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In This Issue
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The 12 member ensemble of young classical guitarists returns with their latest ATMA recording, Arauco, is the fruit of a richly inspiring cultural and musical exchange in 2008 between the members of Forestare and the Chilean Guitar Ensemble.

The title work by award-winning Chilean composer Javier Farias is inspired by Chile’s epic poem La Araucana, and pays homage to Amerindian resistance, north and south, and to the flowering of their cultures.
PIERRE JUNEAU (OCTOBER 17, 1922 – FEBRUARY 21, 2012)

I must have known at some point in time that the JUNOs, whose annual mini-frenzy is currently upon us, were named for Pierre Juneau, but how easily we forget. How strangely fitting too, that news of his passing should have come right in the week we were tallying up, as we do every year, how many of this year’s JUNO nominees in the classical and jazz categories we had already reviewed in The WholeNote’s Discoveries pages before the nominees were announced.

(See David Olds’ “CD Editor’s Corner” on page 70 for the details. Suffice it to say, here, that it’s a record, year in and out, of which we are rather proud.)

But now, suddenly, there are achievements of far greater magnitude to talk about. It’s just a bit difficult to figure out how much to say. For those of you who remember what Juneau achieved as the first chairman of the CRTC in this or any other year, and something that every radio disc jockey knows how to spot instantly, and read, when shuffling into piles the pages before the nominees were announced.

For those who either do not know, or remember, it’s hard to know where to begin.

MAPL is probably as good a place as any to start. It’s a little logo you will find on the corner of every single CD nominated for a JUNO in this or any other year, and something that every radio disc jockey knows how to spot instantly, and read, when shuffling into piles the CDs that qualify as Canadian content, and the ones that don’t.

The M is for Music; the A for Artist; the P for Performance; and the L for Lyrics. Under Juneau’s CRTC watch, to qualify as Canadian content a recording had to be “Canadian” in at least two of the four categories. It was clunky, it was abused, it left holes big enough to drive multinational trucks through. It drew as much abuse as any affirmative action programme does. And it worked. It created a climate where quantity was needed, and gradually, out of that, as it always does, quality emerged.

The interesting thing is that it worked, and works, not just for the rock and pop artists, the singer-songwriters. It works, too, for the Canadian performer of Mozart, recorded by a Canadian engineer.

MAPL leaf forever, is what I say. But the irony is that it’s often the performing elite, the ones who rose from the quantitative slime to shine to the point where they don’t need the protection, who are the weakest defenders of the regulations that gave them the chance to excel.

In that regard it’s rather like the musicians who have turned their backs on the battle to keep music alive in core school curricula, because they “never learned anything in school music programmes anyway.”

Hmm. I wonder what Pierre Juneau would have made of that?

—David Perlman, publisher@thewholenote.com
The original Carmina Burana is one of the most beautiful collections of medieval song, dating from the 13th and 14th centuries. Songs of love, songs of springtime, drinking songs, spiritual songs and lively dance tunes all grace this anthology. The Toronto Consort brings alive these glimpses of an earlier era, with voices, fiddle, recorder, lute and harp.

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The National Ballet of Canada Orchestra is coming out of the pit. As part of the National's 60th anniversary season festivities, the orchestra will give a concert at Koerner Hall on April 3. While the orchestra loves the acoustics at the Four Seasons Centre, being in the pit is not the same as being on stage. The Koerner Hall concert in a prestigious recital hall is a very big deal. Says David Briskin, music director and principal conductor since 2006: “The concert celebrates the fact that the National Ballet has had a commitment to live music from the very beginning of its existence.”

The creation of the National Ballet Orchestra is entirely due to the vision of company founder Celia Franca. By all accounts, music was very important to her because she was a gifted pianist. The very first National performance featured two pianos because Franca couldn’t afford an orchestra, but it set a precedent. One of the pianists-cum-conductor was George Crum who would become the National’s first music director. Briskin points to another sign that the orchestra has always been an important component of the National Ballet fabric. “Look at the company masthead,” he says. “The music director’s name is right up there with the artistic director and executive director.”

Jean Verch, orchestra personnel manager and music administrator, deems Briskin the most hands-on music director the company has ever had. “David is very pro-development and a strong advocate for the musicians,” she says. In planning the concert’s repertoire, Briskin poured over the archives. He ultimately chose music that is connected to one or another of the company’s artistic directors in some way. There will also be a visual component with famed actor Colm Feore as host and narrator. Briskin is overseeing every detail of the concert.

The concert is made up of ballet music. That’s a given, but Briskin has crafted an exciting line-up of 11 pieces that should show off his orchestra very well. For example, Borodin’s Polovetsian Dances is a tribute both to Franca and to the National’s very first performance at Eaton's Auditorium on November 12, 1951, when the company presented Michel Fokine’s choreography to Borodin’s fiery music.

Erik Satie’s Gymnopédie No.1 honours Alexander Grant who brought Sir Frederick Ashton’s Monotones II into the repertoire. Tchaikovsky’s Russian Dance from Swan Lake is a tribute to both Erik Bruhn’s 1969 and James Kudelka’s 1999 versions of the famed ballet. Karen Kain is represented by Joby Talbot’s Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland Suite, composed for Christopher Wheeldon’s 2011 world premiere. There are also excerpts from works by Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Léo Delibes, Ludwig Minkus and Leonard Bernstein.

At times, musicians tend to see music very differently from dancers. Clarinettist Max Christie tells about a conversation he had with former ballerina Kimberly Glasco. “I said that La Bayadère might be a fantastic showcase for dancers, but that the Minkus music was lame in comparison to Tchaikovsky. She, on the other hand, loved the music and thought it was beautiful. Meanwhile, we play it for what it is—trite music meant strictly for dance.” Even Adolphe Adam’s Giselle, an iconic ballet classic if ever there was, comes in for a drubbing. Says Christie: “It’s semi-monochromatic, and almost static. You can’t make a suite of the music for the concert stage.”

On the other hand, Tchaikovsky’s Sleeping Beauty is “terrifying.” “It never lets up,” explains Christie. “I have to practise for it.” Similarly, The Nutcracker remains a challenge even though it repeats every year. “The music is really hard,” he says. “Tchaikovsky had a knack for finding difficult things for an orchestra to do.” Christie calls Prokofiev’s Cinderella “fun because it contains ‘wicked stuff for the clarinet.’ ” Joby Talbot’s score for Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland is a “giggle” because of all the great orchestral sound effects.

Violinist Sonia Klimasko-Leheniuk believes that choreographers are choosing higher quality music, which has led to better technique among the orchestra members. “Choreographers are becoming more discerning, particularly about new music,” she says. She singles out Alexei Ratmansky’s ballet Russian Seasons set to Leonid Desyatnikov’s 2000 score. “Now that was exciting to play,” she says.

All this talk about repertoire raises another question. What precisely distinguishes a ballet orchestra from other musical ensembles? Trumpeter Raymond Tizzard is the orchestra’s assistant personnel manager. Says Tizzard: “Our greatest skill is flexibility and the ability to...
turn on a dime. Ballet is an extremely complex art form. An ideal ballet orchestra balances the needs of the dancers, choreographers and composers to the satisfaction of them all. For example, the orchestra will play differently for each different cast. The audience may not be aware of the subtleties but the orchestra knows.”

In other words, the musicians must observe the conductor so closely that Briskin can signal the most minute changes in tempo which the orchestra will immediately execute. “The conductor connects music to movement,” explains Briskin. “I pass on to the musicians a picture of what is happening on stage.”

Magdalena Popa is the principal artistic coach who works specifically with the principal dancers. When the dancers have learned the role in terms of technique and choreography, and are almost ready for the stage, Popa calls Briskin into the studio. Briskin then conducts the rehearsal pianist according to tempi set by Popa and the dancer in consultation with himself. He is there to represent the composer. Any conflict over tempi is worked out in the rehearsal studio. It’s the dry run before he brings the tempi to his orchestra. Says Popa: “I trust David completely. He looks at me and instantly picks up the fine nuance needed in the music. Only a good conductor can do this.”

Whether for an established or a new ballet, Briskin must know the choreography intimately. He also must learn the physical idiosyncrasies of the individual dancers, even anticipating how they will move on stage. Which brings us to the thorny problem of tempi. Briskin says that every ballet conductor is the butt of the old joke where a dancer says, “I don’t want it too fast or too slow. I want it just right.” The problem is, what is just right? In fact, talking to the National dancers, one finds out the major topic of discussion before, during and after a performance is tempi.

Take for example the male variation in the Blue Bird pas de deux from The Sleeping Beauty. The dancer is literally in the air more than he is on the ground. As first soloist Etienne Lavigne explains, the conductor has to know each dancer’s specific jump. If the dancer can do a very high jump, the music slows down to give the dancer more time in the air. If another dancer’s skill is a consistent jump with a lightness in the landing, or ballon, the tempo has to speed up so that he lands exactly on the music. Says Lavigne: “There are stories out there about conductors sabotaging a dancer by making the tempo too fast or too slow.”

Briskin sees his role as manipulating time, rather than manipulating music. “We don’t make radical changes, but modifications,” he says. “The music is rephrased to suit the dancers. It’s different for the corps de ballet, where the music must be consistent because that’s what keeps them together.”

Principal dancer Heather Ogden gives examples of time modification. “In act one of Sleeping Beauty, Princess Aurora is a teenager, and I like the music to be fast, nippy and springy to capture her youthful energy. In the last pas de deux in Onegin, Tatiana at first resists Onegin’s pleas of love, but her will finally begins to break down. If the tempo is too fast, the dancer can’t show the unfolding of this inner struggle properly.”

The dancers, in fact, genuinely appreciate the orchestra. They understand how terrible the loss of live music would be. Principal character artist Tomas Schramek likes sitting in the pit during a performance so he can be cocooned in the music. “The orchestra is always an inspiration,” he says. “The music makes me want to dance more.”

And from Lavigne: “If the dancers are the body, the orchestra is the soul.”

continued on page 78
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

TS Finalists Look to Summer and Beyond

In our February 2011 issue, The WholeNote’s publisher David Perlman interviewed, for our cover story, the seven winners of the 2011 Toronto Sinfonietta Concerto Competition. These talented teenagers had a variety of musical backgrounds, but shared a common focus, drive and passion for performing classical music.

A year later, the aforementioned publisher found himself wondering what happens over the course of a typical year in the life of a musical whiz kid. So, right in the middle of my annual task of assembling profiles for this issue’s Summer Education special section (see pages 62–67), I was given the job of checking in with as many of these intrepid musicians as I could reach, to see what they have been up to and to get some insight into the paths they are now on. Almost exactly a year after these seven talents performed with the Toronto Sinfonietta, in the Isabel Bader Theatre concert that was the focus of last year’s story, I was able to reach five of the seven—Leslie Ashworth, Lily Chapnik, Daniel Hass, Nicole Li and Annie Zhou—and asked them just that! An interesting fact right off the top: two of these young musicians, Hass and Li, were Toronto Sinfonietta competition winners again this year, an indication that the competition, and its attendant gala concert, remain a worthwhile springboard for young stars in the Toronto music world.

(Rounding out the winners at this year’s February 18 Bader Theatre Gala were Sophia Anna Sjokolay, violin, Tony Yang, piano, and Andrew Seto, oboe.) Li and Hass were also winners of this year’s Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra Competition and Li was the grand prize winner of the National Finals of the Canadian Music Competition in Montreal.

Amongst the group’s other accomplishments this past year was an array of further competition successes, both within Canada and abroad. Pianist Zhou’s 2011 successes included an invitation by Festival Assisi nel Mondo, a UNESCO-sponsored international music festival, to perform in Italy (for the third time, no less!). Zhou went on to compete in the Minnesota International Piano-e-Competition, an event that required learning nearly two hours of repertoire and comprised four separate rounds! She made it into the finals to play with the Minnesota Orchestra and, at age 14, was the continued on page 60
Beat by Beat / Art of Song

Songs and Cycles

DAVID PERLMAN

If you were quick off the mark picking up this month’s magazine or one of the smart/lucky ones who have registered on our website to receive a “heads-up” when the online facsimile edition is up (usually 24–48 hours ahead of the print edition) then you still have time to make it down to the St. Lawrence Centre for mezzo Wallis Giunta’s March 1 recital, with very busy collaborative pianist Steven Philcox at the keys. The Music Toronto Discoveries Series concert was originally billed as “a recital of English language songs,” but a very interesting turn of events has technically made a liar out of Giunta. As reported in this column last month, half of the programme will now consist of a song cycle, All Days Are Nights: Songs for Lulu, by Rufus Wainwright. It should be an intriguing evening. Wainwright performed the cycle himself at the Winter Garden Theatre two summers ago, as part of the lead-in to the North American premiere of his opera, Prima Donna, at that year’s Luminato festival. The audience that night consisted, to a very large extent, of legions of longtime Wainwright fans who were baffled and frustrated by the request to refrain from applauding between the individual songs. Hearing it sung through will provide an opportunity to hear it as a true song cycle, a single work with a compelling emotional arc to it,
in the hands of a mezzo/piano team whose stars are both on the rise. The other half of the programme will feature Britten, Purcell, Vaughan Williams, Barber and others. So the evening will be a true test of all concerned.

(If you haven’t already done so, check out my video interview with Giunta, part of our “conversations@thewholenote” series, available on our website. She says quite a bit about the choice of repertoire for this concert.)

STEVEN PHILCOX

As mentioned, collaborative pianist Philcox is a busy man this month. In addition to the March 1 Music Toronto recital, he will be at the piano for a March 6, 12 noon, “Celebration of Canadian Art Song,” part of the COC’s Bradshaw amphitheatre concert series. He will be accompanying soprano Carla Huhtanen, mezzo Krystztiina Szabó and tenor Lawrence Wilford in a programme of works by Harman, Passmore and Glick. And March 12 at 7:30pm, at Walter Hall, in a U of T Faculty Artist Series concert, he will accompany two of the finest, soprano Monica Whicher and baritone Russell Braun, in a programme of works by Barber, Rorem, Fleming, Vivier, Greer, Beckwith and others. (Composer Samuel Barber’s name, incidentally, crops up in these vocal listings as often as Philcox’s.)

In addition to the concerts already mentioned, Barber is one of the featured composers in Off Centre Music Salon’s March 25 event titled “Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life: inaugural American Salon,” featuring works by Bernstein, Copland, Gershwin, Kern and the aforementioned Barber. Tenors Keith Klassen and Rocco Rupolo, baritone Giles Tomkis and Ilana Zaranikin will do the vocal honours, with Off Centre co-founders, Boris Zaranikin and Inna Perkis, collectively or individually, at the piano.

SONG CYCLES AND—CYCLISTS

Complete song cycles are, in truth, in somewhat short supply this month, but seasoned song-cyclists we have a-plenty. I’ll come back to the seasoned cyclists soon, but first a nod to the one cycle that jumps out: March 17 at 8pm, the astonishingly consistent and prolific Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society presents baritone Matthew Zadow, accompanied by Dina Namer, piano, in Schubert’s Die Schöne Müllerin. (Zadow then crosses to the other side of The WholeNote’s “Beyond” for an appearance, on March 25, with the Kingston Symphony in Haydn’s The Creation, along with Laura Albino, soprano, and James McLean, tenor.)

Returning to our veteran “song cyclists,” as mentioned last month Aldeburgh Connection’s Bruce Ubukata and Stephen Rawls, fresh off their sold-out triumphant gala at Koerner Hall, return to their more customary format and venue for their 14th (or is it 15th?) annual Greta Kraus Schubertiad, at Walter Hall, on March 18. Titled “Schubert and the Estérháyzs,” it will feature soprano Leslie Ann Bradley, mezzo Erica Iris Huang, tenor Graham Thomson and baritone Geoffrey Sirett. Three other recitals to mention here: March 4, at Koerner Hall, the Royal Conservatory presents acclaimed English tenor Ian Bostridge, with Julius Drake, in a mainly Schumann and Brahms programme; Michael Schade, who seems more comfortable in his musical skin every time out, comes to Roy Thomson Hall March 30 with Italian bass-baritone Luca Pisaroni and accompanist Justus Zeyen; and reminding us that the continuum of art song reaches from some of the city’s largest venues to it’s most intimate, in between those dates, on March 25, Nocturnes in the City presents Marta Herman, mezzo, with Timothy Cheung on piano at St. Wenceslaus Church, in a programme of works ranging from Mozart to Kapralova.

“AART OF SONG”

Keen-eyed readers of this magazine will have noticed that by including this article among our “Beat by Beat” columns this issue, we are taking steps to ensure that “the Art of Song” takes its regular place here (although almost certainly not with the publisher as its regular writer!).

