chua, piano. Heliconian Hall, 35 Hazelton Ave. 416 922-3618. 18.

Saturday June 4

- 2:00 & 7:00: Toronto All-Star Big Band with Jackie Richardson, vocals. Big Band Ballards; swing. Jane Mallett Theatre, 27 Front St. East. 416 366-7723. 132, group rates.
- 8:00: Acoustic Harvest Folk Club. Kiran Ahluwalia. Traditional Indian ghazals; Punjabi folk music. Opening set: Colin Stewart; Birchcliffe Bluffs United Church, 33 East Rd. 416 264-2235. 115.
- 8:00: Counterpoint Community Orchestra. Peters: I Am He; Tchaikovsky: Romeo and Juliet Overture; Barber: Adagio for Strings; Grieg: Poem for Flute & Orchestra; Gilbert and Sullivan excerpts; Morricone: Gabriel’s Oboe & other works. Ada Balone, violin; Jennifer Langton, flute; Chris Wilson, bass; Hubert Brard, oboe; Terry Kowalczyk, conductor. St. Luke’s United Church, 535 Sherbourne St. 416 925-9872 x2068. $15 (advance), $18 (door).
- 8:00: Past Perfect. Outrageous Fortune. Programme of Baroque music exploring the strange and splendid. Kathleen Ka-jiska, violin; Daniela Pierson, baroque violin; Nicholas Walker, gamba; Gabriel Shuford, harpsichord. St. Thomas’s Church, 383 Huron St. 416 975-9461. 15.
COUNTERPOINT
COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
SATURDAY - JUNE 4 - 8 P.M.
LATE SPRING CONCERT
including works from
Canadian composer
DUSTIN PETERS

Jackie Richardson
With the
Toronto All-Star
Big Band

JUNE 4, 2005
2PM & 7 PM
ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
TICKETS $32
(416) 366-7723
WWW.STLC.COM

© 2005, Jackie Richardson

The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir
Alexander Veprinsky, Conductor
79th Annual Spring Concert
Sunday, June 5, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
Leah Posluns Theatre
(4588 Bathurst St., between Sheppard & Finch)
With the Toronto Mandolin Orchestra
Featuring the choral tone poem,
Di Naye Hagode
music: M. Helfman; text: I. Fefer; arr: A. Veprinsky
Honouring the Heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
416-593-0750
tjffolkchair@sympatico.ca
Welcome to WholeNote's CONCERTS BEYOND THE GTA
Please always use the phone numbers provided to call ahead.

In this issue:

For Guelph Concerts see pages 36-50.
For Music Theatre and Opera Listings see page 54.
For Jazz Listings see pages 54-55.

Sunday May 01

Monday May 02
— 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Ensemble Les Amis - End of Time. Messiaen: Quartet for the End of Time; trios by Murphy & Grigasby, Lynn Kuo, violin; Emily Marlow, clarinet; Rafael Hoekman, cello; Angela Park, piano. KCWMS Music Room, 57 Young St. West, Waterloo. 519-886-1673. $20, $15(s), $10(s).

Tuesday May 03

Wednesday May 04

Thursday May 05

Friday May 06

Saturday May 07
— 10:00am: Guelph Spring Festival. Passport to Music. Events all day till 4pm; concerts and workshops for all ages. Various venues in downtown Guelph. 519-763-3000, 877-520-2408. Free.
— 7:30: Stratford Festival. Hello Dolly. Music & lyrics by Herman. Festival Theatre, 55 Queen St., Stratford. 800-587-1600. $15. For complete run see music theatre listings.
— 7:30: Toronto Consort: Treasures of the Renaissance. Europe featuring the music of Thomas Morley, John Playford, Orlando di Lasso, Claudio Monteverdi, John Schein, and others. Chalmers Church. 55 Quebec St., Guelph. 519-886-1673. $20, $15(s), $10(s).

Music of the Americas.

May 1/3 pm
Anne Robert, violin & Jacques Bouchard, organ. St. Thomas' Church, 99 Ontario St., Guelph. 519-588-5550 x3257. $20, $15(s), $10(s).

May 1/8 pm
The Toronto Consort. Treasures of the Renaissance. A musical grand tour of Renaissance Europe featuring the music of Thomas Morley, John Playford, Orlando di Lasso, Claudio Monteverdi, John Schein, and others. St. George's Church, 99 Woolwich St., Guelph. 519-763-3000, 877-520-2408. $25, $20(s), $15(s).

May 1/13 pm
Concert Players; Sydney Birrell, music director. Chalmers Church. 55 Queen St., Guelph. 519-579-8564, 888-363-3591. $20, $15(s), $10(s).

May 8/2 pm

May 14/8 pm
Eve Egoyan, piano recital. Works by Erik Satie, Karen Tarka, Olek Gruchalski, and others. Chalmers Church. 55 Queen St., Guelph. 519-579-8564, 888-363-3591. $20, $15(s), $10(s).

May 15/8 pm
Da Capo Chamber Choir; Leonard Enns, conductor. World premiere by Leonard Enns (Nocarne) plus works by Ross Whitney, Eric Whitacre, Rodney Sharman, Clare Hopkins, and others.

More info at www.guelphspringfestival.org
SINGLE TICKETS: Monday - Friday, 10 am - 4 pm, 6-9 pm; Saturday, 10 am - 2 pm; Sunday, 1-4 pm. 190 Simcoe St., Guelph. 519-763-3000.
Open House: May 13, 1-4 pm. Free.
CONCERTS IN GUELPH: $35. SINGLE CONCERTS: $25.
CONCERTS ON SATURDAY, MAY 20: $45 or $55:
SOUTHERN ONTARIO, CONTINUES...
**Epic Beauty.**

**Square,**

- **8:00:** Toronto All Star Big Band. Capitol Theatre, 14 Queen Street, Port Hope. 905-885-1071. 800-434-5092. $28.

**Sunday May 08**

- **2:00:** Capitol Theatre. Eric Nagler, family entertainer. 14 Queen St., Port Hope. 905-885-1071. 800-434-5092. $10.
- **2:00:** Guelph Spring Festival. Mother's Day Luncheon & Concert. Beethoven: Sonata No. 1 Op. 12 in D. Part: Fratres; Murphy: Dance me to your Beauty with a Burning Violin; Franck: Sonata in A. Duo Cancer.

**Tuesday May 10**

- **12:10:** Guelph Spring Festival. Barrie Cabena, piano. Chalmers Church, 55 Queen St., Guelph. 519-763-3000. 877-520-2408. Free.
- **8:00:** Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts. Buddo Wassyname and the Other Fellow. Musical comedy trio. 38 Dalhousie St., Brantford. 519-758-8090. $28.

**Wednesday May 11**

- **8:00:** Hamilton Philharmonic/Theatre Aquarius. Rodgers & Hammerstein with Hart. Songs and scenes from Broadway musicals. Guests: tba; Michael Reason, conductor. Otasco Centre For The Arts, 190 King William St., Hamilton. 905-526-7756. $13-145, 330-335(s/r). For complete run see music theatre listings.

**Thursday May 12**

- **8:00:** Nightlife Jazz Tour/Investors Group Canada. Joe Lovano Quartet. Joe Lovano, jazz saxophone & others. Wolf Performance Hall, 251 Dundas St., London. 519-872-8800. $35.

- **Friday May 13**

- **8:** Guelph Spring Festival. Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra: From Myth to Music. Rameau: Castor et Pollux, Pygmalion (excerpts); Handel: Overture to Acis and Galatea; Lully: Acis et Galatea (excerpts); Vivaldi: Summer from The Four Seasons; Concerto for Bassoon in a; Marin: Sonata in Echo for three violins Op. 6; Marais: excerpts from Alcione. Holy Rosary Church, 125 Elgin St., Guelph. 519-763-3000. 877-520-2408. $25, $200(s/r). For complete run see music theatre listings.

- **8:** Nightlife Jazz Tour/Investors Group Canada. Joe Lovano Quartet. Joe Lovano, jazz saxophone & others. Hamilton Place Studio Theatre, 10 MacNab St. South. 905-527-7666. $25.

**Saturday May 14**


**Sunday May 15**


- **3:** Centenary United Church. Organ Spectacular. Dr. Gayle H. Martin, organ; Choir of Centenary Church, Shawn Grenke, conductor. 24 Main St. West. Hamilton. 905-522-6843 x 26. $15.


**Monday May 16**

- **8:** Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Stark Trio. Kazella; Trio; Feign: Reflections on a Niggan; Francex: Trio; Beethoven: Archduke Trio. KCWMS Music Room, 57 Young St. West, Waterloo. 519-886-1673. $20, $15(st). $10(s/r).

**Tuesday May 17**

- **8:** Sound Investment Community Choir. A Musical Potpourri for a Spring Evening. All Saints' Church, 32 Elgin St., Collingwood. 705-445-0863. $10, $5(children 12 and under).

**Wednesday May 18**


**Thursday May 19**

- **8:** Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.

**Photo by: Luke von Twickel**

**Musica Franca**

**Music by** Michel Corrette, Joseph Joubert and Jacques Offenbach, performed by the Rameau Ensemble, conducted by Letitia van Hummelen.

**Saturday May 14, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Sunday May 15, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Monday May 16, 7:00 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Tuesday May 17, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Wednesday May 18, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Thursday May 19, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Friday May 20, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Saturday May 21, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Sunday May 22, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Monday May 23, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Tuesday May 24, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Wednesday May 25, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Thursday May 26, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Friday May 27, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**

**Saturday May 28, 7:30 AM to 8:30 PM at**
Saturday May 21

- 7:00: Raga Music School/Hamilton Spectator/Cable 14. Go Back Stage with Neeraj Prem’s Ragafarre. Traditional folk with Indian classical elements; fusion of East and West; music for sitar, flute, dilruba, tabla, saxophone, guitar, percussion. Hamilton Spectator Auditorium, 44 Frid Street. 905-526-3331. $10.