In truth, this little essay barely scratches the surface of a genre as nuanced as any we cover. Take cabaret for example: Max Raabe & Palast Orchester at Koerner Hall, March 8 and 9; Ute Lemper with the Vogler Quartet at the same venue April 4; Alliance Française’s March 9 presentation of “Quand la ville nous habite” (The city inside us)” with Patricia Cano, vocals and Louis Simao, multiple instruments at the Pierre-Léon Gallery; Against the Grain’s March 13 presentation of Kurt Weill’s Seven Deadly Sins at Gallery 345; and an ongoing programme of vocalists with serious credentials at the Green Door Cabaret (Peter McGillivray on March 6 for example)...

We are looking forward to exploring this new beat, in all its diversity, in the months ahead.
Mozart: Cosi fan tutte  
Mar 8-10, 7:30 pm & Mar 11, 2:30 pm.  
MacMillan Theatre  
*Sung in Italian with English Surtitles*  
Through intrigue and disguise, love’s lessons are deeply learned in Mozart’s final, towering opera with Lorenzo da Ponte. Four performances only.

Whicher/Braun/Philcox  
Mon, Mar 12, 7:30 pm. Walter Hall  
The grand finale of the Faculty Artist Series features two of Canada’s leading vocalists, Monica Whicher and Russell Braun, in *Songs from the Canadian and American Songbooks*, with Steven Philcox, piano.

Sir Andrew Davis  
Tue, Mar 13, 7:30 pm. Walter Hall  
Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Sir Andrew Davis makes a special appearance at U of T to give the *Herman Geiger-Torel Lecture*. Free.

Warren Jones  
Mar 14, 2:30 pm & Mar 15, 2:00 pm. Walter Hall  
The *John R. Stratton Visiting Artist* has performed with the likes of Kiri Te Kanawa, Marilyn Horne and Kathleen Battle. He gives two master classes for singers and collaborative pianists. Free.

Donny McCaslin  
Thurs, Mar 15, 7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre  
One of New York’s most in-demand tenor saxophonists, the Grammy nominated bandleader performs with U of T’s Jazz Orchestras, Terry Promane & Jim Lewis, directors.

Marlena Kleinman Malas  
Mon, Mar 19, 3:00 pm. Geiger-Torel Room  
Chair of the voice department at the Chautauqua Institution and faculty at Curtis Institute, Juilliard and Manhattan Schools, Ms. Malas visits U of T for the *Riki Turofsky Master Class in Voice*. Free.

Wind & Brass  
Mar 23 & 24, 7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre  
The Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble present their final concerts of the season, featuring music by Shostakovich, Van der Roost, Chavez, Higdon, Glazunov, and Michael Colgrass’s *Winds of Nagual*.

Choral Music Grand Finale  
Mar 25, 2:30 pm & 7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre  
U of T choirs present a full day of glorious music to wrap up the choral season, featuring music by Scarlatti, Massenet, Henderson, and many others with guest choir from Lawrence Park Collegiate.

Simón Bolívar String Quartet  
Mon, Mar 26, 7:30 pm. Walter Hall  
A quartet of principal players of Venezuela’s Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra make their Toronto debut in Haydn’s Quartet Op. 74 No. 1, Ginastera’s Quartet No. 1 and Schubert’s *Death and the Maiden*.

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Size Does Matter

SHARNA SEARLE

“ORCHESTRA MONTH” IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO?

If April is “opera month” in Southern Ontario, perhaps March should be proclaimed “orchestra month” given the wealth, diversity and richness of orchestral music being offered this month.

From no less than four predominantly Russian programmes and two mostly-Italian programmes, to several concerts featuring a significant choral component, what we have this month is a veritable orchestral feast, bordering on an (enviable) embarrassment of riches.

LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD

Starting with a much anticipated homecoming, on March 24 conductor Nathan Brock will “return home” for his much-anticipated debut with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Toronto-born Brock (also a U of T Faculty of Music grad), who has held the post of assistant conductor of the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal since July 2009, will conduct the TSO in an all-Russian programme, with guest cellist Joshua Roman; the programme will be repeated on the 25th. I had an opportunity to ask Brock a few questions regarding his upcoming “homecoming.” This is what he says goes through his head (and heart) when he thinks about his imminent TSO debut:

“Conducting at home is a particular thrill and also a particular challenge. I haven’t been part of the Toronto music scene for almost ten years (I left in 2002) and obviously a lot has changed in my life… When I left I was still really just a kid. Since then I’ve put several degrees, many countries, contact with many of the world’s greatest conductors, a marriage and two kids under my proverbial belt. A number of the players in the symphony are old friends, an even greater number are old teachers, mentors and frankly, idols from my musical upbringing in Toronto. I’m thrilled to be given the chance to show them what I can do!”… it’s a strange mix of nerves and excitement being in front of the home crowd. These emotions are also tempered by a great sadness at the thought of experiencing this moment without some of the people who have influenced my musical life the most.”

I wondered about his thoughts on Russian music, too, given that he’ll be conducting an all-Russian programme. “Russian music is wonderful. It’s visceral. The spirit of this people is incomparable and leaps from every page of the great Russian classics whether it’s Pushkin, Dostoevsky, Tchaikovsky or Shostakovitch. You simply can’t escape its potent affect. It is music that grabs you and changes you — no questions asked (Russians aren’t ones to stand on ceremony!).”

When I asked Brock, himself a cellist, about the dynamic of conducting a fellow cellist he said that “there is definitely a simpatico,” adding, with a wink, “We’re such easy people.” He also figured, given their relative closeness in age and the music being performed, that he and Roman will “get along just great!”

Brock also appears to “get along just great” with the younger set, the 6 to 16 year olds. In his role as assistant conductor with the OSM, he was recently awarded a Prix Opus for the youth concert project he led, ingeniously titled, “You Can Never Be Too Classical.” Brock thinks that “kids, especially as they get older, can appreciate when they are being fed ‘for kids’ material as opposed to getting the real thing.” The programme for the concert that won him the Opus? “We started with some Vivaldi, progressed through Debussy, Adams, even some Gougeon, to Stravinsky. We finished the last 20 minutes by playing the Firebird Suite!”

Brock will conduct (some more of) that powerful Russian repertoire including Glinka’s Overture to Ruslan and Lyudmila, Borodin’s Polovetsian Dances from Prince Igor, Rimsky-Korsakov’s Capriccio espagnol and Tchaikovsky’s Variations on a Rococo Theme, (with cellist Roman), March 24 (7:30pm) and 25 (3pm), at Roy Thomson Hall.

KUERTI AT KITCHENER

Coincidentally, another Toronto-born conductor, Julian Kuerti, will be performing with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony over the same weekend that Brock conducts the TSO; actually, Kuerti and the KWS perform on March 23 and 24, so, in theory, you can catch both Kuerti and Brock at the podium with a bit of advance planning. Kuerti, who completed a two-year post a few years ago as assistant conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, made his TSO debut in 2007. He is now a freelance conductor with a full concert schedule in North America and Europe. In fact, during the same weekend I was hoping to reach him for this column, it turned out he was busy guest conducting the Colorado Springs Philharmonic. When he comes to Kitchener, Kuerti will lead the KWS and the young pianist, Nareh Arghamanyan, in Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No.5, the “Emperor,” a piece he is intimately familiar with, not surprisingly, given that he is the son of renowned Beethoven expert, pianist Anton Kuerti. (He also conducted his father in the “Emperor” in a “legendary, last minute” event, in March, 2008, in Boston. Worth googling!)

Ms. Arghamanyan and Kuerti will no doubt provide two grand evenings of music making with the KWS, at the Centre in The Square, at 8pm. Also on the programme is Gary Kulesha’s Torque and Schumann’s Symphony No.2.

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Wednesday, March 28
Markham Theatre
Markham, ON, 905-305-7469
www.markhamtheatre.ca

Friday, March 30
Centre for the Arts, Brock University*
St. Catharines, ON, 1-866-617-3257

www.thewholenote.com
March 1 – April 7, 2012
AND MUCH MORE

In what is shaping up to be a very busy weekend in March, the 23rd and 24th will also see Masterworks of Oakville Chorus and Orchestra mount Mahler’s *Symphony No. 2*, “Resurrection,” one of its “most ambitious concerts yet,” according to a backgrounder we received from conductor Charles Demuynck. Soprano Marian Sjolander and alto Kyle Engler will join an orchestra of 90 and a chorus of 80 for the 8pm event at St. Matthew’s Roman Catholic Church in Oakville. And as is often—no, make that always—the case with this column, the month’s offerings present yet another “so many concerts, so little room” quandary. For more on the month’s orchestral riches, please refer to what is fast becoming a regular “Quick Picks” feature, at the end.

“STRING QUARTET MONTH” IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO?

I started by saying March might well be dubbed Orchestra Month, but there is an equally strong case for calling it String Quartet Month. Why? Because this month there are — count them — ten quartets performing throughout Toronto, the GTA and beyond. The Juilliard String Quartet (more about them later), for example, is performing both in Markham and at Brock University; the Vogler is first at the Hamilton Conservatory and then, about two weeks later, at the Royal Conservatory. And here are the other eight: Bozzini, Cecilia, Penderecki, Silver Birch, Simon Bolivar, Takács, Ton Beau and Tokyo (more of them later, too).

So, from the splendour of a 90-piece orchestra, let’s turn, now, to the intimacy, and dare I say it, relative complexity, of the string quartet. Of the ten performing in around the GTA this month, I thought I might attempt a “compare and contrast” with two of them: the Juilliard String Quartet (JSQ) and the Tokyo String Quartet (TSQ).

Both are quartets of long standing, the JSQ having been established in 1949, the TSQ, in 1969. Each is “quartet in-residence” at a prestigious music school: the JSQ at…yes, the eponymous Juilliard School; the TSQ—whose founding members (all former music students of Tokyo’s famed string teacher Hideo Saito) met while studying at Juilliard and who were trained by members of the JSQ—at Yale. Robert Mann, founding member of the Juilliard, spent 52 years as first violin, leaving in 1997, and their newest member, first violin Joseph Lin, started in 2011; the Tokyo’s violist, Kazuhide Isomura, a member of the group since its inception, will be retiring in 2013 (along with second violin Kikuei Ikeda, a member since 1974), after 44 years. (“Our very own” Peter Oundjian played first violin with...
the Tokyo for 14 years (1981 to 1995) before taking up the post of music director with the TSO in 2004; incidentally, he also studied at Juilliard.) And finally, try as I may, I could not find out when the JSQ last performed in Toronto; I gather it’s been a while. I did learn, however, that their Canadian debut took place in 1965, in a concert presented by the Women’s Musical Club of Toronto; they performed twice more for the WMCT, in 1967 and 1972. The TSQ, on the other hand, has had a “regular gig” with Music Toronto, returning almost every season (twice sometimes, like in this one) since its first visit in 1975.

Regarding the 2013 departures of Isomura and Ikeda from the TSQ, members of the quartet referred to the two leaving “their indelible stamp on the Tokyo’s DNA.” A moving statement and an engaging concept, one definitely worth pursuing, at another time ...

In the meantime, however, the TSQ performs Haydn’s Quartet in G Op.64 No.4 and Bartók quartets nos. 1 and 2 in its 44th concert for Music Toronto on March 15, 8pm, at the Jane Mallett Theatre. And the JSQ performs Haydn’s Quartet in G Major Op. 54 No.1, Donald Martino’s Quartet No.5 and Beethoven’s Quartet in B-flat Major Op.130 with Grosse Fuge, on March 28, 8pm, at the Markham Theatre. They repeat the programme, replacing the Martino with Elliott Carter’s Quartet No.5, March 30, at Brock University’s Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, 7:30pm.

QUICK PICKS (SEE DETAILS IN OUR CONCERT LISTINGS):

Orchestral, Mostly Russian
• March 10, 7:30: Barrie Concerts. Russian Masters. Works by Rachmaninoff, Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky. Hi-Way Pentecostal Church, 50 Anne St. N., Barrie.
• April 3, 8:00: National Ballet of Canada. 60th Anniversary Concert of the National Ballet of Canada Orchestra. Music by Borodin, Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Talbot and others. Koerner Hall.

Orchestral, Mostly French
• March 24, 24 8:00: Mississauga Symphony. French Connection. Works by Ravel, Debussy, Stravinsky and others. Elaine Hou, piano. Hammerson Hall, Living Arts Centre, Mississauga.
• April 1, 3:00: Guelph Symphony Orchestra. Tour the World: French Masters. Works by Berlioz, Ravel and Franck. Sarah Whynot, piano; Judith Yan, conductor. River Run Centre, Guelph.

Orchestral, Mostly Italian
• March 3, 8:00: Greater Toronto Philharmonic Orchestra. Spring Pops: all’Italiana. Works by Rossini, Vivaldi, Haydn and others.
She can be contacted at classicalbeyond@thewholenote.com.

Sharna Searle trained as a musician and lawyer, practised a lot more piano than law and is listings editor at The WholeNote.

Orchestral, Mostly Choral

\begin{itemize}
  \item March 31, 8:00: NYCO Symphony Orchestra. Music by Mozart. Includes Mozart’s “Coronation” Mass. NYCO Symphony Chorus; Oakville Choral Society; and soloists. St. Michael’s College School.
\end{itemize}

Some Other String Quartets
- March 11, 3:00: Royal Conservatory. Chamber Music Series: Takács Quartet with Joyce Yang, piano. Beethoven: String Quartet No.14 in C-sharp; Dvořák: Piano Quintet in A. K. Koerner Hall.
- March 26, 7:30: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Chamber Music Series: Simón Bolívar String Quartet. Works by Haydn, Ginastera and Schubert. Walter Hall.

It’s a full-up month! Enjoy!

Sharna Searle trained as a musician and lawyer, practised a lot more piano than law and is listings editor at The WholeNote. She can be contacted at classicalbeyond@thewholenote.com.

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Artists of the Ballet. Photo by Aleksandar Antonijevic.
If you are a follower of new music but didn’t know the name of Hungarian composer/conductor/educator Peter Eötvös till now, don’t be too hard on yourself. According to Robert Aitken, “There are many like him, with huge careers in Europe, and correspondingly busy, but they have no reputation on this side, until someone invites them here, and sometimes not even after that.” New Music Concerts artistic director Aitken extended such an invitation to Eötvös more than three years ago to come and do a concert, of Eötvös’ own devising, for NMC. “I’d have liked him to come in 2011,” Aitken says, “but when I reached him I was told there were already plans under way for him to come in 2012, and there was a very slim chance he would have time for both.”

Those “plans under way” were for Eötvös to play a leading curatorial role in this year’s TSO New Creations Festival, a series of three concerts, March 1, 3 and 7 at Roy Thomson Hall.

With the same blend of pragmatism and cooperation that manifested itself between Soundstreams and the Canadian Opera Company during composer Kaaija Saariaho’s visit last month, Aitken hitched the NMC wagon to the TSO calendar. The upshot is that three days after the March 7 final concert of New Creations, Eötvös will also do a concert with NMC, on March 10, at the Glenn Gould Studio.

Aitken’s connections with Eötvös come from Aitken’s many years teaching in Freiburg, Germany, with Eötvös based in Karlsruhe, “one town away.” Aitken is looking forward immensely to the whole visit, not just the NMC leg of it. “He [Eötvös] is well respected as
a composer in Europe, and it is deserved. He just doesn’t make mistakes. Clever like a fox, is what I would call him, a French expressionist but with an absolutely distinctive Hungarian accent! And his conducting is as good."

It’s interesting to compare the role of Eötvös as “curator” as it applies to the NMC and TSO legs of the visit. The NMC concert is very tightly knit, as befits its smaller scale, and it’s possible to see how each of the choices on the programme comes directly from Eötvös himself. But in the case of New Creations, with the best will in the world, there are many more factors at play. There are works that have been commissioned from local composers to fit in with a theme. There are the happy accidents arising from meetings on the road. The significant presence of clarinettist/composer Jörg Widmann in the series, for example is as likely to have materialized from Widmann’s playing a Mozart concerto under Oundjian’s baton somewhere in Europe, as from a connection between Eötvös and Widmann. But of such happy accidents is true creative ferment born. Every year Oundjian’s and the TSO’s genuine commitment to the New Creations Festival as a significant part of their cultural mandate becomes more clearly defined. And the event itself becomes more focused and exhilarating. With the steeply reduced ticket price at RTH, there’s no reason the Hall shouldn’t be rocking for three days with symphonic sound that invigorates the players’ and the audience’s ears.

ESPRIT ORCHESTRA

At the other end of the month, March 29, Alex Pauk’s Esprit Orchestra continues its drive to bring symphonic music to a hall large enough to handle an orchestra with serious new music chops. “Turned On By Texture” is their fourth and final Koerner Hall concert this season, featuring, among other works, Jamie Parker in Harry Somers’ Third Piano Concerto, and Xenakis’ Jonquiates. (If it wasn’t too late to organize, I’d suggest that Esprit offer half price rush tickets to anyone who shows up with ticket stubs from any two of the three New Creations concerts that kicked off the month!) By the way, for a really interesting insight into what keeps Pauk motivated, check out Jack Buell’s Q&A with Pauk in “We Are All Classical” (Bemused readers should take a moment to read Pam Margles review, on page 69, of the reissue of Cage’s seminal book Silence for a visceral sense of what the fuss will be about.)

THE CLASSICAL CONTINUUM

Returning to Eötvös’ concert with NMC March 10, it was interesting to me that he chose to programme Stravinsky as part of the mix. There’s a striking number of concerts this month where to a significant extent presenters seem to be emphasizing the classical/post-classical continuum, rather than the great divide. March 11, for example, the Stuttgart Chamber Choir and Soundstreams Choir 21 are bringing a programme to the Carlu that includes Ligeti, Mahler, Bach, Penderecki and a Frehner world premiere. And on March 22, in a Music Toronto Discovery Series concert, Véronique Mathieu, violin, and Stephanie Chua, piano, present a programme of works that includes, among others, works by Sokolović, Clara Schumann and Heather Schmidt. And another example: Kindred Spirits Orchestra’s Markham New Music Festival on April 1 offers Stravinsky, Current, Bartók, Honegger, Richard Strauss and Southam.

STRAIGHT UP

And, all too briefly for those who prefer their new music straight up, check out:


And finally a reminder: details on all these, and a whole lot more new music, can be found in our magazine listings, or, even more readily by searching “New” in the listings on our website.

CAGE WATCH: 180 DAYS & COUNTING

Last issue I pointed out that although the 100th anniversary of John Cage’s birth will not be until September 5, 2012, among presenters of music, large and little, the celebratory clock has already started to tick. So, from now, and for the next 180 days (February 29 to September 5), let The WholeNote Cage Watch begin. (Bemused readers should take a moment to read Pam Margles review, on page 69, of the reissue of Cage’s seminal book Silence for a visceral sense of what the fuss will be about.)

- March 2 at Koerner Hall, Soundstreams/Royal Conservatory present “So Percussion: Cage@100,” works by Cage and a new work by turntablist Nicole Lizée.
- March 22 at Gallery 345, Daniel Gaspard, piano, and Ellen Furey, dancer, present “John Cage, Sonatas in Movement.”
- October 25 to 28 a conference, “The Future of Cage: Credo,” will be presented at the Graduate Centre for Drama, U of T. Details to follow.
Memory? Forget It

Benjamin Stein

It may be partially true that with age comes wisdom. But it is certainly true that with age comes the inability to remember what one went down to the basement to retrieve. Upstairs you trudge again, retracing your steps until your memory is sufficiently jogged—oh right, duct tape—and you are ready to make the frustrating second trip. Perhaps what often passes for wisdom is in fact a mellow, philosophical acceptance of how many extra journeys for duct tape (or garbage bags or whatever) age and failing memory now require.

Myself, I’m finding that with age comes immaturity. Jokes that made me sneer with contempt in my high-minded teen years now make me snicker and guffaw. I look forward to the ongoing dismantlement of my critical faculties, until seeing Bugs Bunny in drag and Wile E. Coyote repeatedly plummeting into a chasm sends me to the floor, helpless with laughter. But time, memory and the way in which both elements change perception seem to be the themes of a number of this month’s concerts.

On March 3 the Guelph Chamber Choir presents “Remember…Places, people and songs you love.” With the concert’s repertoire focussed around folk songs, spirituals, Broadway show tunes and cabaret songs, audience members will doubtless find themselves recalling specific occasions tied by memory to some specific song.

Toronto’s Bell’Arte Singers have presented a whole series of linked concerts this year (for the complete series see bellartesingers.ca) that evoke this sense of introspection. Their latest March 3 concert, “Classical: Ways of Seeing,” features music by Bach, Barber, Mozart and Brahms, among others. Treating the music almost like visual works of art, this choir asks its audience to not only listen but to ponder the question of what constitutes beauty, balance and classicism.

Another concert evoking a by-gone era is the Victoria Scholars’ “The Romantic Gentleman,” on March 4. Here, the audience is reminded not to lose sight of the things that may fall by the wayside in our charge towards modernity. Comprising works by Brahms, Elgar, Gounod, Rossini, Grieg and others, this concert conjures a time of frock coats and muttonchop whiskers, of codes of honour and high-minded behaviour. The title of this concert also raises a difficult, extra-musical question: what standard defines a “romantic gentleman” in the 21st century? Is our new “RG” the man who discreetly refrains from posting on Facebook or Twitter pictures of himself passed out beside a beer bong (merely texting them instead to his closest friends)? Standards have changed, of course. But...
perhaps attendance at this particular concert should be mandatory for men 25 and under. One of English literature’s most poignant evocations of the pangs of memory and the challenges of time and age is Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*. The playwright’s last play, it contains some of his most powerful poetry, and with lines like “in the dark backward and abyss of time,” is generally thought, in part, to be a meditation on the currents and sorrows of Shakespeare’s own life. Chorus Niagara (in pan-Canadian partnership with the Richard Eaton Singers, who work out of Edmonton, and the Vancouver Bach Choir) has commissioned Canadian composer Allan Bevan to create *No Mortal Business*. This new work takes as its premise the idea that *The Tempest* (and other earlier works of Shakespeare) were indeed windows into the playwright’s preoccupation with religion, politics, aging and art. Orpheus Choir and Chorus Niagara will combine to make up a 160-voice ensemble to present the work on March 4.

Two local choirs, on the other hand, embrace and celebrate the passage of time this month. The Toronto Classical Singers, directed by their founder, Jurgen Petrenko, celebrate their 20th anniversary. I have sung on several occasions with this rambunctious and friendly group of singers, and it is a pleasure to salute them at this time. On March 4 they perform Vivaldi’s *Gloria* and Schubert’s *Mass in G*.

Tafelmusik Chamber Choir celebrates its 30th anniversary with a series of concerts from March 27 to April 1. Full disclosure: I have also sung with this ensemble and have accompanied student vocalists and instrumentalists on lute and theorbo at the Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute. Setting these connections aside, I can state with confidence that TCC is one of the top choral ensembles in the city and possibly in all of Canada. This group has been part of the continuing story of the resurgence of pre-1750 music—a sprawling, international dialogue between scholars, performers and audiences that has revived and uncovered a multicultural wealth of previously forgotten composers and compositions.

The Tafelmusik Orchestra, of which the choir is an offshoot, has been a leader in this ongoing area of discovery. For these concerts, The TCC has commissioned a new piece by Canadian composer James Rolfe, and will also perform works by Purcell, Rameau, Handel, Poulenc and Saint-Saëns.

Anniversaries define the passage of time; so do annual events. Outside of the Jewish community, one of the lesser known holidays is Purim, a real children’s party centred around costumes, games and food. Purim commemorates the story of Queen Esther, one of the great mythic tales of Jewish pride and independence. The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir performs songs in Yiddish, Hebrew, Russian and English at its March 1 “Purim Concert.”

Memory is what helps define tradition—what we remember of the past shapes our present and future. Canada is a young country filled with immigrants, and for many it is the histories and art forms of our ancestral countries that often define us. At the same time, Canadian composers are hard at work creating a repertoire that they hope will help define us anew. Choirs performing concerts that include Canadian works are the Vespera Choir, March 29, the Echo Women’s Choir, March 31, and the aptly named Canadian Singers, who perform in Markham on March 4.

Finally, the choral requiem form, often valedictory in nature, is
well represented this month. Fauré’s Requiem, a particularly tender and introspective setting, is performed by two different choirs: Oriana Women’s Choir on March 3 and the Church of St. Nicholas Birchcliffe, March 30. Another requiem setting by a French composer, Maurice Duruflé, can be heard from the Voices Chamber Choir on March 31. The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir performs Vaughan Williams’s Mass in G and Martin’s Mass for Double Choir on Good Friday, April 6. On the same evening the Metropolitan Festival Choir performs Bach’s Mass in B Minor, and the Georgian Bay Concert Choir performs Mozart’s Requiem in D Minor.

Canadian composer Eleanor Daley’s excellent Requiem is presented by Mississauga Festival Choir on March 31.

To sum up, this month’s concerts, built around memory and the passage of time, enjoin us to respect the past, so that we may better understand the present and prepare for the future. At least, I think they do. I’d better check my notes…

Ben Stein is a Toronto tenor and theorist. He can be contacted at choralscene@thewholenote.com. Visit his website at benjaminstein.ca.

LET ME TAKE you on a little journey in Bachian lines. Its outset was some 40 years ago, during the days when Melville Cook was director of music at Toronto’s Metropolitan United Church. Its steps reach right through to this present season, with Metropolitan United’s four-concert BachFest.

Some readers will remember Metropolitan’s yearly Holy Week presentations of Bach’s St. Matthew Passion: the elegant, white-haired Cook at the helm of double choir, double orchestra and imposing soloists, with the gambist Peggie Sampson at the centre of it all.

These performances occurred annually for many years, until approximately 1985. The Bachian tradition has remained with Cook’s successor, Patricia Wright. She calls Bach her “heart composer,” and describes the genesis of this season’s BachFest as very much a continuation of what has gone before: “At Metropolitan, I inherited a Good Friday concert tradition; (under Dr. Melville Cook, my predecessor, the St. Matthew Passion was performed each year). With financial challenges, we have gone to presenting a major work with orchestra every other year. In my 25 years at Metropolitan, we have presented Bach’s St. John Passion five times and the B Minor Mass three times. Wanting to do the B Minor again was the beginning, and when choir members offered to help finance a performance of part of Christmas Oratorio, the idea of a BachFest took hold. As an organist, I could not resist an organ recital, even though the Metropolitan organ (the largest in Canada, a 1930/98 five-manual Casavant) is a masterpiece of romantic organ design. Then the idea of an instrumental concert with the ever-creative Benjamin Stein gave us the four-concert BachFest.”

Two of these concerts have already taken place: theorist Benjamin Stein (also WholeNote’s choral columnist) was one of the featured artists in February’s “Jam Sessions with Bach,” and the first three cantatas of the Christmas Oratorio were presented last November. But the remaining two are imminent: On March 16, Wright will give an all-Bach organ recital entitled “Bach and the King of Instruments.” On April 6, the Metropolitan Festival Choir and Orchestra, with soloists, will give a Good Friday performance of Bach’s B Minor Mass.

Those Bachian lines also extend down other roads this month. On March 17, the British cellist Colin Carr comes to Koerner Hall for a monumental performance of all six Bach suites for solo cello. On March 18, a recital at Heliconian Hall entitled “Bach Bliss,” presented by soprano Amy Dodington and oboist Hazel Nevin Newton, features the Wedding Cantata and other music by Bach. On March 25, the Church of St. Simon-the-Apostle with the Canadian Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra will present Bach’s St. John Passion. On April 6 in Kitchener, the Grand Philharmonic Choir brings our journey full circle, with a performance of Bach’s St. Matthew Passion.
INSTRUCTION
It's always good to learn from a specialist. Here are some instructive, and no doubt fabulous, events that you can take advantage of this month.

Conductor, composer and commentator Rob Kapilow has, for years now, championed the idea that the appreciation of any worthy piece is enhanced by really getting inside it. He has developed a series of programmes called “What Makes It Great?” which is, in his words, “about listening. Paying attention. Noticing all the fantastic things that might otherwise go by. When you begin to hear the things that make a piece great, it can spring to life as if you have never heard it before. We take a piece of great music, tear it apart, put it back together again, and do everything in our power to get inside to see what makes it tick and what makes it great. Then on the second half of the program we hear the piece performed in its entirety—hopefully with a new pair of ears.”

On March 9, with the help of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, he’ll lead the audience to a new appreciation of none other than Vivaldi’s Four Seasons. Acclaimed violinist Jennifer Koh will play the Spring and Summer concertos. Masterclasses can be edifying experiences, not only for the student performer but also for the auditors. Everyone receives the benefit of (hopefully) constructive insights from someone who has a life-long dedication to the subject, and more: they are a window into the mind and personality of the artist/teacher conducting the class. At the Royal Conservatory, masterclasses are free and open to the public. Carr, a committed teacher, will give two of them, in the morning and the afternoon of Friday March 16, the day before his Koerner Hall concert. You are encouraged to attend!

And, in case you’ve been wondering about that occasionally unwieldy but beautifully expressive instrument, the baroque oboe, you have a chance to hear what a master player like John Abberger has to say about it, and also to hear him play it in works by Hotteterre, Telemann and Handel. With collaboration by harpsichordist Sara-Anne Churchll, he’ll acquaint you with the mysteries of his instrument in Toronto Early Music Centre’s Musically Speaking series concert, “The Art of the Baroque Oboe,” at their new concert space, St. David’s Anglican Church, on March 25.

OTHERS
• March 11: Have you ever heard a verse set to music and said “Aha, I know that—but it’s different, not the same tune as I’m used to hearing!” At Nota Bene Baroque’s “An English Messiah” concert in Kitchener, you’ll be intrigued to hear the Messiah texts masterfully set to music by not Handel, but by his great predecessor Henry Purcell. Violinist Stephen Marvin leads the ensemble with special guest Tactus Vocal Ensemble.
• March 17: Lutenist John Edwards and soprano Hallie Fishel combine their scholarship and talents in the Musicians in Ordinary’s last concert of the season, Sero, sed Serio. “Late, but in earnest” was the motto of one of the most influential British political figures during the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I: Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury. A patron of music, he supported composers Byrd, Gibbons and Dowland, whose music you’ll hear in this tribute to Cecil.
• March 23 and 24: In honour of our winged, furry and watergoing friends, both actual and mythical, recorder/traverso player Alison Melville has designed “A Musical Bestiary.” This programme presented by the Toronto Consort features music from renaissance Europe, including “The Ape, the Monkey, and Baboon,” “The Counterpoint of the Animals,” “Le chant des oiseaux” and more! 
• March 24 and 25: As its title “Viva Italia!” suggests, this concert of Cantemus Singers celebrates Italy with passionate songs and madrigals as well as religious music of the Renaissance and early Baroque. Songs of love—divine, human and patriotic—by Monteverdi, Vecchi, Gabrieli, Palestrina and others will be featured, as well as the soaring Miserer by Allegri.
• March 27, 29 to 31, April 1: Tafelmusik’s “Choral Spectacular” celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir. Read more about it in this month’s “Choral Scene” beat column by Benjamin Stein.
• April 01: Port Rowan, near Long Point on Lake Erie, is the setting for Arcady’s upcoming “A Baroque Messiah.” This very active Southwestern Ontario ensemble often features the music of its artistic director, Ronald Beckett, and performs a range of early music as well.

Simone Desilets is a long-time contributor to The WholeNote in several capacities who plays the viola da gamba. She can be contacted at earlymusic@thewholenote.com.
BEFORE WE GET TO this month’s concerts, I’d like to wade in on the world music component of Canada’s music industry awards, the JUNOS. Held from March 26 to April 1 in Ottawa, this year’s JUNOs have 41 award categories encompassing nominations of the top-selling singers and musicians you would expect such as Arcade Fire, Avril Lavigne, Drake, Justin Bieber, Michael Bublé and Nickleback.

The “World Music Album” category nominations reflect more modest album sales, but no less artistic ambition and achievement. Among the distinguished performers represented is previous JUNO award-winner Kiran Ahluwalia. Her latest album Aam Zameen: Common Ground fuses her own ghazal and Punjabi folk-song approach with the music of the African masters of Malian “desert blues.” Montreal-based artist Socalled has had a shorter career, yet his latest music, impossible to pigeon-hole, is no less ambitious in its transnationality. His musical mission appears to cross all sorts of musical and media boundaries, all the while embracing a khizbining attitude toward sound collage inspired by pop, funk, klezmer and rap. Another nominee is the Brazilian-born singer, percussionist and composer Aline Morales, represented by her debut solo album Flores, Tambores e Amores. Her music assays Brazilian song styles such as samba, forró and 1960s tropicalia, and forges them into her own voice with traces of Italian film soundtracks, avant-garde poetry, African percussion and vintage synths.

Now to the month’s live offerings: examining world music in a living historical context on March 1, the Royal Conservatory’s String and World Series at Koerner Hall presents the multi-Grammy Award-nominated viola da gambist Jordi Savall, directing two groups, Hespérion XXI and the Tembembe Ensamble Continuo. The Catalan virtuoso of the viola da gamba, “an instrument so refined that it takes us to the very brink of silence,” Savall has been among the world’s major figures in early music since the 1970s. He is particularly responsible for bringing the viola da gamba back onto the world stage. While his typical repertory ranges from the mediaeval to the baroque period, Savall’s approach to interpreting this “dead” historical repertoire has always been informed by the performance practices of living oral music traditions of Europe, the Arab world and now the “New” world.