- 8:00: Hamilton Philharmonic. Glinka: Russian and Ludmila Overture; Schmidt: Symphony #1 (world premiere, commission); Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto #2. Nadzeda Vlaeva, piano; Michael Reason, conductor. Great Hall, Hamilton Place, Summers Lane. 905-526-7756. $53, $49(sr), $10(st), $5(high school & younger).

Monday May 23

- 8:00: Gravenhurst Opera House, Patio Tent. 3 tenors. 295 Muskoka Rd. South. 705-687-5550, 888-495-8888. $26.50.

Wednesday May 25

- 2:00: Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts. Canadian Tribute to Glenn Miller. 22 piece orchestra with Hart Wheeler, John McNab and The Fabulous Moonbeams. 88 Dalhousie St., Brantford. 519-758-8090. $28.

- 8:00: Jubilee Chorale, On The Stage. Annual spring concert. Angela Collings & Kevin Scharf, vocals; Twins Lakes Secondary School Choir; Christina Bosco, director; Jim Foster, M.C. Gordon Lightfoot Hall, Orillia Opera House. 705-326-8011. $15.

Friday May 27

- 8:00: Jubilee Chorale, On The Stage. Annual spring concert. Angela Collings & Kevin Scharf, vocals; Twins Lakes Secondary School Choir; Christina Bosco, director; Jim Foster, M.C. Gravenhurst Opera House, 295 Muskoka Rd. South. 705-687-5550, 888-495-8888.

- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Simplicity & Fate. See May 27. Centre in the Square, Kitchener.

- 8:00: Renaissance Singers. The Genius of Thomas Tallis. Tallis: Spem in Alium & other works; music by Byrd, des Pres, Mo- rales, Victoria & others. St. Andrew’s Pres­byterian Church, 54 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-745-0675. $20, $15.

Saturday May 28

- 2:30: Quinte Symphony, Beethoven: Emperor Concerto; Coriolan Overture; Past­oral Symphony. Empire Theatre, Belleville. 613-600-0099.

- 8:00: Bach Elgar Choir. Anniversary Gala. Watson Henderson: The Magic of God’s World (world premiere) & other works. Guests: Hamilton Children’s Choir; Zemira Poloz, conductor; John Leek, accompanist; Ruth Watson Henderson; Ian Sadler, director. Great Hall, Hamilton Place, 1 Summers Lane. 905-527-5995. $25, $20, child under 12 free.

- 8:00: Brampton Festival Singers. Cantate Domino. Masses from and music from the Renaissance. St. John’s Church, 11 Gush­ph St., Georgetown. 905-877-2531. $20, $17 (12 & under).

- 8:00: Karen Schuessler Singers. Spirit of the Drum II. Missa Kyrie; music of Afri­ca & South America. Guests: Reb Lauren; Bob Hughes, percussion. Wesley-Knox United Church, 91 Askin St., London. 519-455-1668. $15, $12 (advance), $17 (door).

- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Simplicity & Fate. See May 27. Centre in the Square, Kitchener.

Sunday May 29

- 11:00am: Shaw Festival. Sunday Coffee­concert. Members of the string quartet in residence & guests. Lobby, Festival Theatre, 10 Queen’s Parade, Niagara-on-the­Lake. 905-511-7429. Free.

- 8:00: Symphony Hamilton. Sounds of a Summer Night. Chamber works. Performers include members and friends of the orches­tra. St. Paul’s Church, 1140 King St. West, Hamilton. 905-527-7686. $22, $17, ($1 under 12).

Wednesday June 01

- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.
Mamma Mia! Mirvish Productions. Musical based on the songs of ABBA. Music & lyrics by Benny Andersson & Bjorn Ulvaeus; directed by Phyllida Lloyd. To May 22. Tues-Sat 8:00, Wed, Sat & Sun 2:00. Royal Alexandra Theatre, 260 King St. West. 416-872-1212. $26 to $94.


Negrodo Hotel. Tapestry New Opera Works. Music by Nic Gotham; libretto by Ann Marie MacDonald; Alexander Dobson, Patricia O’Callaghan, singers; Wayne Strongman, music director. Previews May 5 & 6: 8:00; Gala May 7: 8:00; Lithery Night May 10: 8:00; May 11-13: 8:00, May 14: 6:00 & 9:00, May 15: 2:00. Merigton Cellar, Distillery Historic District, 55 Mill St. 416-537-6066. Previews $29, Gala $150, eve. $55, mat. $35.

Puccini: Madama Butterfly. Royal Opera Canada. May 5,7,12,14: 8:00. Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111. *CANCELLED*


Jazz: Concerts

Jazz Brunch every Sunday.
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Salsatour Party w/ Cate Cubano.
May 8
Salsa Saturday w/ Marron Matizado.
w/ Tantra.
681 St. Clair Ave. W. 416-658-5687
recommended for first set.

Elizabeth Shepherd Trio.
May 1
6:00: Halton Museum Foundation.
Heartside Dinner 'n Music Series: William Blackburn & The Daredoves of Soul featuring Ricky Day.
6pm; music: 8pm.
Halton Region Museums.


May 8 8:30pm: The Drake Hotel. 1150 Queen St. West.
Honorarium granted.

May 9 10-14: RCM. Parents Information Night. Presentations from RCM faculty, staff & students about classes for children newborn to 12 years. Room 305, 90 Croatia St. 416-409-2824 x231. Free.

May 14, 15: 150 Volunteer Committee. TD National Piano Concerto Competition. Created to encourage & foster the talent of young Canadian pianists. May 14 10am-6pm: First Round. Solo Recital maximum 30 minutes; May 15 1:00-3:00: Final Round. Complete Piano Concerto; May 15 3:00: Awards Ceremony and Reception. Walter Hall, 80 Queen’s Park. 416-593-7769 x58. Free.


-meghan.roberts@utoronto.ca for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, LECTURES/SYMPHOSIA, ETCETERA

May 1 7:30: Burlington Concert Band/Big Brant Swing Band. We-Day 60th Anniversary Concert and Dance. 40s big band music, WW II memorial. Burlington Convention Centre, 1120 Burloak Drive. 905-637-1661 x120. Net proceeds to Hamilton Spectator Summer Camp Fund.

May 1 1:30. New Adventures in Sound Art. Deep Wireless Installations. Included are: "Four Foxhole Radios by Paul DeMarinis (series of working radios constructed from un-likely materials); "Lecture of Comrade Stalin by Paul DeMarinis (voices of Stalin, Elvis Presley, Lady Macbeth of Mtzensk & Spike Jones mingle & converse, made audible by a mob of radios); "Around road movies by Chantal Dumas, Christian Calon & Don Sinclair; "Who are the people in the radio? by Anna Fiez; "Radio Art Station (listening place to tune in to international radio art, including works collected in NASA's 2004 submissions call)."

The Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. West. 416-910-7231. Free.

May 5 6:00: Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Eye on the Arts – An Auction for the Senses. Featuring jazzy soul band Blackburn; ruffle draw; Lucy Zilo, Emcee. CINIB Conference Centre, 1929 Bayview Ave. 416-460-2600 x8248. 150.

May 7 6:00: Halton Museum Foundation. Heartside Dinner 'n Music Series: William Blackburn & The Daredoves of Soul featuring Ricky Day. 6pm; music: 8pm. Halton Region Museums.


May 14, 15: 150 Volunteer Committee. TD National Piano Concerto Competition. Created to encourage & foster the talent of young Canadian pianists. May 14 10am-6pm: First Round. Solo Recital maximum 30 minutes; May 15 1:00-3:00: Final Round. Complete Piano Concerto; May 15 3:00: Awards Ceremony and Reception. Walter Hall, 80 Queen’s Park. 416-593-7769 x58. Free.

**ANNOUNCERS, ETCETERA CONTINUED**

**May 14 6:30: Capitol Theatre Port Hope. Capitol Gala featuring Michael Burgess. Fundraiser for the theatre. Includes hors d’oeuvres, beer & wine, performance by Michael Burgess, champagne & desserts. 14 Queen Street, Port Hope. 905-865-1071. $150.**

**May 21 & 22. 10am – 4pm: Doors Open Ontario 2005. Gravenhurst Opera House. Tour this stylish and elegant 1901 building, a showcase for professional & amateur theatre and music theatre. 255 Muskoka Road South, Gravenhurst 705-687-4432. Free.**

**May 23 11am: Black Creek Pioneer Village. 15th Annual Fiddlers’ Contest. Fiddlers aged 7 to 77 compete for the title of Grand Champion. Also included are entertainment by strolling musician Ken Ramsden, instrument making demonstrations and more. 1000 Murray Ross Parkway. 416-736-1733. #11, #10, #17 (children 5-14). Plus GST.**

**May 25 – June 2: Nash the Slash and Robert Willem Vanderhorst. View From the Gallery Two. Multimedia extravaganzas featuring art of Vanderhorst with a live performance and music theatre. 295 Muskoka Road South, St. East. 416-461-5233. $10, cash bar.**

**June 11 am: Amadeus Choir. 2nd Annual Golf Tournament. 18 holes. 6:30pm dinner. Guest: Dave Devall. Cardinal Golf Club, Hwy. 9, 2 km east of Hwy 400. 416-446-0188.**

**Canadian Music Centre Ontario Regional Office. New Music in New Places: Call for Proposals from Ontario-based Associate Composers who would like to carry out a New Music in New Places project session in their region of the province. Proposals must be submitted in writing no later than 5pm, Friday May 27, 2005. For information: 416-961-6601 x207, ontario@musiccentre.ca**

**Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition/Choirs Ontario. Biennial competition for new choral works, the 2005 competition is open for SSA treble voice choirs, with a duration limit of between 4 and 8 minutes. Winning entry announced in November 2005. Scores must be postmarked no later than September 1, 2005. For more information please contact Choirs Ontario. info@choirsontario.org.**

**Vox Novus. 50x50 Project – Call for Works. Composers are invited to submit works previously unperformed or broadcast, in recorded form, 60 seconds or less in length, to be included in a one-hour concert. All submissions must be postmarked by May 16, 2005; selected works will be announced Sept 15, 2005. For details: http://www.VoxNovus.com/50x50.htm**

**LECTURES/SYMPPOSIA**


**May 15 20: Toronto Opera Club. Canadian Singers With Whom I Have Worked. Audio presentation by guest speaker Stuart Hamilton. CDs to be won! Everyone welcome. Room 330, Edward Johnson Bldg, 80 Queen’s Park. 416-924-3940. $12.**

**May 27-29: New Adventures in Sound Art. Radio Without Boundaries Conference. The potentials, boundaries & artist perspectives of radio. Speakers include Elisabeth Zimmermann, Lidia Camacho, Gregory Whitehead, Helen Thorton, Chris Brooks & others. Workshops by Eric Leonardson & Chris Brookes May 30 for conference attendees only. The Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. West. 416-910-7231. $130, pass $150. Includes admission to all performances May 27-29 (see daily listings).**

**June 3 5-12: Soundscapes Canada. Choral Conference. For the choral community – choristers, conductors & educators. Trinity College, 6 Hoskin Ave. 416-504-1282.**

**WORKSHOPS**

**May 1 8,15,22,29, May 6 1:00: RCM Community School. Drop-in Workshops & Open Rehearsal/Performances by Escola de Samba de Toronto. Instructor: Aline de Souza (Samba dance lesson); Open Rehearsal: Ensiao da Bateria (Bateria rehearsal by members of Escola de Samba de Toronto). Concert Hall, 90 Carlton St. 416-408-2824 x321. Workshops: FWYC, rehearsal free.**

**May 1 1:30: Toronto Early Music Players’ Organization. Vespers recital with teachers Shannon Purves-Smith, viol and Michael Purves-Smith, recorder. Bring instruments and stand; music available at the door. Lansing United Church, 49Bogart Ave. 416-487-9261. 20, members & first-time visitors free.**

**May 7 2:00: Long & McQuade. Mike Dawes, jazz bass/bassoonist demonstrates the new Yamaha SLBB200 electric bass, and answers questions about his new book. 250 Bloor St. West. 416-588-7866.**

**May 14 2:00: Long & McQuade. Workshop with Sandy MacIntyre, Cape Breton fiddler; traditional tunes and interactive workshop featuring the Cape Breton fiddle style. 925 Bloor St. West. 416-588-7866.**

**May 16 7:00: Kiva. Harmonic Overtone Singing Workshop. Canadian singer-keyboardist Kiva incorporates harmonic overtones into her art. Learning Annex, 260 Richmond St. West. To register: 416-924-3011. Registration fee: 140 (members), 150 (non-members).**

**May 18 7:30: Toronto Shapenote Singing from Sacred Harp. Beginners welcome. St. Stephen-in-the-Fields, 103 Bellevue Ave. 416-922-7997 or pleasescram@rogers.com**

**May 20 7:30: Recorder Players Society (Toronto). C and F instruments. Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. East. 416-536-5956. (4CAMMAC members), $10non-members.**

**May 30 7:30: Toronto Early Music Centre. Vocal Circle. Recreational reading of early choral music. Ability to read music desirable but not essential. 12 Millbrook Cres. Members free, 15(non-members).**

**May 31 8:00: Toronto Folk Singers’ Club. An informal group that meets for the purpose of performance & exchange of songs. Tranzac Club, 292 Brunswick Ave. 416-532-0900.**

**June 4 9am-11am: Commission Project. Swing ‘n Jazz VIII. Jazz Vocal and Instrumental Education Workshops. All ages. Bring instruments and friends to listen to, play with & learn from some of the world’s leading musicians. Featuring David Antonetti, Alec Brinkman, Paquito D’Rivera, Antonetti, Aleck Brinkman, Paquito D’Rivera, Sean Joseph, Josh Rutner, Tim Sullivan & others. 7 venues in Rochester NY, including Eastman School of Music, Arcadia High School, Hochstein Music School & other locations. 585-377-1565, info@rogers.com**

**June 5 1:30: Toronto Early Music Players’ Organization. Workshop with Larry Beckwith, baroque violin & vocalist presenter. Bring instruments and stand; music available at the door. LansingUnited Church, 49Bogart Ave. 416-487-9261. 20, members & first-time visitors free.**

"How I met my Teacher"

personal reflections on formative relationships
compiled and edited by Masha Buell

VOICE AS FIRST INSTRUMENT

My name is Erin Cooper-Gay and I play the French Horn. These days I am Acting Principal Horn with the Akron and Canton Symphony Orchestras in Ohio (which means I do a lot of driving!). Occasionally I get to sub with the Cleveland Orchestra, and Principal as I can, when time permits.

But I wanted to begin by talking about singing. Ever since I can remember, I’ve been singing. Singing is such a natural extension of oneself. I will always love to sing and I regard it as the foundation for all areas of music. It was truly the musical foundation I began building from when I started playing the horn.

My parents, Ann Cooper Gay, and Errol Gay, were my earliest teachers in every way possible. They are still two of my closest mentors. My mother was an opera singer, flutist and organist and my father was a conductor, pianist and trombonist. They both have devoted their lives to music and most importantly to teaching music.

My mom always encouraged me (and still does!) to develop my voice. When I was young, I valued her input and paid attention because she was my mother. Now, I also look back and value the millions of hours of dedication coming from a professional singer. My dad, although never a professional singer, fancied himself one. During a performance of Madame Butterfly the baritone character Sharpless started getting hoarse and dad ended up singing the part while conducting from the pit!

My mother founded the High Park Girls’ Choir of Toronto in 1986 when I was seven years old and I sang in it for eleven years. Dad was also an integral part of the organization, accompanying, directing and playing any instrument we needed. It was there that I had some of my most inspiring early musical experiences and became very aware of the power of expression through music. The passion my parents had for music in general and teaching music was contagious and they would often enlist me to lead sectional rehearsals.

CONTINUES ...

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I eventually directed the HPGC children’s chorus for my last two years in the choir. The choir had become an extension of family for me and I remember looking forward to every Thursday rehearsal with excitement. It was certainly challenging and I learned that to fully enjoy music I needed to strive for perfection. It was frustrating at times, feeling the weight of what I thought were my parents’ expectations (really my own), but ultimately through their guidance and the choral environment, I learned discipline, confidence and how to “wing it” when necessary - essential survival skills, I would later discover, for an orchestra musician.

My parents’ working worlds included opera. I had many early opportunities to absorb an understanding of some of the relationships between vocal and orchestral music. Because my dad played the trombone, I learned early on how to “buzz” melodies as a kind of game. My parents had a friend with an old silver horn she used to play and when I was about four I figured out that I could buzz into it — it was on the floor upside down and I was under it, because I couldn’t really pick it up. By the time I was in grade 5 I had joined the Swansea Public School Band. My first private horn teacher was Jane MacKay who was a young horn major at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music. I met her when I went to the wonderful Toronto Music Camp up at Camp Wahannotin. Around that time my dad had the opportunity to buy Fred Rizner’s Yamaha horn for me, and somehow found the money.

For me, the horn is the closest to the human voice and I spend a lot of practice time aiming for as pure a sound as I can make. My horn teacher, Eli Epstein of the Cleveland Orchestra, mirrored so much of what my parents have taught me. Like them, he was demanding, but never pushed me into anything I didn’t want for myself. In my studies, Eli heavily emphasized a vocal approach to the horn and at least once a lesson he’d make me sing a passage and then try to emulate on the horn what I’d just produced with my voice.

This is now the way I practice and sometime the only way I can conquer a difficult orchestral excerpt or solo. I’ve now come across a great many professional horn players that started out with voice as their first “instrument.” I still sing whenever I get the chance — jazz with my dad, my mother accompanying me on opera arias, even singing the Bach wedding cantata at a good friend’s upcoming wedding.

I always knew I wanted to be a professional musician of some sort and even now that I’ve chosen the horn, singing will always be a huge part of my life, thanks to my parents.
What advice, above all would you give to someone looking for a teacher for a young person, or for themselves?

"In looking for a teacher, I would say the most important factor is trust. The student should feel comfortable from the very beginning with a teacher, not only in how they relate to each other, but in what the teacher envisions for the student. I was lucky – I had that built-in trust with my parents."

***

Erin Cooper-Gay will be performing with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra through the spring, and in Seattle during the summer. She, and her trumpet-playing boyfriend, currently sing while driving.

Ann Cooper Gay is the Artistic Director of the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus, where she conducts the Principal and Youth Choruses.

Errol Gay is currently Associate Principal Librarian of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Music Director/Conductor of Orchestra Toronto. He is also a coach and the accompanist for the CCOC Principal and Youth Choruses.