Appointed European Union ambassador for intercultural dialogue in 2008, Savall is passionate about asserting the common roots of human expression. The Koerner Hall concert is titled “Folias Antiguas & Criollas: From the Ancient to the New World.” It features Spanish and Mexican baroque music as well as performances from the living Mexican Huasteca and Jarocho music traditions: Savall explores the creole music created from their confluence. You can catch the programme March 2 at the Perimeter Institute in Waterloo if you miss it at Toronto’s Koerner Hall.

No less challenging to the music landscape status quo is the March 5 CD launch concert, “Bridges: Jewish and Arabic Music in Dialogue” at the Al Green Theatre, Miles Nadal jcc. Headlining are Lenka Lichtenberg, the Jewish singer with an international career, and Middle Eastern-Canadian singer, dancer, actor and qanun player Roula Said. For over 20 years the inspiring Said has been one of Toronto’s leading lights in the belly dance, Arabic and fusion music scenes. While Lichtenberg was born and raised in Prague, she completed her university music education in Canada. Her current music reflects her Yiddish roots and her ongoing study of the Jewish cantorial tradition; in her extensive touring, she pursues a career as a singer-songwriter. Together, their aim with “Bridges” is to establish an inspiring dialogue between Jewish and Arabic cultures grounded on musical commonalities. They are supported in their quest by an outstanding backup band composed of a Toronto world musician “A-team,” including John Gzowski on oud, guitars and bouzouki, Kinneret Sagee on clarinet and Ernie Tollar on sax, flutes and clarinet. The rhythm section consists of bassist Chris Gartner, percussionist Alan Hetherington and Ravi Naimpally on tabla and dumbek, all of whom performed with convincing élan on Lichtenberg’s sparkling last album Fray, markedly influenced by Toronto’s interactive world music scene.

On March 2 the Toronto-born chanteuse Alejandra Ribera performs at the Glenn Gould Studio. Her dramatic singing and genre-hopping eclectic repertoire draws on both her Argentinean and British heritage, and particularly mirrors the grid and magic of Ribera’s everyday urban Canadian reality with its darkly lyrical themes.

The Amadeus Choir, directed by Lydia Adams, presents “A Celtic Celebration,” March 3, at Toronto’s Jubilee United Church. The 115-voice veteran choir is joined by Stratford’s five-piece, pan-Celtic fusion band Rant Maggie Rant, led by multi-instrumentalist Mark Fletcher. The Highland dancers also on the bill will undoubtedly further animate the concert.

The Royal Conservatory’s World Series presents two outstanding singers early in March. On March 7, in a multi-media presentation, the Latin Grammy award winning Lila Downs will perform her dramatic and highly unique reinvention of traditional Mexican music and original compositions fused with blues, jazz, soul, African root and even klezmer music.

And on March 10, it’s another Grammy Award winner’s turn: the powerful-voiced Angélique Kidjo performing her brand of Afro-funk fusion with an infectious joie de vivre. Dubbed “Africa’s premier diva” by TIME magazine, the West African born Kidjo has been an active member of the international world music scene for over 20 years. Her list of illustrious collaborators including Bono, Carlos Santana, Peter Gabriel, Alicia Keys and Branford Marsalis, gives an idea of the force of her personality and the significant impact of her vocal accomplishments.

On Thursday March 15, at 7:30pm, Nagata Shachu, Toronto’s professional Japanese taiko drumming and music group, presents the premiere of Tatsujin Gei (Master Artists) at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre in Toronto. Three master performers from Japan—Kodo Drummers’ Yoshikazu and Yoko Fujimoto, and the Okinawan dance master Mitsue Kinjo—who join forces with Nagata Shachu directed by Kyoshi Nagata. (This rare chance to see some of Japan’s top exponents of taiko, song and dance in Toronto missed our listings deadline so you won’t find further details here in the magazine. Call the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre at 416-441-2345 for details.)

This month, two of our universities showcase the wide-ranging world music activities of their music students and faculty. I’ve found these concerts are a particularly good way to sample a musical tradition new to me: they’re relaxed, the youthful participants are charged with the enthusiasm of new converts—plus they’re free.

On March 15, from noon to 8pm, York University’s Department of Music presents day one of its “World Music Festival.” Performances by the World Music Chorus, Celtic, Ghanaian, Cuban, Klezmer ensembles and the Escola de Samba will fill the halls and rooms of the Accolade East Building with global sounds. The festival continues all next day with Caribbean, Chinese, Korean Drum,
Balkan Music, Flamenco and Middle Eastern ensembles. Then on March 19, York’s World@Noon series presents the triple platinum, Israeli singer-songwriter Idan Raichel at the Tribute Communities Recital Hall, Accolade East Building. His “Idan Raichel Project” is distinguished by its fusion of Hebrew lyrics, Middle Eastern and Ethiopian music and electronica.

The University of Toronto Faculty of Music presents its own World Music ensembles in concert March 16 and 21 at the MacMillan Theatre, Edward Johnson Building. On March 28, at Walter Hall, the exemplary Vocal Jazz Ensemble is directed in concert by the inspired extended vocalist, conductor and teacher Christine Duncan. They will perform with their guest, Darbazi, our region’s first and most accomplished Georgian polyphonic choir.

There was a time in the early 1990s when the guitar duo Strunz & Farah virtually defined the emerging world music market. Their very successful albums won Billboard’s World Music Album of the Year and a Grammy nomination. With an eclectic sound that has been described as world fusion, their music is a mediated reflection of their cultural roots, including Afro-Caribbean, Latin American folk, flamenco and Middle Eastern music, wrapping it all up in jazz-based improvisation. They’re back on the road appearing in venues across Southern Ontario this month. Starting at Hugh’s Room in Toronto, March 14, they then appear at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope, the Molsen Canadian Studio at Hamilton Place, London’s Aeolian Hall and at Market Hall in Peterborough, on March 15, 16, 17 and 18, respectively.

Finally, rounding out the month, on March 31 the Royal Conservatory presents “Intercultural Journeys,” echoing the intercultural and peace-bridging function of music proposed by some of the other concerts noted this month. Israeli cellist Udi Bar-David leads a group consisting of Lebanese violinist Hanna Khoury and Palestinian percussionist Hafez Ali, digging into repertoire merging European and Arabic classical music. Their guests, Syrian singer Youssef Kassab, cantor Beny Maisnner and Toronto qanun master George Sawa, will add yet more inclusive notes to this cross-cultural concert.

Andrew Timar is a Toronto musician and music writer. He can be contacted at worldmusic@thewholenote.com.

SOME YEARS AGO Petula Clark had a hit called Downtown. Part of the lyric is “The lights are so much brighter there. You can forget all your troubles, forget all your cares and go Downtown.” But for jazz fans, is downtown losing some of its appeal?

When I arrived in Toronto, anywhere north of Bloor St. you were heading for the suburbs. All the major jazz clubs in Toronto were in the downtown core and, as I’ve said before in this column, going out to hear jazz meant going to The Colonial and the Town Tavern (who were bringing in “name” American players), George’s Spaghetti House, Castle George above the spaghetti house, Friars Tavern, The Golden Nugget, The Rex and later Bourbon Street, Basin Street, Cafe des Copains. And that is only a partial list of the south of Bloor venues.

But with the demise of the club scene The Rex is the only club from the above list still presenting jazz all week long.

The Reservoir Lounge does have a six-nights-a-week schedule of mostly jazz and blues and there are a number of clubs programming jazz part-time, to which this magazine’s club listings, starting on page 52, well attest. With its Friday evening sessions, Quotes immediately comes to mind. And for fans of New Orleans jazz, Grossman’s Tavern still has Saturday afternoon sessions which began over 40 years ago!

But, why so few full-time jazz clubs left?

Economics played a large part. Travel costs soared, accommodation was more expensive and fees went up. Some of the artists who used to play clubs moved to the concert stage. Dizzy Gillespie, Gary Burton, George Shearing, Thelonious Monk, to name only a few who played in Toronto clubs, all became concert artists. The audience for straight-ahead jazz was aging and very often there was only a handful of people for the last set: no more hanging and drinking late — there was work next morning.

Another factor, I believe, is that people who don’t live in the downtown core go home after work and the thought of driving back to the city is a deterrent. Perhaps starting the music earlier would have helped. In Tokyo I went to a jazz club where the music started at 5pm and people went there straight from work. In New York many clubs have jazz from 7:30pm and it seems to work. For example, if you get to Dizzy’s Club at 11pm you will have missed the headliner.

(To be a little less serious it reminds me of the joke: “Hey buddy, how late does the band play?” “Oh, about a half a beat behind the drummer.”)
But back to the demise of jazz clubs. The music has largely moved to the concert hall which understandably tends to showcase only performers who have drawing power, leaving a host of talented jazz players looking for work.

Insofar as concert halls are concerned, it’s interesting to note that there are events coming to the outlying areas which normally you would have expected to find only at a major concert hall in downtown Toronto.

The Markham Theatre for the Performing Arts on March 3 presents Arturo Sandofal in “A Tribute to My Friend Dizzy Gillespie,” and the following night he is at the Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, Centre for the Arts, Brock University. Michael Kaeshaawer plays the Rose Theatre, Brampton on March 7 and on March 8 he is at Brock. Then on March 22, also at Brock University, Dee Dee Bridgewater appears the night after an engagement at Markham Theatre with “To Billie with Love: A Celebration of Lady Day,” which is, of course, a tribute to Billie Holiday. Looking ahead, on April 3 in Markham it will be Chick Corea, solo jazz piano.

If all of that is a bit confusing the following summary by venue will help:
• Markham Theatre for the Performing Arts: March 3, Arturo Sandofal; March 21, Dee Dee Bridgewater; April 3, Chick Corea
• Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, Centre for the Arts, Brock University: March 8, Michael Kaeshaawer; March 22, Dee Dee Bridgewater
• Rose Theatre, Brampton: March 7, Michael Kaeshaawer

Not bad for the "burb.

BETTER GET IT IN YOUR SOUL

Looking over the concert listings for this month, I was struck by the number of “jazz vespers” at various churches. That got me thinking about how attitudes have changed over the years.

In New Orleans, where many people say that jazz was born, a large number of early jazz performers played in what were euphemistically called “sporting houses.” Jazz started to get a reputation as being immoral and many members of the older generations saw it as threatening the old values in culture and promoting the new decadent values. In fact, in 1921 Anne Shaw Faulkner, head of the Music Department of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, claimed the following: “Never in the history of our land have there been such immoral conditions among our young people, and in the surveys made by many organisations concerning these conditions, the blame is laid on jazz music and its evil influence on the young people of to-day.”

Professor Henry van Dyke of Princeton University wrote: “It is not music at all. It’s merely an irritation of the nerves of hearing, a sensual teasing of the strings of physical passion.” Pretty harsh words for a music which one day would be regarded as America’s only truly American art form.

But in history there have been several great periods when music was declared to be an evil influence, and certain restrictions were placed upon the dance and the music which accompanied it. Genteel and proper society condemned the sensuousness of Strauss waltzes because the intimacy of waltz dancing was considered to be immoral.

Jazz then was given little respect, but over time it captivated the intellectual and cultural elites of America and Europe and eventually was accepted by the world at large. Part of that acceptance as a legitimate art form opened a much wider range of venues for the music and that included places of worship. Some churches opened their doors to jazz vespers. In Toronto, for example, there are this month four jazz performances at Eglinton St. George’s United Church, two at Christ Church Deer Park and a couple at St. Philip’s Anglican Church, all certain to be well accepted by the congregations.

So, in the evolution of jazz, it has gone from houses of sin to houses that forgive sin.

Enjoy your music this month and make some of it live jazz. Ø

Jim Galloway is a saxophonist, band leader and former artistic director of Toronto Downtown Jazz. He can be contacted at jazznotes@thewholenote.com.
Band Marketing 101

JACK MACQUARRIE

With spring just around the corner, many community bands, even while still in the midst of rehearsals for spring concerts, are already contemplating and even planning for various special events during the summer months. What form will these take? And how will they differ from the events such bands participated in 50, 75 or 100 years ago? Will the same types of events that attracted audiences in those days be of interest in the year 2012?

When I first started playing in a band, we were almost overwhelmed with the number of summer events. My summers were filled with out-of-town band tattoos every weekend, frequent parades, occasional competitions and finally the trip to Toronto for the annual competitions at the Canadian National Exhibition. It was almost as busy for the adult bands. However, times have changed.

Five years ago in this column I stated that one of my hobby horses was to foster the recognition of bands in this part of the world as serious musical organizations. At that time, I quoted an author of an article on bands published about 20 years ago. In it, the author refers to “the Golden Age of band music that flourished during the last decades of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th.” In a later paragraph, this expert states an unequivocal fact: “As we all know, the original town band fervour has since gone the way of vaudeville and other populist art forms.”

True, bands and their activities have evolved, but town bands certainly have not gone as that author suggests. Just as the society we live in is constantly changing, so has the role of the town band. I would say that the primary role of these bands now is to provide an outlet for persons of all ages to hone their musical talents with like-minded friends, or what? When the band was established and, hopefully, recognized by the town, what was its product then? If the band is over 100 years old, it probably started out as a major source of musical entertainment for the townsfolk. There was no radio, television, movies or records, let alone the plethora of portable music sources of the present day. If it started 75 years ago, there were probably still tattoos, but there would have been some competition from movies and a bit from radio. If 50 years ago, television was in the entertainment picture, with fewer channels than now, but in full force. What about the product in 2012 and beyond? The one attribute of the community band that has remained constant, is its ability to provide an outlet for the personal satisfaction of performing for an audience. What does your community band have to offer to its community in 2012, and in the years ahead?

Your Market: Define your market and your niche in that market. Remember that the role of the town band has changed drastically in the past 150 years—yes, there are town bands who can claim their service to the community for that long. We must recognize that “the town band” is no longer a principal source of musical entertainment in the town. For that

Your Goals: Define your goals for the event and the longer term goals for the band. In my opinion there might well be four stated goals. The first is the somewhat obvious wish to make music with like-minded friends. The second, equally obvious, is to entertain an appreciative audience. A third goal would be to acquaint the community with the band’s record over the years and to make all citizens more aware of the band’s potential to continue and to expand its role in the life of the community. The final, all-important goal would be to make everyone in town, especially the town council, aware of the band’s desire to have a home that they can call their own. Many bands rehearse in schools, and while they are grateful for the use of this rehearsal space, there are usually significant limitations in size, storage space and accessibility outside of rehearsal hours. There are a few notable exceptions to this last situation, reported on after
matter, the “town,” in most cases, is no longer a town in the same sense it used to be. It may well be a city on its own. But for many of the populace, their town may be a bedroom community. They are employed elsewhere, and spend a significant portion of their time away from “the town.” Above all, recognize that the municipal council and the various funding organizations under its aegis are crucial components of your market. You must cultivate and nourish their perception of the band as a valued organization and an asset to the entire community. In most cases, without their support, the band’s very existence could be in jeopardy.

Proceed cautiously, you have time over the coming months to plan your events. Don’t commit to details in haste only to repent at leisure after the event. Consider your plans carefully and in meticulous detail so that you will be able to bask in the glow of a job well done next fall. Now for the big question: Who in the band will be doing the planning for these special events? Think about it.

For an example of a really worthwhile, well thought-out programme, take a look at the offering of London’s Plumbing Factory Brass Band for their March concert. It’s nothing but marches, but with nary a parade march among them. See “Beyond the GTA” listings for March 28.

As for new developments on the band front, we have just learned of the establishment of a new community band in Aurora. They rehearse on Sunday evenings. More details to come. As for the New Horizons music camp in July at Brock University, which was mentioned last month, it is now booked to capacity and has applicants on a waiting list.

Finally, a refreshing comment from a fellow musician. In a recent chat with jazz guitarist Gerry Mackay (who, by the way, has a regular solo jazz guitar gig at 8pm every Friday at Whitlock’s Restaurant & Wine Café Bar, 1961 Queen St. E.), he summed up his philosophy of performance quite simply: “Take your audience on a journey.” That should work well for the planning of any concert.

DEFINITION DEPARTMENT
This month’s lesser-known musical term is Scambeleissimo: Do the best you can with this difficult section.

We invite submissions from readers. Let’s hear your daffynitions.

COMING EVENTS
Please see the listings section for full details. ☞

Jack MacQuarrie plays several brass instruments and has performed in many community ensembles. He can be contacted at bandxstand@thewholenote.com.