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Dufay - Mass for St. Anthony; Binchois - Motets
The Binchois Consort; Andrew Kirkman

Hyperion CDA67474

The authorship of the major work on this recording has been attributed to Dufay: a crafty three-voice plenary mass setting in honour of the long-lived 4th century "spiritual warrior" St. Anthony Abbot, whose feast day falls on January 17. Comprised of the ordinary movements as well as an introit, gradual, alleluia, offertory and communion, the Mass runs to 50 minutes and features intricate and detailed writing that sustains interest all the way through. The mass movement settings by Binchois at the end of the disc rather pale in comparison, though they are an all the way through. The mass writing. Binchois' motets minutes and features intricate movements as well as an introit. whose feast day falls on January century style and earlier medieval dignity. It's a powerful sacred marily for his great secular chan-sons.

Flyleaves
Liber unUsualis
Passacaille 938

Every other year, the Flanders Festival Antwerp selects young ensembles who specialize in music from before 1600 for the International Young Artist's Presentation - Early Music. The chosen ensembles perform in Belgium and work in conjunction with the Passacaille label to make a recording of the repertoire. This recording of Liber unusUsalis was produced in 2004, after the ensemble won IYAP-Early Music in 2002.

The three members of the ensemble (Melanie Germond, Caro-lann Buff and William Hudson) are well-versed in mediaeval music, and their expertise is apparent on this disc. "Flyleaves" is a presentation of mediaeval English music, and the pieces with a through tenor line are sometimes sung by the mezzo-soprano (Caro-lann Buff) and sometimes by the tenor (William Hudson). Both have the ability to keep the music fluid and appealing. The immaculate tuning creates an almost eerie experience for the listener, and the voices meld together with great ease. Melanie Germond (soprano) expresses the text exquisitely, and all of the singers pull in and out of hockets and voice exchanges with simplicity and beauty.

"Flyleaves" is a noble example of how scholarliness and musicianship can be mixed together without producing a painful outcome. Unlike many other mediaeval specialists, these three musicians have a stunning sound and the research to back it up. I recommend this disc for discerning and non-discerning listeners alike - why have junk when the healthy stuff tastes better?

Gabrielle McLaughlin

Orfeo Fantasia
Charles Daniels; Montreal Baroque
Atma Classique SACD2 2337

Heart meets head in this brilliant recording, whose program is de-signed to reveal the art of Orfeo, as well as imagine its effect. So we have excerpts from Monteverdi's masterpiece L'Orfeo alternating with variations on the famed Lachrimae motive by Dowland and his under-appreciated English contemporary Tobias Hume. Also included is a poignant Air de cour by Pierre Guédron and a Toccata for harpsichord by Monteverdi's contemporary Giovanni Picchi. The highlight is a Lamento d'Orfeo by Sigismondo D'India, performed with absolute conviction and tenderness by all involved.

The performers are some of the greatest early musicians in the world today. Gambists Susie Napper and Margaret Little provide elegant, poised playing both as soloists and accompanists, with Little deserving special note for her sensitive and fanciful treble viol playing. Lutenists Nigel North and Sylvain Bergeron have an opportunity to show off in a sensational anonymous duo transcription of Dowland's Lachrimae pavane, and otherwise play subtly and supportively throughout. The harpsichordists Skip Sempé and Olivier Fortin offer rich and spirited playing. The star of the disc, however, is the veteran English tenor Charles Daniels. It's not the most beautiful voice you'll ever hear, but his musical vocabulary -- the variety of expressive techniques he has at his disposal -- is astonishing. Add to this an encyclopaedic knowledge of ornamentation, a breathtaking flexibility and a deeply intellectual sense of connection to the text, and Daniels' performance here is an absolute wonder.

There are some stylistic "bumps" from one track to another, but my advice is that you light some candles, pour yourself a glass of wine, put this CD on and marvel at the intimate power of music. Warning: you may shed a tear or two.

Larry Beckwith

Gluck - Orphée et Euridice
Jean-Paul Fouchécourt
Catherine Dubosc
Suzie LeBlanc
Opera Lafayette Orchestra and Chorus; Ryan Brown
Naxos 8.660185-86

Che faro senza Euridice and The Dance of the Blessed Spirits are probably two best known parts of Christoph Willibald Gluck's musical legacy. Both come from the same opera, one of over 40 known to have been composed by Gluck. What is lesser known is the fact that there are three distinct versions of "Orphée" or "Orfeo": the "original" 1762 version, in Italian, composed for a castrato voice in the title role; the 1774, French version re-composed for a tenor voice, and the best known, "posthumous" 1859 Hector Berlioz version: again in Italian and show-casing as Orfeo one of the most amazing voices of the vocal repertoire - the contralto.

Many great contraltos, including Toronto's favourite visitor, Eva Podles, made that role a cornerstone of their careers. It is easy then to expect a new recording of the opera to be predictable. This, however, is anything but. For starters, it is the rarely heard French version for tenor. And what a tenor. Jean-Paul Fouchécourt knows the opera's pedigree. He does not try to impose the 19th century embellishments, nor is he intimidated by the rigours of baroque singing. His co-princi-pal Catherine Dubosc, though not as milieu-sensitive, also presents a well-sung if at times overpowering Euridice. Suzie Le Blanc infuses the small part of Amour with great artistry and another quality abundant in this recording - sensivity. The tremendous research that Ryan Brown has put into score preparation and orchestral tuning pays off with a radiant, shimmering recording - an old chestnut rediscovered.

Robert Tomas

Concert Note: Suzie LeBlanc is featured in a program of Mozart Lieder at the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society on May 4 (see Further Afield listings).
This world-premiere recording of Motets pour la semaine sainte and Messe à quatre choeurs by Marc Antoine Charpentier, captures this opulent 17th-century French sacred music with SACD technology, a multi-channel surround-sound experience which places the listener in the centre of an exquisite soundscape.

It is indeed a magnificent sonority, reminiscent of Venetian polyphonic works. Obviously, during his stay in Rome, Charpentier had studied and perfected this compositional style. Despite moments of fine solo singing (with the exception of one soprano singing slightly under pitch), the highlights of this recording are in the ensemble singing (both choristers and soloists), suave and articulate, authoritatively handling the declamatory style (with French pronunciation) particularly in the mass. It is interesting to note that Charpentier (1634-1704) was one of the few French composers of the time to write music for the mass.

Those familiar with the grandeur and richness of Charpentier's music may be surprised by some of his harmonic "twists" in the mass, but be assured that the rewards are many.

Frank Nakashima

Bolivian Baroque
Florilegium; Bolivian soloists
Channel Classics CCS SA 22105 (+ DVD)

Between 1650 and 1750 the Society of Jesus recruited many fine European musicians to work in their reducciones (settlements) in South America. It is indeed a magnificent sonority, reminiscent of Venetian polyphonic works. Obviously, during his stay in Rome, Charpentier had studied and perfected this compositional style. Despite moments of fine solo singing (with the exception of one soprano singing slightly under pitch), the highlights of this recording are in the ensemble singing (both choristers and soloists), suave and articulate, authoritatively handling the declamatory style (with French pronunciation) particularly in the mass. It is interesting to note that Charpentier (1634-1704) was one of the few French composers of the time to write music for the mass.

Those familiar with the grandeur and richness of Charpentier’s music may be surprised by some of his harmonic "twists" in the mass, but be assured that the rewards are many.

Frank Nakashima
America. Since music was an important means of communication between the Jesuits and the natives, each mission had a choir and orchestra, and the children took lessons in reading, music and dancing. By the 18th century the level of performance was very high, and the filtering of European musical style through native South American attitudes and languages gave rise to a new repertory of “Missionary Baroque.”

This synthesis is reflected in the collaboration of Florilegium, a European chamber ensemble led by baroque flautist Ashley Solomon, with a quartet of vocal soloists from Bolivia, in their recording of music from the missions of the Chiquitos and Moxos Indians. Included are several psalms and sacred cantatas for solo voice, accompanied by a small choir and/or string ensemble, in Latin; two lovely works for solo voice, flute, and continuo, in native languages; a sonata for two violins and continuo; a violin duet on “La Folia”; and a delightful Pastoreta for recorder and strings. All of these works are anonymous, except for two cantatas by Domenico Zopoli, who left Italy for Cordoba, Argentina in 1717, where he studied for the priesthood, composed music for the Jesuit missions, and died of tuberculosis after only eight years in the new world.

The performances here are charming and polished, the sound gives a sense of the spacious cathedral in the Bolivian jungle where it was recorded, and a DVD about the making of the project is included. While teasingly unclear on several questions about this fascinating repertoire, the notes are generally informative. Colin Savage

Boismortier – Six Concertos for Five Flutes
B. Kuijken; Hantai; Theuns; Saïta; Etienne
Accent ACC 24161
Joseph Bodin de Boismortier has struck me for many years as France’s answer to Telemann – gifted, prolific and stylistically cosmopolitan, often (but not always) brilliant. Boismortier wrote prolifically and beautifully for the flute, blending his semi-Italianate writing style with a strong sensibility for this quintessentially French instrument. This CD provides an excellent sampling of some of his pieces for it, containing the six quintets of his opus 15 (1727) and one example each from works for one, two and three flutes without bass.

The disc opens with the solo suite in B minor, the fifth and most virtuosic of the six in op. 35 (1731). Barthold Kuijken plays it with characteristic flair and impeccable musicianship, proving beyond a doubt that these pieces have no need of the optional continuo part which Boismortier also provided.

This solo is followed by the first of the “Concertos” for five flutes, op. 15 - the first concertos by a French composer, incidentally - and the shift from the sound of one flute to five is quite magical. These pieces are truly fun, with their unisons, antiphonal pairings over a bass line, and their sparkling passagework. Here is music for flute ensemble which is actually as enjoyable to hear as it is to play! The duo from op. 38, offers some of the most dazzling playing on the disc from Kuijken and Marc Hantai; and the quite different approaches of the three players at the opening of the trio (op. 7, 1725) make for provocative listening.

This is delightful music, and with such flexibility of colour, dynamics and articulation from all five players throughout this recording, it is truly a great pleasure. And not just for flute players, either! Alison Melville

Vanhal – Symphonies, Vol.3
Toronto Camerata
Kevin Mallon
Naxos 8.557483
Van who? No longer the Viennese household name he once was, Johann Baptist Vanhal is attempting a comeback through NAXOS’ new recordings of his symphonies. His life spanned the years 1739 to 1813 as a musical contemporary of Mozart and Haydn of whom the latter is said to have greatly admired Vanhal’s symphonic style. For a time, music historians mistakenly attributed one of Vanhal’s symphonies to Haydn.

New to this project, Toronto Camerata under Kevin Mallon present a highly energized performance of four symphonies recorded in Toronto’s Grace Church on-the-Hill. Strong early music techniques both in the compositions and interpretation remind us of the Baroque principles to which Vanhal adhered so faithfully. Still, he wasn’t shy about breaking new ground with longer melodic phrases that characterized the new “classical” style.

Clear articulation, precise intonation and very fine production make this new disc a worthy addition to the earlier two volumes in the series (albeit by other ensembles). There’s a freshness in the playing that’s likely the result of the excitement surrounding the presentation of music not commonly recorded or performed. It’s a wonderful new window through which to view an era we all thought we knew so well.

You can be forgiven if this somewhat neglected composer doesn’t leap to mind as quickly as he did for late eighteenth century Viennese music lovers. Listening for the first time, his music is relentlessly teasing as it offers Mozartean, Haydn-esque and earlier suggestions of its authorship. Great idea for a party – invite your friends over to guess the composer...play Vanhal and drive them mad! Alex Baran

Concert Note: Last month Naxos released its 30th CD featuring the Toronto-based conductor and violinist Kevin Mallon, in this instance a recording of symphonies by William Boyce with the Aradia Ensemble. To celebrate the release Mallon and Aradia will perform a free concert at the University of Toronto Art Centre on May 28.
how he can rescue the speech from centuries of overexposure.

Well, Beethoven can be just like that. Want to record symphonies five and six! You’d better have something new to say or else call it quits before the down beat.

Tafelmusik, with more than 70 recordings behind them, seem ever confident of bringing a revitalizing touch to works we’ve known intimately for a lifetime. These familiar Beethoven symphonies present themselves as two forms of music - absolute and program. Despite their conceptual differences, Symphonies five and six were completed in the same year and premiered at the same concert. It seems wonderfully appropriate then, to present them on the same CD.

Tafelmusik under Bruno Weil bring their characteristic touch to this recording. The strings are sparse and largely straight-toned, revealing surprising hues of colour in the wind parts. After years of big romantic orchestral performances this sound is wonderfully new, especially in the second and third movements of the sixth symphony. The fourth movement “storm” is delightfully bad weather, reminiscent of The Four Seasons and the finale offers a slightly slower tempo than usually heard but works well nevertheless.

Beethoven’s fifth symphony feels a bit more metered than we expected, always expand the fortissimo passages when needed leaving no doubt as to Beethoven’s grander intentions.

It’s been a long time since five and six sounded so new. Worth having.

Alex Baran

**Concert Notes: Tafelmusik performs at the Guelph Spring Festival on May 13. The Quinte Symphony performs on all-Beethoven program including the Pastoral Symphony on May 28 in Belleville. (see Further Afield listings.) The Toronto Philharmonia includes the Pastoral Symphony on its May 19 program at the George Weston Recital Hall.**

![Schubert - Die Schöne Müllerin](image)

Composed by Leif Ove Andsnes on at least four superlative Schubert recitals for EMI.

This new release was recorded in December 2003, pre- and post-dating some of the Andsnes discs. It is reasonably obvious that, although the material is different, Bostridge is better controlled with Andsnes at the keyboard. This is Bostridge’s second recording of this work and the earlier, gentler version on Hyperion is the better, wherein he controls his inclination to embellish and over-articulate. Uchida clearly aids and abets his mannerisms... as an accompanist should do. But the tenor’s over-worked heartiness is, to these ears at least, very close to tiresome, while, for others, this very animation is just what is needed to bring the poems of Wilhelm Muller to life. Not surprisingly, some of opera’s most enthusiastic fans are completely untouched by lieder, presumably because of the absence of dramatic personae.

Having said all this, I must say that I am a fan of this particular school of English tenors, which is so well represented by the almost white toned voices of Peter Pears and Mr. Bostridge.

**Bruce Surtees**

**Two Hands**

Leon Fleisher

Vanguard Classics ATM CD 1551

This collection performed by Leon Fleisher has attracted a lot of attention. Deservedly so, since it is the first solo recording in forty years from one of the greatest pianists of his generation.

In his prime, Fleisher blazed with virtuosity and intellectual incisiveness. But in 1965, when he was thirty-seven, the American pianist lost the use of his right hand to dystonia, a neurological disorder. After struggling with various remedies, he started Botox treatments, and this disc is the miraculous result. This is expansive music-making. Throughout, starting with Hess’s arrangement of Bach’s Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring, Fleisher puts the emphasis on singing. Yet he maintains his renowned clarity of touch. Scarlatti’s Sonata in E major, however, falters when Fleisher becomes too insistently dramatic.

Chopin’s Nocturne in D flat major sets things right. In his program notes Fleisher calls it ‘my mother’s favorite piece’, but his eloquent balancing of voices, especially in the closing dialogue, is anything but sentimental.

The centerpiece of this recording is Schubert’s Sonata in B flat major, which Fleisher calls ‘sacrosanct, a holy piece’. Since he first recorded it fifty years ago, Fleisher has become more introspective. But he maintains thrilling dramatic urgency in the first two movements, and sparkling exuberance in the last two. “Two Hands” is studded with moments of revelatory beauty like the breathtaking return to the minor key just over halfway through the slow movement - further reason to seek out this exquisite disc.

**Pamela Margles**

**Future Concert Notes:** Fleisher has been a frequent visitor to the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto for many years. Last year, when he gives masterclasses, performs chamber music and conducts. He will be giving masterclasses Feb. 23, 24 and April 20, 21, 2006. Fleisher will perform Hindemith’s Piano Concerto (for the Left Hand) with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra on April 1, 2006.

Chopin; Rachmaninov

Piano Sonatas

Hélène Grimaud

Deutsche Grammophon 4745325

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Chopin and Rachmaninov.

Her forceful attack at the onset demands immediate attention and is soon followed by thunder and lightning flashes later giving way to a wistful and elegiac secondary theme, beautifully realized. The musical argument is carried through the lyrical 2nd movement into the virtuoso, syncopated and aggressively rhythmic 3rd where Grimaud's fiery temperament, supported by a perfect technique, gives expression to his composer's natural affinity to this composer. Her forceful attack at the 2nd movement is shiningly clear that here is music making of the highest order, exuberant and engaging.

Salzman has long been associated with the Tel Aviv String Quartet and these performances attest to their complete immersion into the essence and spirit of the music. Together they are not making a recording... they are making music. The real sense of the occasion is captivating in these 'you are there' recordings.

Combining all this, the recording displays exemplary sound, so there is every good reason to add the disc to a discerning collection.

**Bruce Surtees**

**Concert Note: Helene Grimaud performs Ravel's Concerto in G Major with the TSO on June 8 and 9.**

Brahms: Schumann
Piano Quintet
Pinina Salzman;
Tel Aviv String Quartet
Doremi CD DHR 7852

Pinina Salzman was born in Tel Aviv in 1924 and gave her first recital when she was eight. Alfred Cortot heard her play in 1932 and immediately invited her to Paris where she studied with her patron and Magda Tagliaferro. When she was 14, upon the invitation of Bronislav Huberman, she played three piano concertos in a single evening with the Israel Philharmonic which Huberman had recently founded. It is only a slight exaggeration to say that she has played everywhere with just about everyone and everybody. Today she teaches and adjudicates on many competitions around the world.

Doremi has issued four volumes (six CD's) devoted to her and, to quote Brahms and this shows his reticence to follow Beethoven's footsteps. He began work on his First Symphony in the early 1860s, but it was not until 1876 that he felt ready to send it out into the world as his Op.68. In the end it proved a masterpiece and became a favourite of conductors. Bychkov gives a strong, powerful, well detailed and idiomatic performance. It is classical in spirit and well driven with a good upbeat tempo.

The last movement is especially exciting.

The theory that the 2nd Symphony is Brahms' 'Pastoral' is an oversimplification. Whereas there is sunshine in Beethoven's 6th, here there are sudden cloudy periods and mood changes. This is a highly successful performance. Sensitive, full of feeling with well chosen tempos and a good understanding of the structure of the symphony. The first movement starts out auspiciously with the dialogue of the horns and base strings and later the cello melody really sings. The conductor moves the 2nd movement at a good clip and the climaxes are well paced and effective. The rollicking 3rd with its tone of resignation at the end is charming and the final movement has an absolutely fantastic ending that could wake the dead.

I have always been partial to the short, heroic Third, which is much less often performed than the others. Perhaps the reason is that here Brahms abandons the usual "glory" ending in favour of a quiet pp conclusion. Here the middle movements are more successful. In the pastoral 2nd the seemingly inexhaustible melodies follow one another like a daisy chain. The popular third movement really 'breaths' in a comfortable tempo that broadens appropriately to a noble finish. The outer movements are driven competently, but unfortunately at the finale, the most wonderful part of the symphony, the pp return of the cyclical motto theme becomes inaudible and mars the overall effect.

Success was long in coming for this composer's highly original voice is constantly heard in the foreground, even in the movements of very considerable technical difficulty.