Beat by Beat /Music Theatre

Triple Threat Opportunity Blossoms

ROBERT WALLACE

The proliferation of musical theatre across the GTA does more than provide new and interesting options for the audience. It also creates work for “triple-threat performers” — those who act, sing and dance, and who like to do it all at once. Two of these I mentioned in my discussion of “off-centre” theatre last month — Jeff Madden and Gabi Epstein; both can be seen this month in another new musical developed south of the border. Indeed, the two popular performers will barely catch their breath after Dani Girl closes at Theatre Passe Muraille early this month before they open in I Love You Because, a production by Angelwalk Theatre at the Studio in the Toronto Centre for the Arts (TCA), on March 28. Neither is complaining; especially not Madden.

I Love You Because marks Madden’s return to the theatre where he scored one of his biggest hits — a portrayal of Frankie Valli in the Dancap production of Jersey Boys that won him a DORA award in 2009. This time out, he’s performing a more intimate show on the Centre’s smaller stage, which will bring him even closer to his growing following of Toronto fans. If for no other reason, he’s excited about his return, which he explained to me last month. “I love working in smaller spaces. Having the audience literally inches away forces you to be at your most honest and real. Any false moment will appear obvious to them, so it puts the onus on the actors to be at their best. And certain shows really suit small spaces: it would be ridiculous to put a show like Dani Girl onto the mainstage of the TCA, for example.”

The same could be said of I Love You Because which employs a cast of six. Like many “off-centre” shows, this modest bijoux premiered off-Broadway at the Village Theatre in 2006 before being produced in similarly small venues such as London’s Landor (2007) and Vancouver’s Granville Island Studio where it had its Canadian premiere last month. A contemporary reworking of Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice, the show heralds the debut of Joshua Saltzman (music) and Ryan Cunningham (book and lyrics), a song-writing duo that met in NYU’s graduate programme in musical theatre-writing a few years ago. Relocating the story to present-day New York City, Cunningham refocuses the narrative on a man instead of a woman — Austin Bennett, a young, uptight greeting-card writer (played by Madden), who undergoes a life-change after he meets Marcy, a flighty photographer with whom he initially appears to share nothing in common. Along with their eccentric friends and siblings, the pair of opposites weather a series of mishaps and misfakes, ultimately learning to love each other because of their differences, not in spite of them — a resolution direct from Austen’s novel.

The structure of the show, which its creators sub-title “a modern-day musical love story,” is notable for its intricate plot, as well as a humorous rendering of the emotional and sexual entanglements of urban characters whose reliance on technology Austen could not have envisaged. Well served by Cunningham’s witty lyrics and Saltzman’s melodic jazz/pop score, the book uses a tried and true formula that “ends up exactly where you know it will,” as Neil Genslinger wrote in the New York Times. “But who cares?” he added. “It’s terrific, refreshing fun” — a sentiment echoed by numerous reviewers who found the show’s upbeat and tuneful approach “charming” in the manner of Friends.

I Love You Because resembles [title of show], another quirky (un) titled contemporary American musical that Angelwalk produced to considerable acclaim last season. One of the reasons the company is rapidly gaining a reputation is by producing these “chamber musicals” — small-cast productions that showcase acting, music and dance with a minimum of staging and effects. Founded as a not-for-profit...
Theatre 20, a company devoted to musical theatre that enthusiastically announced its first season in late January, with a mandate rooted in the development, education and celebration of the form, Theatre 20 proposes to create work not just for performers, but also for directors, choreographers, musical directors and designers. Adam Brazier, artistic director of the artist-run enterprise, stresses that Theatre 20 aims to be “the voice of the great unsung musicals” and promises that the company will produce “theatre that asks big questions and explores big ideas,” work that is “evocative, memorable and challenging.” Central to this vision is the development of young artists through mentorship and education programs; just as important, the company’s primary focus is musical theatre. Relying on small casts and simple sets allows it to foreground the talents of its performers, and to supply them with top-notch direction.

Certainly this is the case with I Love You Because, whose director, Darcy Evans, spent eight seasons as an actor and associate director with the Stratford Shakespeare Festival where he honed his directororial smarts on productions such as Hello, Dolly!, The King and I, Fiddler on the Roof and Man of La Mancha. Joining him as musical director on I Love You Because is Lily Ling, well known in Toronto for her work on The Fantasticks at Soulpepper Theatre, and Acting Up’s productions of The Light in the Piazza and Parade, the latter co-produced with Studio 180 last year. Both directors join Angelwalk for the first time—a good indication of the company’s rise in profile that began when it took up residency at TCA, a theatre that Madden, like many, considers “the best in the city. It’s the new-est, and the facilities and the staff are all first rate.”

As more small theatres develop projects that draw on the growing rank of musical theatre talent across the GTA, it’s inevitable that resources consolidate into what can be termed a musical theatre community. Madden, one of the busiest performers in the city, maintains that “there certainly is not enough work for local artists coming just from our commercial theatre producers” to sustain a career in the genre. As a result, he’s quick to thank “the group of artists and businessmen who have created those smaller companies to provide work for artists like myself.” Obviously, these companies undertake musicals for more than altruistic reasons; arguably, they recognize that audience interest in the genre grows apace with the talent to create it. “I think just about everybody loves musicals,” Madden says. “Some may hate to admit it, but let’s face it, music is universal. Everyone responds to music on an emotional level, and when it suits the story being told onstage, it can make for a magical experience.”

This idea no doubt also influenced the formation of another theatre company devoted to musical theatre that enthusiastically announced its first season in late January. With a mandate rooted in the development, education and celebration of the form, Theatre 20 proposes to create work not just for performers, but also for directors, choreographers, musical directors and designers. Adam Brazier, artistic director of the artist-run enterprise, stresses that Theatre 20 aims to be “the voice of the great unsung musicals” and promises that the company will produce “theatre that asks big questions and explores big ideas,” work that is “evocative, memorable and challenging.” Central to this vision is the development of young artists through mentorship and education programs; just as important, the company vows to nurture Canadian writers and composers. This is good news, for what is lacking in the GTA’s otherwise burgeoning musical theatre scene is the development of Canadian musicals that proceed beyond the workshop phase to achieve full production here and elsewhere. This requires pro-active support for writers and composers that, until now, has been lacking. As Madden points out, “If you want to be a musical theatre writer, you pretty much have to head to New York, where the pre-eminent schools and training facilities exist. Nothing to that extent exists in Canada.” While exceptions like The Drowsy Chaperone (see its awards and credits further down in this article) have emerged to challenge his assertion, they are few and far between—or, at least, so says conventional wisdom. Interestingly, Theatre 20’s choice for its inaugural production calls the idea into question.

Bloodless, a musical about the 19th-century Edinburgh “body snatchers,” Burke and Hare, will open at Toronto’s Panasonic Theatre next October, in a production directed by Colm Wilkinson, the near-legendary star of Les Misérables, and a founding member of Theatre 20. While it’s too early to discuss the show, it’s timely to note that the book, music and lyrics are written and composed by Joseph Aragon, a Winnipeg-based playwright, performer and musician who graduated from the National Theatre School in playwriting some years ago. Since 2004, Aragon has written and composed eight full-length musicals, all of which have received full-scale productions at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival. Who knew? Someone at Theatre 20, apparently, who left it to Jeff Madden and Juan Chioran to sing a duet from Bloodless that had people cheering at the company’s press launch last month.

Perhaps cross-border shopping is over-rated? It seems we soon will be better equipped to answer the question.
AND THERE’S MORE, MUCH MORE

If you missed The Drowsy Chaperone in one of its previous incarnations (and even if you didn’t, it’s worth seeing twice), you’re in luck. City Centre Musical Productions gives the show a full treatment at Mississauga’s Meadowvale Theatre for a week, opening March 23. One of the most successful creations in the history of Canadian theatre, this affectionate spoof of vintage musicals grew from humble beginnings at Toronto’s Rivoli Cafe in 1998, to achieve accolades on Broadway and beyond after it opened at New York’s Marquis Theatre in 2006. Along the way, it played to sold-out houses at the Toronto Fringe Festival, Theatre Passe Muraille, Toronto’s Winter Garden Theatre and the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles, accumulating critical acclaim that heralded the Tony Awards it won for its book (written by Bob Martin and Don McKellar) and score (composed by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison). Widely produced across Canada and the US since then, the show also received productions in London, Australia, and Japan. This new presentation, directed by Michael MacLennan as part of the popular Encore series of Music Theatre Mississauga, stars David Grimason as The Man in the Chair, an agoraphobic musical fanatic who is transported into the world of a fictional 1928 Broadway musical that he listens to on a record. The conceit allows the writers to structure a play-within-a-play that presents an intriguing central character at the same time as it offers an homage to musicals, past and present.

City Centre Musical Productions is one of many community theatres which draws upon the audience for musicals even as it fuels the aspirations of triple-threat performers. These theatres achieve something their professional counterparts rarely attempt: contemporary productions of musical “classics.” This month, for example, two of the most loved American musicals are on view in community productions that are sure to sell out. Opening on the same night as The Drowsy Chaperone, but for four shows only, Man of La Mancha (book by Dale Wasserman, lyrics by Joe Darion, music by Mitch Leigh) is presented by Steppin’ Out Theatrical Productions at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. First produced on Broadway in 1965, the show is based on Don Quixote, Miguel de Cervantes’s 17th-century novel, and has been revived four times on Broadway, as well as produced around the world. Its principal song, “The Impossible Dream,” is one of the best-known standards in the musical theatre repertoire.

Similarly, “Hello, Dolly” the central song of the eponymous musical hit written and composed by Jerry Herman, has been heard in almost every major language since Carol Channing introduced the catchy lyric in the Broadway premiere in 1966. The book, by Michael Stewart, is based on Thornton Wilder’s 1938 farce, The Merchant of Yonkers, that Wilder revised and retitled The Matchmaker in 1955. The current production, presented by Onstage Productions (formerly the Scarborough Choral Society) at the J.T.M. Guest Theatre, also opens on March 23, making that evening one of the busiest of the month for musical theatre buffs.

If you prefer a big American musical that’s more contemporary in its concerns, Legally Blonde: The Musical, which opened on Broadway in 2006 and continues to play London’s West End, premieres at the Lower Ossington Theatre on March 9 where it runs for the entire month in a production directed by Tricia Lackey, with musical direction by Robert Wilkinson. Based on the film of the same name that stars Reese Witherspoon, the show uses music and lyrics by Laurence O’Keefe and Nell Benjamin, and a book by Heather Hach, to tell the story of Elle Woods, a sorority girl who enrolls at Harvard Law School to win back her ex-boyfriend, and proceeds to achieve fame and fortune. It’s not the first Toronto production. A touring version of the show played at the Princess of Wales Theatre in 2010. But as far as I know, this is its first Canadian production. A classic? I doubt it. But I also doubt that this is the last time we’ll see the show in Toronto.
that present opera in concert. The most established of these, Opera in Concert, has provided this service since 1974. Coming up on March 4 is the Canadian premiere of Giuseppe Verdi’s first opera *Oberto* (1839). The opera is a fictionalized account of the life of Cunizza da Romano (born c.1198), who appears in the Third Sphere of Dante’s *Paradiso*. Here in his first opera, Verdi is already exploring in Oberto and Leonora the dynamics of the father-daughter relationship that threads through all his work. Giles Tomkins sings Oberto, Joni Henson is Leonora, Michele Bogdanowicz is Cuniza and Romulo Delgado is Riccardo, Cuniza’s fiancé who seduces Leonora. Alison d’Amato is the music director and pianist and Robert Cooper prepares the Opera in Concert Chorus. Visit www.operainconcert.com for more.

Meanwhile, Opera by Request celebrates its fifth anniversary on March 10 with a gala presentation of Verdi’s *Don Carlo*. For those who saw the COC’s production of Verdi’s French version of the Don Carlos story in 2007, this will be an easy way to compare it to Verdi’s later Italian version. OBR is unusual in that the cast comes together to choose the repertoire, not the company directorate. Yet, for this special celebration, OBR’s artistic director, pianist William Shookhoff, says he has departed from the mandate and has personally chosen the production and cast, which consists of “people who have contributed in a special way over the past five years.” He notes, “With the fifth anniversary comes the 50th production (not performance). And, by the time the fifth anniversary occurs, we will have engaged 150 singers, many of whom I did not know five years ago, and some of whom I only met through their colleagues who invited them to participate.” Paul Williams sings the title role, Michelle Minke is Elisabetta, Steven Henrikson is Rodrigo, Monica Zerbe is Eboli, Robert Milne is Philip and Larry Tozer is the Grand Inquisitor. The performance takes place at the College Street United Church. Visit www.operabyrequest.ca for more information.

Christopher Hoile is a Toronto-based writer on opera and theatre. He can be contacted at opera@thewholenote.com.
**The WholeNote Listings**

*The WholeNote* listings are arranged in four sections:

**A. GTA (GREATER TORONTO AREA)** covers all of Toronto plus Halton, Peel, York and Durham regions.

**B. BEYOND THE GTA** covers many areas of Southern Ontario outside Toronto and the GTA. In the current issue, there are listings for events in Barrie, Brantford, Cobourg, Dundas, Guelph, Hamilton, Huntsville, Kingston, Kitchener, Lindsay, London, Orillia, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Port Hope, Port Rowan, Sarnia, St. Catharines, Waterloo. Starts on page 49.

**C. IN THE CLUBS (MOSTLY JAZZ)** is organized alphabetically by club. Starts on page 52.

**D. THE ETCETERAS** is for galas, fundraisers, competitions, screenings, lectures, symposia, masterclasses, workshops, singalongs and other music-related events (except performances) which may be of interest to our readers. Starts on page 56.

**A GENERAL WORD OF CAUTION** A phone number is provided with every listing in *The WholeNote*—in fact, we won’t publish a listing without one. Concerts are sometimes cancelled or postponed; artists or venues may change after listings are published. Please check before you go out to a concert.

**HOW TO LIST** Listings in *The WholeNote* in the four sections above are a free service available, at our discretion, to eligible presenters. If you have an event, send us your information no later than the listing deadline.

**LISTINGS DEADLINE** The next issue covers the period from April 1, 2012, to May 7, 2012. All listings must be received by 6pm Thursday March 15.

**LISTINGS** can be sent by e-mail to listings@thewholenote.com or by fax to 416-603-4791 or by regular mail to the address on page 6. We do not receive listings by phone, but you can call 416-323-2232 x27 for further information.

**LISTINGS ZONE MAP** Visit our website to see a detailed version of this map: www.thewholenote.com.

**OPERA QUICK PICKS**

Following is an “at a glance” guide to the first (or only) performance of all of the opera productions appearing in our listings. For further details, please consult the daily concert listings:

**OPERA IN THE GTA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 01</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Opera York, Die Fledermaus</td>
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<td>March 03</td>
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<td>March 07</td>
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<td>Opera by Request, Don Carlo</td>
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<td>March 09</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
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<td>Opera Kitchener, Don Giovanni</td>
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<td>March 17</td>
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<td>University of Toronto Faculty of Music</td>
<td>Opera: La Fille du Régiment</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
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<td>Opera: La Fille du Régiment</td>
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<td>Opera: La Fille du Régiment</td>
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<td>April 01</td>
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<td>April 05</td>
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<td>Opera Belcanto, Tosca</td>
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**OPERATION BEYOND THE GTA**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 02</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Wilfrid Laurier University</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 07</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Midday Music With Shigeru</td>
<td>Excerpts from Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Brock University (Opera)</td>
<td>ENCORE! Concert Series: Tempted by Opera... Give in to Carmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>River Run Centre</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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**MUSICAL THEATRE: EXTENDED RUNS**

Mainstage musical theatre productions with runs of more than 15 performances appear only once in our daily concert listings, on the date of the first performance falling within the date range covered in the issue. Details for such shows are provided below:

- March 20, 7:30: Don Giovanni
- March 20, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- March 21, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- March 22, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- March 23, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- March 24, 2:30: The Merry Widow
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- April 09, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- April 10, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- April 11, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- April 12, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- April 13, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- April 14, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- April 15, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- April 16, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- April 17, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- April 18, 7:30: The Merry Widow
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- April 30, 7:30: The Merry Widow
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- May 27, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- May 28, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- May 29, 2:30: The Merry Widow
- May 30, 7:30: The Merry Widow
- May 31, 2:30: The Merry Widow

**THE CIVIC LIGHT-OPERA COMPANY**

TORONTO’S PREMIERE MUSICAL THEATRE

proudly presents

**FORBIDDEN BROADWAY**

The Tony Award-winning musical revue that ran in New York for 30 years!

A hilarious tribute to all your favorite musicals...

* THE MUSIC MAN * THE SOUND OF MUSIC * CATS *
* HELLO, DOLLY! * GUYS & DOLLS * ANNIE *
* LES MISERABLES * JOSEPH... * THE LION KING *
* PHANTOM OF THE OPERA * WICKED *
and many more!