On casual listening Pierre Sanjuan's Sonatine (1946) appears derivative of the music of the previous generation of composers. Embedded in it however is a darkly nostalgic lament for that earlier time, forever lost in the ashes of the War.

André Jolivet's Chant de Linos, described as a threnody, a funeral lament, was written in 1944 during
the darkest days of the German occupation of France. In this performance we hear the composer's anguish grow to an almost unbearable intensity.

Henri Dutilleux' wonderful Sonatine, (1942) moves from being pastoral to rhapsodic to playful to agitated. While the virtuosity required of both players is prodigious we always feel it is in the service of conveying the development of the music.

In Pierre Boulez' Sonatine, (1951), we enter the brave new world of the post war avant garde, serial technique, angular rhythms and melodic lines and lots of flutter-tonguing. Gallois and Wong are as convincing in this as in the more traditional harmonic and melodic language of the other works in the program.

These are masterful performances of masterpieces of the modern flute repertoire.

Allan Pulker

**NAXOS ROBERT CRAFT COLLECTION:**
- Webern - Symphony; Six Pieces; Concerto for 9 Instruments
- 20th Century Classics Ensemble; Philharmonia Orchestra; Robert Craft
  - Naxos 8.557530
- Schoenberg - Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra
  - Fred Sherry Quartet; Twentieth Century Classics Ensemble; Robert Craft
  - Naxos 8.557520
- Stravinsky - The Firebird; Petrushka
  - Philharmonia Orchestra; Robert Craft
  - Naxos 8.557500
- Stravinsky - Oedipus Rex; Les Noces
  - Simon Joly Chorale; Philharmonia Orchestra; Robert Craft
  - Naxos 8.557499

Fifty years have passed since the appearance of Robert Craft's landmark recordings of the complete works of Anton Webern on the Columbia label. The acolyte of Schoenberg, Dr. von Webern focused his mentor's serial method through the lens of Renaissance polyphony to forge sonic diamonds of unprecedented symmetry. These Columbia recordings and the Schoenberg series that followed them, despite their shortcomings, became an invaluable and highly influential resource for composers of the post-war generation. That Craft, now in his eighties, will record the complete Webern again for the Naxos label is indeed welcome news. That Naxos will additionally allow Craft the opportunity to once again record the complete works of Schoenberg and Stravinsky approaches a miracle these days. Indeed, had it not been his good fortune to serve as amanuensis to Igor Stravinsky in his final decades, Robert Craft would likely have never been given the chance to make his first recordings and would be known today mostly as an essayist. An encouraging word from Igor to an ever-accommodating Goddard Lieberson (a.k.a. "God") at Columbia was all it took back then.

The initial Webern album contains several of his most influential scores, including the Symphony Op. 21, Six Pieces for Orchestra Op. 6 and the Op. 24 Concerto. Soprano Jennifer Welch-Babidge delivers a supple and sensitive account of the songs Opp. 16, 17 & 18, ably accompanied by the elite musicians of the hand-picked ensemble. Pianist Christopher Oldfather contributes a refreshingly lyrical performance of the Piano Variations Op. 27.

The Schoenberg album leads off with a rarity, his Concerto for String Quartet (1933), a totally bizarre deconstruction of Handel's Concerto Grosso Op. 6, No. 7 in which the past and the near-present are melded into a high-spirited Surrealist bacchanal. Christopher Oldfather makes another welcome appearance in a totally convincing performance of the first-ever serial work, the Suite for Piano Op. 25. Jennifer Lane crowns the recording with her impassioned singing of the chamber ensemble version of the Song of the Wood-Dove and the unrelentingly morose Book of the Hanging Gardens.

The Stravinsky albums with the London Philharmonia are in fact re-issues of Craft's recordings for the KOCH label in 2001. This fine orchestra delivers a magnificent performance of the Petrushka ballet score and a somewhat less successful, slightly monotonous account of the complete Firebird ballet, touted as the first recording of the complete original version. The recordings of Oedipus Rex and Les Noces, though respectable, exhibit occasional vocal inadequacies. The Simon Joly Chorale and soloists in Les Noces (The Wedding, or Svadebka when sung in Russian as it is here), impart a robust, earthy appeal though the co-ordination and balance between the voices and the remarkable ensemble of four pianos and percussion gets a bit tricky at times. Oedipus Rex features a fine performance from the Philharmonia marred by tremulous singing from Martyn Hill in the key role of Oedipus. Narrator Edward Fox delivers his lines as if he were playing Henry Higgins. The slack, timorous singing by the pick-up male chorus is a major disappointment. Aristotle taught that Greek drama should move the audience to pity; unfortunately the only sort of pity the Joly singers drew from me is of the Mr. T. variety. Do yourself a favour and get Bernstein's peppy Harvard Glee Club-style version if you can.

Daniel Foley

**CONCERT NOTE:** Reviewer Daniel Foley's vocal setting L'Amour de mensonge will be performed as part of the Talisker Players program L'Amour et la Vie on June 1 at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre.

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William Littler, Toronto Star
Hommage à André Mathieu
Alain Lefèvre
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Pianist Lefèvre might well be unstoppable in his one-man quest to revive late-romantic Canadian music. Not content with the release of the hot-selling Concerto de Québec disc just months ago, he has returned with this stunning new piano record. As if to prove a point, Hommage opens with the solo piano piece derived from Mathieu’s sketches for Concerto de Québec. Eleven more Mathieu works form the main body of this collection, including the evocative Été canadien and Dans la nuit. Mathieu’s writing is virtuosic in the post Lisztian style, more akin to Rachmaninov than anyone else, and his childhood nickname “the Canadian Mozart” was an unfortunate moniker.

If you do appreciate that bravura romantic idiom, you’ll be enchanted with Boris Petrovski’s Fantaisie “Hommage à André Mathieu”, commissioned by Lefèvre and recorded here for the first time. Petrovski’s work is very mature, considering his relative youth. It’s a very enjoyable piece. Composer Walter Boudreau rounds out the collection with his Concerto de Québec for piano and orchestra, with a resplendent palette for the composer’s eccentric vision, especially in the exquisite postludes that he imposes. Endless miniature personal blending of romantic nostalgia and modernist subversiveness.

This recording was made in 1986 in Moscow. It has never before been released, in spite of its significance. Silvestrov has certainly had exposure in the West, including two Grammy nominations, but his work remains enigmatic.

Baritone Sergey Yakovenko’s magnificent voice blooms in the extremities of its range, where Silvestrov frequently leads it, and in the severely restricted dynamic levels which he imposes. Endlessly imaginative, Yakovenko treats Silvestrov’s sotto voce marking for each song as an invitation for colour and shade, rather than an expressive limitation.

Sensitive pianist Ilya Scheps creates a resplendent palette for the composer’s eccentric vision, especially in the exquisite postludes which end almost every song. Scheps says in a brief program note that the time spent preparing this work was “one of the happiest moments of my artistic life”. Happiness – the kind that comes from encountering such strange and beautiful music – is one of the many wonders this memorable disc offers.

Right from the first, Song can tend the ailing spirit. Silvestrov makes it clear he is exploring the ‘mystic power’ of song. Many of these songs, with their insistently repeated verses, subtly shifting consonant harmonies, lilting rhythms and arpeggiated piano accompaniment, do sound ‘half-familiar’, like the coachman’s song in Winter Journey. The poignant love-song, I met you, highlights Silvestrov’s exquisitely personal blending of romantic nostalgia and modernist subversiveness.

This recording was made in 1986 in Moscow. It has never before been released, in spite of its significance. Silvestrov has certainly had exposure in the West, including two Grammy nominations, but his work remains enigmatic.

Silvestrov - Silent Songs
Sergey Yakovenko, baritone; Ilya Scheps, piano
ECM New Series 1898/99

Silent Songs is a cycle of twenty-four songs by Ukrainian composer Valentyn Silvestrov, set to mostly Russian and Ukrainian verses.
excellent camera work and sound, and the original tapes have been remastered in PCM Stereo, Dolby Digital 5.1, and DTS Surround Sound.

The 1977 concert by Dizzy Gillespie's sextet has Dizzy's protégé, Jon Faddis, on second trumpet, Milt Jackson, vibes; Monty Alexander, piano; Ray Brown, bass, and Jimmie Smith on drums. The opening selection, a coy Girl of My Dreams, begins with both trumpeters tightly muted, Faddis showing just how much he's learned from the master. Get Happy reprises a head arrangement from 1945 yet still manages to sound fresh. Following ballad features from Diz, Milt Jackson and Jon Faddis there's a fire-breathing version of The Champ, then the closer, a funky Here 'Tis. Jon Faddis gives his mentor a run for his money throughout the concert, and Jackson and Brown impress even more here than during the glory days of the bebop revolution.

In the 1940s Norman Granz made a name for himself producing jam sessions on stage for a paying public. His first concert was held at the Philharmonic Auditorium in Los Angeles, hence the label Jazz at the Philharmonic. By the 1970s JATP was basically a thing of the past, but every now and then Granz would pull together a group of famous jazzmen and send them onstage for an impromptu jam. This 1975 concert has Roy Eldridge on trumpet, Clark Terry, trumpet and flugelhorn; Benny Carter, alto sax; Zoot Sims, tenor; Tommy Flanagan, piano; Joe Pass, guitar; Keeter Betts, bass, and Bobby Durham, drums. The standout soloists are Zoot Sims, Clark Terry, and Joe Pass, but no one embarrasses himself. A most enjoyable way to pass 90 minutes.

Tommy Flanagan, the "poet of the piano", is stunning in his trio set. He's accompanied by Keeter Betts on bass and Bobby Durham on drums. Flanagan plays a beautifully balanced program of jazz originals and standards. His medley of Billy Strayhorn's Star Crossed Lovers and Duke Ellington's Jump For Joy offers a superb example of his sensitive artistry. The man's taste is exquisite, and what a touch. Flanagan seems to caress the keyboard. I always thought of him as a latter-day Teddy Wilson, another pianist whose taste and technique raised this music to new levels. A must have set for anyone who loves great jazz piano.

Don Brown

Mary Lou's Mass
Mary Lou Williams
Smithsonian Folkways
SFW CD 40815

This is a reissue of Mary Lou Williams' Music For Peace album with some welcome additional material. When the original LP was issued back in 1975 Newsweek Magazine called the score "an encyclopedia of black music, richly represented from spirituals to bop to rock". That's a pretty fair assessment of the work but I find that Mary Lou, in her attempt to cover all the bases, is perhaps a little too self-effacing. Sure, there are moments here and there where one hears the genius of this most sadly neglected of jazz pianists, but far too often Ms. Williams takes a back seat in the proceedings.

Mary Lou had to struggle to get this work performed in the church. She'd taken an earlier version to Rome in 1968 but was disappointed when a Vatican City official campaigned successfully against the performance because of her use of drums. A revised mass was later performed in a church in New York City. Mary Lou contended that the work was not "really jazz", but she'd certainly broken tradition with her nontraditional rhythms and harmonies. Also, many of the players and singers in the recordings have strong jazz credentials. While I'm not in a position to know how well the work succeeds as music for a mass, I understand it's been very well received. And, according to his notes, Father Peter O'Brien (Mary Lou's manager) certainly holds it in high regard.

Don Brown

No Funny Hats
Buddy Rich with the Killer Force Band
Lightyear/Lobitos Creek Ranch
546662

Buddy Rich's 'No Funny Hats' is a posthumous release on New York's Lightyear Records of a live performance in a Sacramento, California high school on March 3, 1978.

The CD's title was derived from a Buddy Rich interview in which he declares jazz is "an American classic ... without funny hats and...
funny hair."

Buddy delivers in classic, no nonsense fashion with high-energy arrangements by Bob Mintzer, Bill Holman, Bob Kay, and Bill Reddie. His fifteen piece ensemble, aptly titled ‘The Killer Force Band’, deliver five jam-packed arrangements culminating in Rich’s signature version of West Side Story Suite complete with extended, fiery drum solo.

A nice surprise occurs on the second last cut with a trio version of Someday My Prince Will Come which features a stunning, note perfect fretless bass solo by Tom Warrington.

There’s no denying that Buddy Rich’s energy, swing, and soloing innovations were virtually unparalleled by any drummer, particularly in the Big Band genre. One thing that may be difficult for some to listen to, however, is the occasional excursion into funky arrangements, particularly on the first track, Grand Concourse. They just don’t have the authenticity of his distinctive 1950s Big Band sound.

But as the audience’s enthusiasm proves, “No Funny Hats” effectively captures Buddy Rich’s ability to deliver 110% each and every time he took to the stage.

Eli Eisenberg

Live at the Iridium
Monty Alexander
Telarc Jazz CD-83610

Fans of the Jamaican-American pianist Monty Alexander will be happy with this new performance recording, and those who want to know what he’s about will be well-served by this representative release. He offers virtuosic and thorough-going piano playing. If it can be done on the keyboard, Alexander’s going to do it, and do it in a show stopping, audience pleasing way.

There are others, however, who will find it utterly predictable, shallow and derivative.

Alexander works in the pianistic deep shadow of Oscar Peterson, lighting fires that offer more heat than light. This is most obvious on Slappin’, a blues which offers the thunderous left hand punches and dynamics patented by OP (even if he can’t do them any longer). In Alexander’s hands it somehow comes out as caricature.

His reading of My Mother’s Eyes is just superficially sentimental, sounding like a barroom ballad, as though it’s only intent is to show how heartfelt he can be. More restraint is shown on Alexander’s original The River, a lovely melody enhanced by some string strumming by the pianist.

Really, though, his heart is in the Caribbean, and with the featured hand drums and steel drums of long-time pal Robert Thomas, Jr. Happylypso/Funji Mama joyfully makes you remember that sandy beach, holding an icy Red Stripe. Essentially this is a standard trio, with bassist Hassan Shakur (once known as J.J. Wiggins, he’s the son of the truly fine pianist Gerry Wiggins) and drummer Mark Taylor making a band that has spent some time together, and shows it in the group’s unity of purpose. I just wish they would aim a little higher than ‘booty’ and ‘heart’ and engage the brain as well.

Ted O’Reilly

Parallels
Artie Roth Quintet
Independent
(artieroth@sympatico.ca)
1704-77

Toronto bassist Artie Roth leads an impressive quintet in a debut release of original compositions, equally impressive.

He’s been around playing around town for a few years now, following studies at York University and in Banff, guided by teachers like Don Thompson and Al Henderson. Roth has shared bandstands with the internationally famous Kenny Wheeler, top vocalist Melissa Stylianou, John Roney, Bob Brough and others.

Roth has always acquitted himself well in these settings, but steps forth on this new release, making the melody or introductory statement on most tracks. He has a full, rich sonority, and plays in tune(!) whether pizzicato or arco. He has
a lovely lead-in on the track For Ages.

The leader’s bandmates—not sidemen—are a generation-and-a-half mix of fine players, with one of my all-time all-star players in John MacLeod on trumpet and flugelhorn alongside one-time Montrealer Kelly Jefferson, an enthusiastic tenor/soprano player. David Braid, the pianist, is a joy in any setting, and the drummer Kevin Dempsey has matured into an observant and sensitive contributor.

The title track is a sort of loose upwards melody, allowing expansions by the soloists, and the arrangement offers backgrounds for soloists so the listener doesn’t get lost.

Imprint is enhanced by some fine Braid piano, and the ominously-titled Orwell’s Warning has the kind of late ’60s Miles Davis “Miles Smiles” sound that I always felt was undeveloped by the trumpeter’s own groups as they ran ahead into amplified funk.

Maybe Roth can continue that exploration.

Ted O’Reilly

Other Stories
William Carn
Independent (www.williamcarn.com)
WC-001

The trombone is a beautiful instrument and one that we don’t hear a lot of since the decline in popularity of the big band and the R&B bands of the 60’s and 70’s. So it is a treat to have this new release by Toronto jazz trombonist William Carn. It is his second disc and he wrote all nine tracks. Carn is a fine player and is at his best on the slow melodic tunes. Perhaps that’s because the trombone with its mellow, dark sound is ideal for ballads.

Which isn’t to say Carn doesn’t know his way around a fast swing. He negotiates the heads and solos of the up-tempo tunes just fine.

Carn gives lots of room to his bandmates who make good use of their time in the spotlight. David Braid turns in consistently exciting and beautiful work on piano and Anthony Michelli does some very inventive stuff on drums, especially on the first track Malice where he adds some drum’n’bass style rhythm to complement the modern edginess of the melody. Kieran Overs solos and supports solidly on bass and saxophonist Kelly Jefferson splits horn duty with Carn.

The main complaint I have with the record is that there’s a sameness to the tunes and pattern to the arrangements that starts to take its toll by around track 6. I would have liked to have heard a short trombone and bass duet or something like that, to shake things up. But that’s a minor quibble - this is a solid effort by a relatively young musician.

Cathy Riches

POT POURRI

Red Hot
Ebony and Ivory
Gilpin Publishing (Independent)
GPCD 003

Two exceedingly accomplished local musicians, reed player Fred Jacobowitz and keyboardist/composer/arranger Andrew Gilpin have pooled their resources to create a project called “Ebony and Ivory” and a debut CD entitled “Red Hot”.

“Red Hot” contains seventy two minutes of music and a total of nineteen selections, nine of which were either composed or arranged by Gilpin.

Intricate melodies and strong rhythmic playing abound as Jacobowitz and Gilpin glide across many stylistic borders, interpreting Hasidic, Klezmer, jazz, ragtime, bluegrass, Latin, and even smooth jazz in relatively convincing fashion.

Jacobowitz and Gilpin do covers of George Gershwin’s Summertime, Benny Goodman’s A Smooth One, Leonard Bernstein’s America and Scott Joplin’s Maple Leaf Rag.
Shimmering Rhythm
Ron Davis Trio; Shimmering Rhythm Ensemble
Davinor Records (Independent) 3455

Ron Davis is a really, really good jazz pianist. He is the musical equivalent of a great cup of coffee. His playing is like high quality beans blended to perfection for that extra much needed buzz. That’s solid technique and an appreciation of various styles with an energetic musicality.

The Ron Davis Trio rhythm section of Drew Birston on bass and Ted Warren on drums provide a distinctive and supportive environment allowing Davis to spread his musical wings. The Shimmering Rhythm Ensemble is tight.

Consisting of such Toronto-based musicians as Sasha Boychouk on reeds and Jake Wilkinson on trumpet, they perform arranger Tania Gill’s fine work with gusto. Ron’s father Alexander Davis is featured singing a Passchendaele.

Ron Davis acts as co-producer as well as the composer on many tracks (of note the funky Pawpawz).

All in all it is good release, maybe even too good. At times I felt like I had had too many cups of coffee and longed to hear the players cut loose a bit more from their group playing and show off their individual musical colours in order to tone down that “we’re in a recording studio” feeling.

The Ron Davis Trio and Shimmering Rhythm release of “Shimmering Rhythm” is fun, full of many influences, and easy on the ears. Take a listen for yourself.