The Civic Light-Opera Company

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35 Fairview Mall Dr., Sheppard/Don Mills. TICKETS - $24.78 + HST

February 22 to March 10
Wed. – 7pm / Thurs. To Sat. – 8pm / Sun. – 2pm / March 10 – 2 & 8pm

BOX OFFICE: (416) 755-1717

www.CivicLightOperaCompany.com
A. Concerts in the GTA

Thursday March 01

• 12:10: Nine Sparrows Arts Foundation/Christ Church Deer Park. Lunchtime Chamber Music: Rising Stars Recital. Students from the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 416-241-1286. Free, donations welcome.


• 7:00: Toronto Jewish Folk Choir. Purim Concert. Songs in Yiddish, Hebrew and English including Reyzele, Ofn Frayshet, Vu is dos Gesale, Der Rebe Elmeylech, Zhera- li (white cranes) and Hop Mayn Homenatsn. Featuring choir soloists: Tanya Podolskaya, alto; Martin Houtman and Nick Gough, tenor; Charlie Sise, baritone; Herman Rombouts, bass; Alexander Veprkys, conductor. Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 416-806-5909. $10.

• 7:30: Miles Nadal jcc. Yitzhak Yedid: Through the Window of Marc Chagall, Yitzhak Yedid, piano and compositions. Al Green Theatre, 750 Spadina Ave. 416-924-6211 x0. $15.


• 7:30: York University Departments of Music, Theatre and Dance. Dido and Aeneas. Purcell. Catherine Robbins, music director; Stephanie Martin, conductor; Gwen Dob- bin, stage director; Susan Lee, choreographer. Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan Theatre, Rm. 110, Accolade East Bldg., 4700 Keele St. 416-736-5888. $17; $12(st/sr). Also Mar 2.

• 8:00: Civic Light Opera. Forbidden Broadway. Tribute to and spoof of Broadway musi- cals, including Guys & Dolls, Fiddler on the Roof, The Music Man, Annie and others: Adirnchina mandiola, director. 918 Bathurst Centre, 918 Bathurst St. 416-533-1500. $30; $25(st/sr). Also Mar 2, 3; 4(mat).

• 8:00: Opera York. Die Fledermaus. J. Strauss. Matthew Zadow, tenor (Gabriel von Eisenstein); Ilona Karan, soprano (Rosalinda); Anna Bateman, soprano (Adele); Ryan Harper, tenor (Alfred); Tony Cleterson, baritone (Dr. Falke); Geoff Butler, artistic director; Penny Cookson, stage director. Richmond Hill Cen- tre for the Performing Arts, 10268 Yonge St., Richmond Hill. 905-787-8811. 416-419-2248. $15.

• 8:00: Music Toronto. Discovery Series: Wal- lis Giunta, mezzo soprano with Steven Philcox, pianist. Wannaight: All Days are Nights: Songs for Lute; also works by Britten, Purcell, Vaughan Williams, Barber and others. Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. 416-368-7723 or 1-800-708-6754. $21.50; $10(st); accompanying adult pays half price.

• 8:00: Oper a York. Die Fledermaus. J. Strauss. Matthew Zadow, tenor (Gabriel von Eisenstein); Ilona Karan, soprano (Rosalinda); Anna Bateman, soprano (Adele); Ryan Harper, tenor (Alfred); Tony Cleterson, baritone (Dr. Falke); Geoff Butler, artistic director; Penny Cookson, stage director. Richmond Hill Cen- tre for the Performing Arts, 10268 Yonge St., Richmond Hill. 905-787-8811. 416-419-2248. $15.

Friday March 02


• 7:30: Talk is Free Theatre/Show One Productions. Dani Girl. See Mar 1.
A. Concerts in the GTA

- 7:30: Toronto Opera Repertoire. The Merry Widow. Lehár, Jennifer Raso, soprano (Anna); Jay Lamrie, tenor (Danilo); Gerald Hannon, baritone (Baron); Christine Kidd, soprano (Valencienne - Feb 17, 22, Mar 4); Caroline Catanio, soprano (Valencienne - Feb 19, 25, Mar 2); Pablo Benitez, tenor (Camille - Feb 17, 25, Mar 4); William Parker, tenor (Camille - Feb 19, 22, Mar 2); Beatrice Carpino, director. Bickford Centre Theatre, 777 Bloor St. W. 416-978-8848. $25; $15(st/adv). Also Mar 4(sat).
- 7:30: York University Department of Music. Dido and Aeneas. See Mar 1.
- 8:00: b:current/Theatre Archipelago. Obreah Opera. See Mar 1.
- 8:00: Batukí Music Society. Madagascar Slim, blues guitar. NOW Lounge, 189 Church St. 416-948-4132. $10.
- 8:00: Civic Light Opera. Forbidden Broadway. See Mar 01.
- 8:30: Green Door Cabaret at the Lower Ossington Theatre. Peter McGillivray. 100A Ossington Ave. 416-915-6747. $30(reserved); $25; $20(industry with ID).
- 7:30: Music Gallery. Rufus Cappadocia, celli. Cello and mora frantsa from Zimbabwe. Guests: Mutumabai Raines and Pasi Gungumu, mbira. St. George’s The Martyr Church, 187 John St. 416-204-1080. $30 ($25(adv)).
- 8:00: Soundstreams/Royal Conservatory. So Percussion: Cage @100. Works by Cage; Lizée: new work. Guests: Matmos; Dan Deacon, electronics; Nicole Lizée, trainable. Koerner Hall, 273 Bloor St. W. 416-408-0208. 142 and up.
- 8:00: Theatre Ad Infinitum/Why Not Theatre. The Big Smoke. See Mar 1.

Saturday March 03

- 2:00 and 7:30: Amadou Diallo. A Celtic Celebration. With Rant Maggie Rant (Celtic band). Jubilee United Church, 40 Underhill Dr. 416-446-0188. $35; $30(st/adv). Includes live and silent auctions.
- 2:00 and 7:30: Talk is Free Theatre/Show Productions. Dani Girl. See Mar 1.
- 7:00: Mississauga Pops. TV Pops. Meadowvale Theatre, 6315 Montevideo Rd., Mississauga. 905-615-4720. $20; $18(st/adv); $12(child).
- 7:30: Oakville Chamber Orchestra. Merry Olde England. Elgar: Introduction & Allegro; Vaughan Williams: Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis; Purcell: The Old Bachelor Suite; Couthard: Prayer for Elizabeth; Britten: Simple Symphony. Central Baptist Church, 340 Rebecca St., Oakville. 905-483-6787. $25; $20(sr); $15(st). Also Mar 4(mat, St. Simon’s Anglican Church).
- 7:30: St. Anne’s Choir and Orchestra. Purcell Evening Prayer. Evening prayer service featuring music of Purcell. St. Anne’s Church, 270 Gladstone Ave. 416-536-3160. PWYC. Refreshments to follow.
- 7:30: Tallis Choir. Stabat Mater: Music for Passiontide. Palestina: Stabat Mater; Monteverdi: Missa In Illo Tempore; Lotti: Crucifixus; Scarlatti: Stabat Mater (Niente); Jay Lamrie, tenor. St. Patrick’s Church, 141 McCaul St. 416-286-9798. $30; $25(sr); $10(st with ID).
- 7:30: Toronto Opera Repertoire. Lucia di Lammermoor. Donizetti. Carrie Gray, soprano (Lucea – Feb 15, 26, Mar 3); Tammy Short, soprano (Lucia – Feb 18, 24, 28); Yevgeny Yablonsky, baritone (Enrico); Jay Lamrie, tenor (Edgaro – Feb 15, 24, Mar 3); Pablo Benitez, tenor (Edardo – Feb 18, 26, 29); Anthony Faure, tenor (Arturo); Frank de Jong, bass (Raimondo); Christine Kidd, soprano (Alisa); Giuseppe Macina, director. Bickford Centre Theatre, 777 Bloor St. W. 416-978-8849. $25; $15(tu/mt).
- 7:30: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. New Creations Festival. Con Brio. Widmann: Con brio (Canadian premiere); Eötvös: Replica for Viola and Orchestra (North American premiere); Charke: Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra (world premiere). Kronos Quartet; Teng Li, viola; Peter Estévz, conductor; Peter Dunjdan, conductor and host. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 416-593-4828 or 416-583-0880(Chinese). $33–$48.
- 7:30: Tryptich: Loca Landa & Zaino! A Two Tenors Tribute to Mario Lanza, Leonard Whiting, tenor; Edward Franko, tenor; Brett Kingsbury, piano. West Hall Theatre, Trinity-Presbyterian Church, 2737 Bayview Ave. 416-763-5068 x 1. $35/$30(adv); $25(adv)/$20(st).
- 8:00: Art of Time Ensemble/Royal Conservatory. Brasil. Works by Villa-Lobos and Jobim. Guests: Guinga, Luanda Jones, vocals; Monica Whicher, soprano; and others. Koerner Hall, 273 Bloor St. W. 416-408-0208. $33 and up.
- 8:00: b:current/Theatre Archipelago. Obreah Opera. See Mar 1.
- 8:00: Civic Light Opera. Forbidden Broadway. See Mar 01.
- 8:00: Counterpoint Community Orchestra/Dickens Fellowship Toronto Branch. Dickens with a Twist: A Tribute to Charles Dickens on the 200th Anniversary of His Birth. Mozart; Marten aller Arten; Beethoven;
Sunday March 04

• 10:30am: Eglington St. George’s United Church. Jazz Worship for Lent: Joe Sealy and Friends. Joe Sealy, piano; Paul Novotny, bass; Brian Barlow, drums, 35 Lytton Blvd. 416-481-1141 x250. Freewill offering. Religious service.
• 2:00: b current/Theatre Archipelago. Ohe-Oh Opera. See Mar 1.
• 2:00: Church of St. Mary Magdalen. Vox Lumine (Voices of Light) Chamber Choir. Music by Tavazza, Lauridsen, Wood, Bairstow. Brandon Johnson, music director. 477 Manning Ave. 416 531-7955. PWYC.
• 2:00: Civic Light Opera. Forbidden Broadway. See Mar 01.
• 2:00: Markham Concert Band. O Canada. Music composed and arranged by Canadians. Markham Symphony Orchestra. Markham Theatre, 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham. 905-305-7489. $20; $15(sr); $10(st).
• 2:00: North Toronto Players. Starship Pinafore (The Lass Who Loved a Trekkie). See Mar 2.
• 2:00: Toronto Opera Repertoire. The Merry Widow. See Mar 2.
• 2:00 and 7:30: Talk is Free Theatre/Shaw One Productions. Dani Girl. See Mar 1.
• 2:30: Opera in Concert. Oberto. Verdi. Canadian premiere. Gilels, baritone (Oberto); Jon Henson, soprano (Leonora); Michele Bognanowicz, mezzo (Cinzia); Romulo Delgado, tenor (Riccardo); Opera in Concert chorus, Derek Bate, conductor; Allison d’Amato, music director and piano. Jane Mallett Theatre, 138 Yorkville Ave. 416-504-7733. $25; $20(sr); $15(st).
• 3:00: Oakville Chamber Orchestra. Merry Old England. Elgar: Introduction & Allegro; Vaughan Williams: Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis; Purcell: The Old Bachelor Suite; Couthuard: Prayer for Elizabeth; Britten: Simple Simon. St. Mary’s Anglican Church, 1450 Litchfield Rd., Oakville. 456-483-6787. $25; $20(sr); $15(st). Also Mar 3 (Central Baptist Church).
• 3:00: Orpheus Choir of Toronto. Beethoven and the Bard. War: No Moral Business (premiere); Beethoven: Mass in C. Johane Ansell, soprano; Sidgwick Scholars of the Orpheus Choir; Chorus Niagara; Talisker Players; Edward Moroney, organ; Robert Coop, conductor; Gerstan Wyn Davies, narrator. Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen St. E. 416-530-4428. $30; $25(sr); $15(st). 2:15: Pre-concert chat with Robert Cooper and Allan Bevan.
Music Toronto

RICHARD GOODE
pianist

Tuesday March 6 at 8 pm


CATHEDRAL BLUFFS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

2011–2012
NORMAN REINTAMM artistic director

SATURDAY at 8 pm
March 10, 2012
P.C. Ho Theatre
5163 Sheppard Ave E, Scarborough

GOUNOD
Solemn Mass (St. Cecilia) performed by the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Concert Choir

RACHMANINOV Symphony no. 1

Regular $30 adult, $25 st/sr (under 12 free) Premium $50 adult, $40 st/sr (under 12 free) * Subscription Concert 4

join us and celebrate OPERA BY REQUEST

5th YEAR with Verdi's Don Carlo

Saturday, March 10, 7:30 pm
College St. United Church
452 College St. (at Bathurst)

All tickets $20
416 455-2365 for rsvtns/info operabyrequest.com

5 years 50 operas 150 singers

March 1 – April 7, 2012
thewholenote.com

A. Concerts in the GTA

Three Cantors. Angus Sinclair, accompanist. All Saints’ Kingsway Anglican Church, 2850 Bloor St. W. 416-233-1125. $30 (25%advc). In support of interfaith summer camp programmes.


Music Toronto

Richard Goode pianist

Tuesday March 6 at 8 pm

• 8:00: Music Toronto. Piano Series: Richard Goode. Schumann: Kinderszenen Op.15; Brahms: Seven Pieces Op.116; Chopin: Nocturne in E-flat Op.55 No.2; Scherzo No.3 in E-flat Op.55 No.2; Scherzo No.3 in F Op.64 No.2; Waltz in c-sharp Op.64 No.2; Waltz in C Op.34 No.3; Ballade No.3 in A Op.47. Jane Mallett Theatre. St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754. $47.50–$52; $10(st); accompanying adult half price; Pay your age(18-35, plus 16 facility and handling charges).

• 8:00: Musideum. Mark Sepic and his Junkt-stra. Songs, stories and musical fantasies. 401 Richmond St. W. 416-419-2248. 120.

Wednesday March 7


• 7:30: Classic Light Opera. Forbidden Broad-way. See Mar 1.


• 8:00: Gallery 345/suddenlyLISTEN. New compositions and improvisations. Norman Ad-dams, cello; Lee Pui Ming, piano; Erin Donovan, percussion. 345 Sorauren Ave. 416-822-9781. Free.

• 8:00: Rose Theatre Brampton. Michael Koehnemoller, 1 Theatre Lane, Brampton. 905-874-2800. 137 and up.

• 8:00: Royal Conservatory. Lila Downs, Latin singer. Multi-media performance. Koern er Hall, 273 Bloor St. W. 416-408-0208. 133.50 and up.

• 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. New Creations Festival: Orlando; Vivier: Orion; Wid-man: Elegy for Clarinet and Orchestra (North American premiere); Eitvöös: Cello Concerto Grosso (North American premiere); zeroPoints. Jörg Widmann, clarinet; Joseph Johnson, cello; Peter Eitvöös, conductor; Peter Dunjigan, conductor and host. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 416-593-4828 or 416-593-0688(Chinese). $135–$145.

Thursday March 8


• 2:00: Alchemy. An Hour of Chamber Music. Telemann: Suite in a; Martinu: Promenades; Beethoven: String Quartet Op.18 No.5. Henneke Cats, flute; Catherine Slijden and John Bailey, violin; Charles Small, viola; Susan Nac-cache, cello; Marion Wilk, harpsichord. North- ern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd. 416-2576. Free. Also Mar 5 (Living Life on the Avenue).

• 3:00: Meadowvale Theatre. Seussical The Musical. See Mar 7.


• 7:30: University of Toronto Faculty of Music (Opera Division). Cool fan tutte. See Mar 8.

• 8:00: Civic Light Opera. Forbidden Broad-way. See Mar 1.

• 8:00: Etobicoke Community Concert Band. To Infinity and Beyond. Works by Holst and J. Williams. John Edward Liddle, music director. Markham Theatre. • 2:00 and 8:00: Markham Theatre. Rhythm of the Dance – The National Dance Company of Ireland. Dance and music derived from all areas of Irish life. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham. 905-305-7469 or 1-866-768-9001. 84–459; $39(17 and under).


• 8:00: Civic Light Opera. Forbidden Broad-way. See Mar 1.

• 8:00: Etobicoke Community Concert Band. To Infinity and Beyond. Works by Holst and J. Williams. John Edward Liddle, music director.
Tuesday March 13

• 1:00: Cathedral Church of St. James. Music at Midday. Bruce Kirpatrick Hill, organ. 65 Church St. 416-364-7865 x231. Free, donations welcome. Religious service.

Wednesday March 14

• 11:00am and 2:00 and 7:00: Markham Theatre, Judy and David’s GoldRicks. Spinoff on Goldilocks and the Three Bears, for ages 3–9. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham. 905-305-7469 or 1-868-788-8081. $29–34; $25(st and under).