Tiina Kiik

Luscinia’s Lullaby
Laurel MacDonald
Improbable music (Independent) imacd-04

Laurel MacDonald, born in Halifax, is a Toronto-based artist who creates soundtracks for independent film and dance productions. In her newest CD collaboration with producer/percussionist/guitarist Philip Strong, we find an electrically merging of Eastern meets West, juxtapositions of cultures, and the mixture of styles ancient, modern and, at times, futuristic.

For example, the second song on the CD, Ysaiaphony, mixes 12th-century organum with a funky backbeat of modern bass and drum; another track, Cadal Chan Fhaig M1, mixes a traditional Gaelic song with gamelan-influenced accompaniment. In other words, each piece is the product of many influences, yet produces something new, fresh, and innovative.

Multi-layered voicings are interwoven in such a way that they produce not chaos and confusion, but evoke instead the impression of a harmonious, integrated, multi-dimensional experience, such as we experience in the dream state. (After all, this recording is aptly titled lullaby, Luscinia being the Latin for nightingale.) In many of the tracks, the voice part is not particularly dominant, but treated as an instrumental equal to the others in the ensemble and elusive in definition. This CD is perfect for those times when we long to experience a gentle reminder that thought patterns we allow ourselves to fall into.

Dianne Wells

OLD WINE... NEW BOTTLES

It is reliably reported that when Pablo Casals heard Lillian Fuchs playing her transcription for viola of the sixth Bach Cello Suite he said “On the viola, it sounds better.” Interesting, because the pre-eminent violist William Primrose had said it couldn’t be done but later he performed Fuchs’ transcriptions. American Decca recorded Lillian Fuchs playing the Bach Suites over a period of years around 1950. Those three LPs, never re-issued on CD, sell for hundreds of dollars each whenever they surface. The Doremi transfers on 2 CDs [DH8-7801/2] bear absolutely no artifacts at all of their LP source and happily present these persuasive performances to a new generation of music-lovers.

NAXOS has issued an attractive CD of 30 British folk songs sung by Kathleen Ferrier from 1949-1952 [8.111081]. These are still available from Decca in an omnibus set. But here are they are, painstakingly copied from Decca LPs with the pitch, ‘for the most part flat’ on the original Decca discs and all subsequent CDs, corrected. Malcolm Walker’s informative notes with his personal reminiscences are a bonus.

I should have paid due attention to a six CD set, 100 Best Opera Classics from EMI [72435 86211-2] when it appeared a little while ago. It proves to be a discerning and comprehensive collection of performances by EMI’s finest artists, heard in their prime: Callas, Schwarzkopf, Corelli, Freni, Christoff, Mesplé, Pavarotti, Raimondi, Gedda, Fischer-Dieskau, Domingo, Gobbi... the list goes on. EMI’s star conductors and orchestras support the singers in 100 familiar and not so familiar arias grouped by composers, Adam to Weber. Great for background or foreground play. Each disc is close to the 80 minute theoretical limit and represents outstanding value for the special low price.

In accordance with the contract between Karajan and Sony’s co-founder, the late Akio Morita, SONY continues to dribble out the von Karajan videos, now reappearing on DVD. The last two to hand are Pictures at an Exhibition from 1986 [SVD53480] and an Eroica, live from the Philharmonie on April 30, 1982 [SVD48434]. The Moussorgsky employs Karajan’s flawed routine of first recording the work and then acting it out for the cameras. The Eroica, on the other hand, is the real thing, produced with ZDF, and it is a spectacular, thrilling performance, giving the viewer a good idea of what attending a live Karajan/Berlin Philharmonic performance was like. This performance celebrated the Orchestra’s Jubilee 1882-1982. Exemplary photography and full-range dynamic sound, better than Karajan was accorded on any audio-only recording, make this DVD a must have. Recommended without hesitation.

NAXOS has moved “Film Music Classics” from their full priced Marco Polo label to the budget Naxos catalogue. In the series are King Kong [Max Steiner], Dracula, etc [Wojciech Kilar], The Maltese Falcon, Mask of Dimitrios, etc [Adolph Deutsch], Red River [Dimitri Tiomkin], Objective Burma [Fritz Waxman], La Belle et la Bête [Georges Auric], The Egyptian [Bernard Hermann & Alfred Newman], and Les Miserables [Arthur Honegger]. There is a CD titled Monster Music by Frank Skinner and Hans J. Salter also Captain Blood and other Swashbucklers with scores by Rozsa, Victor Young and Steiner. All good stuff. William Stromberg and the Moscow Symphony Orchestra are heard in all seven albums wherein the scores were reconstructed as the original orchestrations no longer exist. Full credit to all concerned is given in the thoroughly researched liner notes. All are in appropriate cinematic sound. The three extant originals? Auric, Honegger and Kilar.

Bruce Surtees
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Mikhail Pletnev

Peter Tchaikovsky: 18 Piano Pieces, op. 72

Pletnev is known for his dedication to the Russian repertoire, and what more proof is required than this recording of underappreciated gems. Tchaikovsky wrote these pieces in the last year of his life, with each having more than a touch of the Tchaikovsky genius. Pletnev rounds out his recording with Chopin's melancholic Nocturne in C Sharp Minor.

ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER
Henri Dutilleaux: Sur la même accord
Béla Bartók: Violin Concerto No. 2
Igor Stravinsky: Violin Concerto
Orchestre National de France
Kurt Masur

The Dutilleaux is a world premier recording and Ms. Mutter turns this into an instant classic. As she says Dutilleaux is "the greatest living composer" and the composer fashioned his nocturne to suit her style. Sur le même accord "On the one chord", unfolds by transforming the pattern of six notes heard at the start. This piece is juxtaposed with concertos by Bartók and Stravinsky, recordings made earlier in Anne-Sophie's career.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Don Giovanni

The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and Chorus / James Levine
Bryn Terfel and Renée Fleming, two of today's most celebrated opera singers, join forces in Franco Zeffirelli's production of one of Mozart's most popular operas. Zeffirelli's production has an unashamed theatricality, with painted skylines, outsize columns and a glimpse of hell at the end straight from the world of 18th-century theatre.

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DISCS OF THE MONTH

Boulez: the Three Piano Sonatas
Paavali Jumppanen
Deutsche Grammophon
447 5328

The sonatas of Pierre Boulez, though acknowledged as masterpieces of the recent piano literature, are more talked about than played or heard on account of the merciless demands they make upon both performer and listener. For this reason, they are still in need of such persuasive advocates as the young Finnish master, Paavali Jumppanen, whose new recording has been issued as part of DG's celebration of Mr. Boulez's eightieth anniversary.

The Second Sonata in particular has a reputation as a contemporary “Hammerklavier”, in view of its length (four movements totaling 32 minutes' duration), its intellectual rigor and extreme contrapuntal complexity, and the transcendental virtuosity it requires, taxing the pianist’s topographical sense and refinement of articulation to the limit. Not only does Mr. Jumppanen make the most awkward passages sound fluid and easy and balance the densest of textures, but he invests the whole performance with a dignity and tonal beauty far removed from the rageful banging which sometimes passes for an acceptable rendering of this idiom.

The First Sonata, a ground-breaking essay in post-Webernian serialism, displays a degree of dissonance and a diamond hardness of sonority which sets it apart from anything written previously for the piano. Here the austerity of style is offset by a performance of electric vitality. Amidst the turbulent perpetuum mobile of the second movement, the iridescent, celestalike contrasting episodes are enchantingly played, with masterful pedaling and absolute purity of sound.

The Third, a somewhat later piece (written 1955-57 but still apparently a work-in-progress), is more enigmatic. The performer is left with some latitude in choosing which sections to play and in what order. Though the overall effect can be disjointed, Mr. Jumppanen takes great care to show architectural divisions clearly. In any case, this music is probably best listened to in a contemplative fashion, in which the simplest of lines, or the after-resonance of a chord, or a sudden volcanic outburst, are appreciated in themselves as sonorous events.

As if the approval of Mr. Boulez himself did not suffice, I cannot recommend this recording highly enough, either to those who already enjoy his music or to those who, though intimidated by its 'intellectualism', might learn to enjoy it.

David Swan

Concert Note: Reviewer David Swan is featured in the New Music Concerts presentation “The Music of Jörg Widmann” on May 1 at Glenn Gould Studio.

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The collaboration of Rudolph Komorous and Eve Egoyan was fortunate in last year's Strange Sphere (on Artifact records). Now that collaboration has paid yet another dividend to us listeners. Amazingly, Wu is just the pianist alone in a room, playing this vast work. As with so much of Komorous' output, the stark simplicity forces us to listen ever more closely.

For a full hour, the slow-moving melodic line expands and folds in upon itself and expands again. Endless variation in that manner is completely unprecedented. At times, I am reminded of Sorabji's Opus Clavicembalisticum, but that does Komorous a disservice; Wu is a masterwork in its own right. The melody briefly gives way for an actual chord, finally, about 20 minutes from the start. The effect is startling in the context of the piece.

The composer tells of the performance requirements, outlining the 31 segments of the work in a brief programme note.

Egoyan employs what can only be termed Olympian restraint; her celebrated technique is tightly controlled throughout. The Philip T. Young Recital Hall at the University of Victoria contributes little in the way of reverberation, matched by the dry sound of the Yamaha C-9 piano. A project like this must cause acute anxiety to a recording producer, in that spirit I especially applaud Christopher Butterfield. The microphones, and even the preamplifier, are credited in the notes also. A spectacular CD.

John S. Gray

Concert Note: Eve Egoyan will launch the CD and give the world premiere (live) performance of Wu on May 13 at Glenn Gould Studio. The following night she performs a varied program at the Guelph Spring Festival (see Further Afield listings). Egoyan will also give recitals for Music Umbrella on May 21 at Eastminster United Church and at the Distillery Jazz Festival on May 29.
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