• 7:00: Markham Theatre. Scrap Art Music. Five drummers perform using over 145 invent...
A. Concerts in the GTA

Browning, director. 15186 Yonge St., Aurora.
905-836-8589. $20; $15.


Bartók: Quartet No.2; Quartet No.1. Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. 416-366-7723 or 1-800-706-6754. $47.50–$52; $10(st; accompanying adult pays half price); pay-your-age(ages 18–35 plus $6 facility and handling fee).

• 8:00: Steven Tsitsos Into the West: Music of the Spaghetti Western. CD release concert, featuring music by Morricone, Hendrix, Dead Kennedys, D. Occhipinti and others. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. W. 416-872-4255 or 1-855-985-2787. $20; 4 for $40/10 for $75; $5(st).

• 7:30: Metropolitan United Church. BachFest III: Bach and the King of Instruments. Patricia Wright, organ. 56 Queen St. E. 416-383-0331 x51. $20.


Friday March 16

• 11:45am to 8:45: York University Department of Music. World Music Festival. Various rooms in the Accolade East Bldg., 4700 Keele St. 416-736-2100 x22926. Free.

• 7:30: Jazz Performance and Education Centre (JPEC). Tom Harrell Quintet. Tom Harrell, trumpet; Wayne Escoffery, tenor saxophone; David Berkman, piano; Ugonna Okegwo, bass; Johnathan Blake, drums; opening set: Paul Tynan Quartet. Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front St. W. 416-872-4255 or 1-855-985-2787. $20; 4 for $40/10 for $75; $5(st).

• 7:30: Metropolitan United Church. BachFest III: Bach and the King of Instruments. Patricia Wright, organ. 56 Queen St. E. 416-383-0331 x51. $20.

Saturday March 17


• 8:00: UC Follies. The Rocky Horror Show. See Mar 15.

Music Toronto

TOKYO QUARTET

Thursday March 15 at 8 pm

• 8:00: Music Toronto. Quartet Series: Tokyo Quartet. Haydn: Quartet in G Op.64 No.4; Mozart: Quartet No.14 in F; Beethoven: Quartet No.13 in B flat; Schubert: Quartet No.14 in G. St. Joseph’s Oratory, Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, 1000 de Maisonneuve Blvd. E. 514-847-3581 or 416-524-3810. $25; 4 for $80; $20(st/industry with ID).

Friday March 16

The Musicians In Ordinary for the Lutes and Voices

8 PM March 17, 2012

SERO SED SERIO

Music from the life of Robert Cecil, Elizabeth I’s Secretary of State and His Friends

Songs and lute pieces by Dowland, Lanier, Thomas Robinson and others

HALLIE FIGHEL, SOPRANO AND JOHN EDWARDS, RENAISSANCE LUTES

Metropolitan BachFest

BachFest III:

Bach and the King of Instruments

Patricia Wright, organ

Admission: $20

Friday, March 16, 7:30 pm

416-363-0331 ext. 51 www.metunited.org

METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH

56 Queen St. E. (at Church St), Toronto, Ontario
Sunday March 18

• 10:30am: Eglington St. George’s United Church. Jazz Worship for Lent; Bob Deknagel’s Dividend All-Stars. 35 Lytton Blvd. 416-481-1141 x205. Freemall offering. Religious service.


• 2:00: Univox. Masses to Lasses. Galbraith: Missa Brevis; Tum Balalaika; and two new works premiered; Casal: O Vos Omnes; Byrd: Mass for Four Voices; and folk songs from Scotland and the Jewish Diaspora. Dallas Bergen, conductor; Mira Jung, accompanist. First Unitarian Church of Toronto, 175 St. Clair Ave. W. 416-697-9561. $15.


• 3:00: Green Door Cabaret at the Lower Ossington Theatre. Judith Lander. 100A Ossington Ave. 416-915-6747. $30; $20/st(industry with ID).

• 3:00: Hart House Music Committee.

THE Aldeburgh CONNECTION

Celebrating the Art of Song

Artistic Directors:
Stephen Ralls and Bruce Ubukata

Schubert and the Esterházys

Tales of Schubert in the countryside east of Vienna comprise our annual Greta Kraus Schubertiad.

Leslie Ann Bradley, soprano
Erica Iris Huang, mezzo
Graham Thomson, tenor
Geoffrey Sirett, baritone
Stephen Ralls and Bruce Ubukata, piano

Sunday, March 18, 2:30 pm
Walter Hall, University of Toronto
Tickets: $50 (student rush seats $12)
Afternoon tea at intermission

Call 416.735.7982
www.aldeburghconnection.org

Univox

Masses to Lasses

Artistic Director: Dallas Bergen
Featuring works by 2011 - 2013
Composer in Residence Craig Galbraith:
Missa Brevis, Tum Balalaika and the premier of new works.

Casal’s O Vos Omnes, Byrd’s Mass for Four Voices and folk songs from Scotland & the Jewish Diaspora.

Sunday, March 18, 2012 at 2 pm
First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto
Tickets online: univoxchoir.org/tickets

Associates of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra present
Young Magic
Ensembles from the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

This inspiring concert demonstrates the exciting musicianship of talented young performers who will be future solo artists and orchestra musicians.

- Sonata by Giovanni Battista Buonamente
- Mozart Clarinet Quintet (2 movements)
- Mendelssohn Octet (2 movements)
- The Earl of Oxford’s Mary by William Byrd, arranged by Elgar Howarth
- Stravinsky’s L’histoire du soldat

Monday, March 19 7:30 pm
Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre
427 Bloor Street West, Toronto (2 blocks west of Spadina Avenue)
Tickets: Reg. $20; Stu./Srs. $17
For tickets call 416-282-6636 www.associates-tso.org

March 1 – April 7, 2012
thewholenote.com
A. Concerts in the GTA


• 3:30: York University Department of the Arts, Koffler Chamber Orchestra: Music Off the Map. Mozetich: Postcards from the Sky; Buczynski: Highway of Heroes (world premiere); Chamagne: Danse Villageoise; A.G. Bell: Drawing down the Moon; Glick: Divertimentos for Strings. Melanie Canly, soprano, Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen W. 1-888-222-6808, $25/$15(adv); $15/st($10(adv).


• 4:00: Cathedral Church of St. James. Twilight Recitals. Andrea Adar, organ, 65 Church St. 416-384-7865 x231. Freewill offering.

Tuesday March 20

• 12:30: York University Department of Music. World@Now: Idan Raichel. Tribute Communities Recital Hall, Accolade East Bldg., 4700 Keele St. 416-736-2100 x222926. Free.


• 7:30: Associates of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Young Magic: Ensembles from the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. Buonamore: Sonata; Mozart: Clarinet Quintet (two movements); Mendelssohn: Octet (two movements); Byrd: Early of Oxford’s Mary (arr. Howarth); Strawinsky: l’histoire du soldat. Trinity-University College Recital Hall, 145 Queen St. W. 416-363-1045 (See AD ON PREVIOUS PAGE).


Wednesday March 21


• 2:00 and 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. A Century of Broadway. See Mar 20.


• 8:00: Lower Ossington Theatre, Legally Blonde: The Musical. See Mar 9.

• 8:00: Markham Theatre. Men of the Deep. Choir of coal miners sings ballads, spirituals and folk songs. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham. 905-305-7469 or 1-866-768-8888. 149–154.

Thursday March 22 at 8 pm

Tickets just $21.50

• 8:00: Music Toronto. Discovery Series: Véronique Mathieu, violin; Stephanie Chua, piano. L. Boulanger: Three pieces for violin and piano; Sokolovik: Chant for violin and piano; Saarilammi: de la Terre for violin and tape; C. Schumann: Three Romances for violin and piano Op.22; Schmidt: Adagio for violin and piano; Farrere: Sonata No.2 for violin and piano Op.39. John Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. 416-386-7723 or 1-800-708-7654. $82.50, $80(st), $50(st), accompanying adult pays half price.

• 8:00: O’Hara House Concerts. David Nowland in Concert. Canadian singer/songwriter, 28 O’Hara Ave. 416-516-4703. 110.

• 8:00: Steppin’ Out! Theatrical Productions. Man of La Mancha. Book by Wasserman; music by Mar Shadows and Sonatina. Featuring student actors from the studio of Matthew Zinta. Gateway Theatre, 1 Theatre Ln., Brampton. 905-784-2800. $22($18(st)). See Mar 23.

• 8:00: Trinity College Dramatic Society. Spring Awakening. The Musical. See Mar 21.

Friday March 23


• 7:30: Brampton Folk Club. Friday Folk Night: Genticorum. Opening act: Sally Campbell, singer-songwriter, Sanderson Hall, St. Paul’s United Church, 30 Main St. S., Brampton. 647-233-3655 or 905-874-2800. 12; $10(st).


• 7:30: Living Arts Centre. Tea, singer-songwriter and pianist. RBC Theatre, 4141 Liv- ing Arts Dr., Mississauga. 905-306-6000 or 1-888-805-8888. $25 and up.


• 8:00: Opera Kitchener. Don Giovanni, Moz- art. Mark Gardner, baritone (Don Giovanni); Douglas Tranquada, baritone (Leporello); Nата- lie Donnelly, soprano (Donna Anna); Catherine Gardner, soprano (Donna Elvia); Caroline Déry, soprano (Zerlina); William Lewans, bass-bari- tone (Masetto); and others; William Shookoff, conductor. Hammerston Hall, Living Arts Centre, 4141 Living Arts Dr., Mississauga. 905-306-6000 or 1-888-805-8888. $35 and up. Also Mar 30(River Run Centre, Guelph).

• 7:30: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Opera Series: Wozzeck. With the wholenote.com March 1 – April 7, 2012. General Admission $10 / $5 for students.
March 1 – April 7, 2012
• 7:30: York University Department of Music Jazz Festival: York U Jazz Orchestra. Mike Cadé, director. Martin Family Lounge, Rm. 219, Accolade East Bldg., 4700 Keele St. 416-736-2100 x22926. Free.

Great Artist Piano Series
Soyeon Lee
Friday, March 23
8pm
www.auroraculturalcentre.ca
905 713-1818

• 8:00: Aurora Cultural Centre. Great Artist Piano Series: Soyeon Lee. Works by Schumann, Liszt and Albéniz. 22 Church St., Aurora. 905-713-1818. $30; $25(sr/st).
• 8:00: City Centre Musical Productions. The Drowsy Chaperone. Music and Lyrics by Lambert and Morrison; book by Martin and Mckellar. Meadowvale Theatre, 6315 Montevideo Rd., Mississauga. 905-615-4720 x2588. $26.00; $24.00(sr/st). Also Mar 24(mat and eve), 25(mat), 29, 30, 31(mat and eve); Apr 1(mat).
• 8:00: Gallery 345. Brian Dickinson Trio. 345 Sorauren Ave. 416-322-9781. $25.
• 8:00: Lower Ossington Theatre. Legally Blonde: The Musical. See Mar 9.
• 8:00: Onstage Productions. Hello, Dolly!

City Centre Musical Productions
The Drowsy Chaperone
March 23-April 1, 2012
Tickets $26 - $24
Meadowvale Theatre
6315 Montevideo Rd Mississauga
905-615-4720
www.mti.ca

The Toronto Consort presents
A Musical Bestiary
March 23 & 24 at 8 pm
A program in honour of the world of animals, including some magnificent mythical beasts. Recorder virtuosa Alison Melville curates this program of music from Renaissance Europe, including “The Ape, the Monkey, and Baboon”, “The Counterpoint of the Animals”, “Le chant des oyeaux” and much more!

For Tickets call 416-964-6337 or order online
torontoconsort.org

Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre, 427 Bloor St. West

Charles Demuyck artistic director

St Matthew Roman Catholic Church
1150 Monks Passage, Oakville

$25 General Admission $20 Student/Child

For online tickets and ticket vendor locations visit
www.masterworksofoakville.ca

GUSTAV MAHLER SYMPHONY NO. 2
MARIAN SJOLANDER | SOPRANO
KYLE ENGLER | ALTO

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012 AND SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012 | 8PM
A. Concerts in the GTA

Music: by Herman J.T.M. Guest Theatre, Bayview Glen Upper School, 85 Moatfield Dr. 416-556-9552. $26; $24(sr); $20(st). Also Mar 24, 25(mat), 30, 31(mat and eve); Apr 1(mat).

- 8:00: Royal Conservatory, Opera Series: Glenn Gould School Opera: La Calisto. See Mar 21.
- 8:00: Steppin’ Out Theatrical Productions. Man of La Mancha. See Mar 22.
- 8:00: Theatre Alive, Oliver! See Mar 22.

- 8:00: Toronto Consort. A Musical Bestiary. Vocal and instrumental music about creatures of earth, sea, sky and myth. Works by Banchieri, Gibbons, Vautor, Ravenscroft, Jannequin and others. Alison Melville, recorder and curator. Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre, 427 Bloor St. W. 416-964-6337. $26; $24(sr); $20(st). Also Mar 24, 25(mat), 30, 31(mat and eve); Apr 1(mat).

- 8:00: Victoria Chorus. Spring Concert. Gilbert & Sullivan: The Mikado (concert version); also folk songs arranged by Bob Chilcott. Taylor Sullivan, music director. Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles St. W. 416-585-4521. $10; $5(st). (See ad on page 40)


Saturday March 24

- 2:00 and 8:00: City Centre Productions. The Drowsy Chaperone. See Mar 23.
- 2:00 and 8:00: Steppin’ Out Theatrical Productions. Man of La Mancha. See Mar 22.
- 2:00 and 8:00: Trinity College Dramatic Society. Spring Awakening: The Musical. See Mar 21.

Stephen Satory plays Brahms

Piano Recital at College Street United Church

Sat., March 24 at 7:30 pm.
$20, $10 seniors and students

Saturday March 24

- 7:30: Stephen Satory, piano, plays Brahms. College Street United Church, 452 College St. 416-408-2824 x 774. $20; $10(sr/st).
- 7:30: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Russian Romantics. Glinka: Overture to Russian and Lyudmila; Borodin: Polovetsian Dances from Prince Igor; Tchaikovsky: Variations on a

Exultate

Chamber Singers
Karen Grylls, Conductor

Saturday, March 24, 2012, 7:30 pm

Baltic Voices
St. Thomas’s Anglican Church
383 Huron Street, Toronto

Explore sumptuous choral music from Estonia as Exultate presents music by the famous Arvo Pärt and countrymen Urmas Sisask and Veljo Tormis.

For ticket, concert and subscription information:
phone: 416-971-9229
e-mail: exultate@exultate.net
www.exultate.net
March 1 – April 7, 2012

March 25, 2012

At! Sweet Mystery of Life
Inaugural American Salon

The mystery of life is indeed sweetened with the fascinating rhythms of Bernstein, Copland, Gershwin, Kern and Barber. In true Off Centre fashion we’ve had to re-route our musical travel plans, and though we will not make it to sunny Italy as planned, we do still mean to journey South, in the great company of tenors Keith Klassen and Rocco Rupolo, baritone Giles Tomkins, soprano Ilana Zarankin and pianist Inna Perkins and Boris Zarakhin.

All concerts begin @ 2pm and take place at Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front Street West

For Tickets and Information, please call 416.466.1870 or visit www.offcentresalon.com

Single Ticket Prices: $50/$25/$10

Subscribe today and join off Centre’s extended family!

Off Centre Music Salon
17th Season
a year of surprises

March 25, 2012

At! Sweet Mystery of Life
Inaugural American Salon

Mystery of Life: inaugural American Salon. Works by Bernstein, Copland, Gershwin, Kern and Barber. In true Off Centre fashion we’ve had to re-route our musical travel plans, and though we will not make it to sunny Italy as planned, we do still mean to journey South, in the great company of tenors Keith Klassen and Rocco Rupolo, baritone Giles Tomkins, soprano Ilana Zarankin and pianists Inna Perkins and Boris Zarakhin.

Choir of St Simon-the-Apostle Anglican Church, Toronto

Sunday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.
A. Concerts in the GTA

• 7:30: Church of St. Simon-the-Apostle. Johannes Passion. Bach: St. John Passion BWV245. David Menzies, tenor (Evangelist); Anthony St. Pierre, bass (Pilate); Nicholas Nano, bass (Christus); Rachel Klein and Sophie Knowles, sopranos; Jenny Cohen and Catharin Carew, alto; Christopher Mayell, tenor; Robin Davis, conductor. Choir of St. Simon-the-Apostle; members of the Canadian Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra. 525 Bloor St. E. 416-923-8714, $25; $20(st). Followed by Supper Club.


Monday March 26


Tuesday March 27

• 12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company. World Music Series: Tango! Homage to Astor Piazzolla. Romero: Fuga con Pajarillo (Toronto premiere); also works by Piazzolla. Ensemble Vivant; guest: Dave Young, bass. Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre, Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. W. 416-363-8231. Free.

Tuesday March 27 at 8 pm

Music TORONTO

MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN

Tuesday March 27 at 8 pm

Behold the Time of Mercy: Medieval Pages for Lent

St. Thomas’s Anglican Church, 383 Huron Street, Toronto Friday, March 30, 7:00 pm Saturday, March 31, 2:30 pm and 7:00 pm $20 adult / $15 senior / $10 student Reservations: 416-978-5096 | info@plsl.ca

Wednesday March 28


• 7:30: Beth Shalom Synagogue. The World’s Greatest Cantors in Concert. Chaim Adler, Moshe Schulhof, Yanny Lemmer, Benzon Miller, Alberto Mizrahi, Natanel Hershtik and others; Raymond Goldstein, piano; Eric Moses, emcee. George Weston Recital Hall, Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 416-736-6103 ext. 229. $80.

• 7:30: University of Toronto Faculty of Music. Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Christine Duncan, director; guest: Darbazi vocal ensemble; Shafla Malkarshavili and Andrea Kuzmich, vocals. Walter Hall, Edward Johnson Blvd., 80 Queen’s Park. 416-408-0208. $25; $15.


• 8:00: Koffler Centre for the Arts. Honeycomb Way: A Musical Journey into the Sacred. Yair Dalal, violin and oud; Frank London, trumpet; Waled Abdulhamid, percussion; Rick Lazar, percussion; Aviva Chernick, vocals; Lenka Lichtenberg, vocals; and others. St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754. $20–$45; $20(st with ID).

• 8:00: Lower Ossington Theatre. Legally Blonde: The Musical. See Mar 9.

• 8:00: Markham Theatre. Juilliard String Quartet. Works by Stravinsky, Janáček and Mozart. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham. 905-305-7469 or 1-868-788-8801. $64–$69.

Thursday March 29


Thursday March 29


Thursday March 29


• 8:00: Lower Ossington Theatre. Legally Blonde: The Musical. See Mar 9.

• 8:00: Esprit Orchestra. Turned On By Texture. LeBlanc: The Tomb of Sacrifice. Comsiks: Alternative Energy. Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111, $35–$45; $30(previews, Mar 28 and 29). Also Mar 29-31; Apr 1(mat); (Mar 27, only, George Weston Recital Hall).

Women’s Musical Club of Toronto

Music in the Afternoon

Thursday March 29, 1:30 p.m.

CECILIA STRING QUARTET

Concert sponsor: WMCT FOUNDATION

www.wmct.on.ca


• 2:00: Toronto Public Library. Orchestraview- ers: Marlene Dietrich: Her Extraordinary Life and Beautiful Songs. Kinnamari Eisler, vocals. 40 Orchard View Blvd., Rm.224, 416-393-7819. Free.


• 8:00: Angelwalk Theatre. I Love You Because. See Mar 28.

• 8:00: City Centre Musical Productions. The Drowsy Chaperone. See Mar 23.


See Mar 23.

March 1 – April 7, 2012
conductor. George Weston Recital Hall, Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 1-855-985-2787, $60.75; $50.75(sr).
• 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Saraste Conducts Brahms 3. Brahms: Sympho-
ny No.3; also works by Sibelius and Prokofiev. Pekka Kuusisto, violin; Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 416-593-4828 or 416-593-0888(Chinese). $35–$145. Also Mar 31.

Friday March 30

• 7:00: St. Thomas’s Anglican Church/ Poluli Ludique Societas. Behold the Time of Mercy: Medieval Pageants for Lent. Three short selections from The N-Town Plays: The Raising of Lazarus, Jesus’ Triumphant Entry into Jer-
usalem, The Last Supper. With incidental mu-
ic. St. Thomas’s Anglican Church, 383 Huron St. 416-978-5096. $20; $15(sr); $10(st). Also Mar 31(mat and eve).
• 7:30: High Rendition Jazz. Spring Fundrais-
ing Concert. Big band jazz. Guest: Halton Junior Jazz. Glen Abbey United Church, 1469 Not-
tinghill Gate, Oakville. 905-808-1672. $15; $10(st/st).
• 7:30: York University Department of Mu-
sic. York U Gospel Choir. Works by Lawrence, Nelson, Smallwood and New Direction. Lisa Toussaint, director. Sandra Faire and Ivan Fe-
can Theatre, Rm.110, Accolade East Bldg., Toronto University. 416-978-2542. $30(reserved); $25; $20(st/industry with ID).
• 8:00: Lower Ossington Theatre. Legend of the Cathedral. The Drowsy Chaperone. See Mar 29.
• 8:00: Green Door Cabaret at the Low-
er Ossington Theatre. David Warrack and Friends. 100A Ossington Ave. 416-915-6747. $30(reserved); $25; $20(st/industry with ID).

Chamber Choir, Choral Anniversary: Celebrat-
ing 30 Years. See Mar 29.

Saturday March 31

• 2:00 and 8:00: City Centre Musical Pro-
ductions. The Drowsy Chaperone. See Mar 29.
• 2:00 and 8:00: Onstage Productions. Hello, Dolly! See Mar 23.
• 2:30 and 7:00: St. Thomas’s Anglican Church/Poluli Ludique Societas. Behold the Time of Mercy: Medieval Pageants for Lent. See Mar 30.

• 5:00: Toronto Children’s Chorus. Mysteries of the Masters & Masters of the Mysterious. Music by Casals, Debussy, Lotti, Durufle, Pou-
• 7:00: Echo Women’s Choir/Marioposa in the Schools. Voices in the Dark: An Earth Hour Evening of Song & Story. Hemsworth: The Wild Goose; and other works. Alan Gasser, con-
ductor; guests: Deanna Yerichuk, conductor; Anne Lederman, Chris Rawlings, Njacco Backo, Sandra Whiting, Dan Yashinsky and Miss Mc-
Carthy’s. Church of the Holy Trinity, 10 Trinity Sq. 416-428-9400. $25; $100(sponsor).
• 7:00: Encore Symphonic Concert Band. In Concert. Nihal Fonseka, tenor; Carolee Thompson-Fonseka, soprano. St. Mark’s Pres-
byterian Church, 1 Greenland Rd. 416-487-5445. $15; free(child).
• 7:30: Etobicoke Centennial Choir. Mozart Requiem and Poulenc Gloria. Brenna Conrad, so-
prano; Karen Scovell, alto; John Barber, tenor; David Yang, baritone; Henry Renglich, music di-
rector. Humber Valley United Church, 76 Angle-
sey Blvd., Etobicoke. 416-769-9271. $20.
• 7:30: Jubilee United Church. An Evening of Mozart and Vivaldi. Mozart: Piano Concerto No.19 in F; selections from Don Giovanni; Vival-
di: Gloria in D. Massed choir with Jubilee

www.CantabileChamberSingers.com

www.thewholenote.com

Mary Lou Fallis
SOPRANO/COMEDIENNE
Sunday, April 1, 2012
2:00 pm


• 8:00: Lower Ossington Theatre. Legally Blonde: The Musical. See Mar 9.


• 8:00: Music at Islington. Earth Hour by Candlelight: Organ & Brass. Music by Handel, Bach, Koslowitz, Brahms and Hovhaness. John Derksen, organ; First Brass Quintet. Islington United Church, 25 Burnhamthorpe Rd. 416-628-3656. PWYC.

• 8:00: NYCO Symphony Orchestra. Music by Mozart. Mozart: Overture from L’Impérario; Mass in C K317 “The Coronation”; arias performed by winners of the 2011 NYCO Mozart Vocal Competition. NYCO Symphony Chorus; Oakville Choral Society; Erica Warder, Ania Hanier and Julie Ludwig, soprano; Jeremy Ludwig, baritone; Heidi Jost, mezzo. Centre for the Arts, St. Michael’s College School, 1515 Bathurst St. 416-628-9195. $25; $20(st); $10(st). 7:30: Pre-concert chat.

• 8:00: Royal Conservatory. Concerts in the - Across the Middle East Series: Intercultural Music from Across the Middle East Series: Intercultural Journeys. Works by Vivaldi, Um Kulthum and others. Udi Bar-David, cello; Hanna Khoury, violin; Hafez El Ali Kotam, percussion; Youssef Kasab, vocals; George Sawa, qanun; Benny Maissner, cello; Royal Conservatory students. Koerner Hall, 273 Bloor St. W. 416-408-0208. $39 and up.

• 8:00: Scarborough Philharmonic/Rotary Club of North Scarborough. Fantastique! Saint-Saëns: Violin Concerto No.3 in b; Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique. Julia McRae, violin; Ronald Royer, conductor. Birchmount Park Collegiate Institute, 3663 Danforth Ave. 416-429-0007 $30; $25(sr); $15(adv); $10(st). 8:30: Ticketed reception.

• 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Sarasate Conducts Brahms 3. See Mar 29.

• 8:00: Voices Chamber Choir. Rest in Peace. Durufle: Requiem; Four Motets: Joaquin: Missa Pange lingua, Ron Ka Ming Cheung, conductor. Saint Thomas’ Anglican Church, 383 Huron St. 416-519-0528. $20; $15(st).

Sunday April 1

9:30am and 11:00am: Church of St. Mary Magdalene. Holy Week at St. Mary Magdalene’s: Palm Sunday. Procession and Folk Mass (9:30am); Procession and Solemn Mass (11am). 477 Manning Ave. 416-531-7955. Religious service.


2:00: Angelwalk Theatre. I Love You Because. See Mar 28.

2:00: Onstage Productions. Hello, Dolly! See Mar 23.

2:30: Opera in Concert. Die Freunde von Salamanka. Schubert (Canadian premiere). Shannon Mercer, soprano; James McLean, tenor (Alonso); Michael Caforo, tenor (Diego); Opera in Concert Chorus, Robert Cooper, conductor. Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754. $52–$73. English surtitles. 1:45: Pre-concert backgrounder with Iain Scott.


3:00: Green Door Cabaret at the Lower Ossington Theatre. Nancy White: April Fool. 100A Ossington Ave. 416-915-6747. $30(re-served); $25; $20(st/industry with ID).

3:00: Oakville Ensemble. The Last Words. Haydn: The Seven Last Words of Christ. Guest: Oakville Catholic Church. Mary Mother of God Catholic Church, 2745 North Ridge Trail, Oakville. 905-825-9740. $35/$25(adv); $25(sr/st)/$15(adv). Also Mar 31(St. John's United Church, Oakville).


4:00: All Saints Kingsway Anglican Church. Concert Series: Requiem. Fauré: Requiem; and works by Parry, Daley, Holst and Henderson. 2850 Bloor St. W. 416-233-1125. $25.


7:00: Knox Presbyterian Church. The Death of Jesus. Graun: The Death of Jesus. Senior Choir and Soloists of Knox Presbyterian Church, with strings and organ, Roger Bergs, conductor. 630 Spadina Ave. 416-921-8993. Freewill offering.


12:30: York University Department of Music. Music at Midday: Instrumental Masterclass Concert. Patricia Wait, director. Tribute Communities Recital Hall, Accolade East Bldg., 4700 Keele St. 416-738-2100 x22926. $15; $5(sr/st).

12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company. Chamber Music Series: Primitive Forces.
A. Concerts in the GTA

jazz piano. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham.
• 8:00: National Ballet of Canada. 60th An
  niversary Concert of the National Ballet of Can-
  ada Orchestra. Borodin: Polovtsian Dances;
  Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet (excerpt); Strav-
 insky: The Firebird (excerpts); Tchaikovsky: Al
  ece’s Adventures in Wonderland (excerpts); and
  other works. David Briskin, conductor; Colm
  Feargusion, host. Koerner Hall, 273 Bloor St. W. 416-408-
  0208. $30 and up.

Wednesday April 04

• 12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company.
  Vocal Series: Songs of Brahms and Zemlin-
  ski. Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Stu-
  dio, Liz Upchurch, director. Richard Bradshaw
  Amphitheatre, Four Seasons Centre for the
  Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. W. 416-383-
  8321. Free.
• 12:15: Our Lady of Sorrows. Wednesday
  Concert Series. Daniel Norman, organ. 3055
• 7:00: Toronto Secondary School Music
  Teachers’ Association. 61st Annual “Sounds of
  Toronto” Concert. Works by Bolden, Migh-
  ton, Halsman, Lennon/McCartney, Swarmer
  and others. Featuring two grand finales with
  1000+ student voices, bands and strings from
  25 TDSB secondary schools. Massey Hall, 178
  Victoria St. 416-393-0190 x20085. $10.
• 8:00: Angelwalk Theatre. I Love You Be-
  cause. See Mar 28.
• 8:00: Church of St. Mary Magdalene.
  Holy Week at St. Mary Magdalene’s. Tenebrae.
  477 Manning Ave. 416-531-7955. Religious
  service.
• 8:00: Royal Conservatory. Kabaret at Ko-
  erner. Ute Lemper and the Vogler Quartet.
  MacMillan Theatre, Edward Johnson Bldg., 80
  Queen’s Park. 416-408-0208. $20; $15(sr/st).
• 7:30: University of Toronto Faculty of
  Music. Beethoven Violin Concerto. E. Denburg
  (violin); Tchakowsky; Francesca da Rimini Op.32;
  Beethoven: Violin Concerto. James Kruszke, viol-
  inist; David Briskin, conductor. MacMillan Theatre,
  Edward Johnson Bldg., 80 Queen’s Park. 416-408-
  0208. $20; $15(st).
• 8:00: Angelwalk Theatre. I Love You Be-
  cause. See Mar 28.
• 8:00: Mississauga Symphony. Classic
  Program.

Thursday April 05

• 12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company.
  Piano Virtuoso Series: Extraordinary Lisez:
  Bénédict de Dieu dans la Solitude; Mes-
  sian: Vingt Regards sur l’enfant Jésus (selec-
  tions). Christopher Mojszkowski, piano. Richard
  Bradow Amphitheatre, Four Seasons Centre for
  the Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. W. 416-
• 8:00 and 8:30: Church of St. Mary Mag-
  dalene. Holy Week at St. Mary Magdalene’s.
  Solemn Liturgy of Maundy Thursday (6pm);
  Tenebrae (8:30pm). 477 Manning Ave. 416-
  531-7955. Religious service.
• 7:30: Opera Belcanto. Tosca. Puccini. Da-
  vid Babayants, baritone (Scarpia); Hovhannes
  Ayanovyan, tenor (Cavaradossi); Gayané Man-
  gassarian, soprano (Tosca). David Varjabed,
  artistic director; Sabatino Vaccio, conductor.
  Toronto Hill Centre for the Performing Arts,
  10268 Yonge St., Richmond Hill. 905-823-
  115. $25–$55. Also Apr 7.
• 7:30: University of Toronto Faculty of
  Music. Beethoven Violin Concerto. E. Denburg
  (violin); Tchakowsky; Francesca da Rimini Op.32;
  Beethoven: Violin Concerto. James Kruszke, viol-
  inist; David Briskin, conductor. MacMillan Theatre,
  Edward Johnson Bldg., 80 Queen’s Park. 416-408-
  0208. $20; $15(st).

Music TORONTO

QUATUOR BOZZINI

Thursday April 5 at 8 pm

• 8:00: Music Toronto. Quartet Series: Qua-
  tour Bozzini. Stravinsky: Three Pieces for
  String Quartet; Osterle: Alan Turing; Britten:
  Quartet Op.94 No.3. Jane Mallent Theatre, St.
  Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E.
  416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754. $47.50–
  $52; $10(st); accompanying adult pays half
  price; pay-your-ages 18–35 plus 56 facil-
  ity and handling fee).

Nine Sparrows Arts Foundation & Christ Church Deer Park

Present

The Good Friday Concert

Music for a Most Holy Day
Friday April 6, 2012 - 4:00 p.m.
Christ Church Deer Park
1570 Yonge Street
at Heath Street

Special Guest
Roman Borys cello
Matthew Coons organ
Soloists & Choir of Christ Church Deer Park
Eric Robertson music director

Admission Free - Donations Welcome

www.christchurchdeerpark.org

Holy Week at Saint Mary Magdalene’s

Palm Sunday: April 1 • 9:30am Procession & Folk Mass/11am Procession & Solemn Mass

Wednesday, April 4 • 8pm Tenebrae

Thursday, April 5 • 6pm Solemn Liturgy of Maundy Thursday/8:30pm Tenebrae

Good Friday: April 6 • 10am Stations of the Cross for Children/12noon Solemn Liturgy/8pm Tenebrae

Saturday, April 7 • 7pm Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Day: April 8 • 9:30am Procession & Folk Mass/11am Procession & Solemn Mass

Join us in our Holy Week journey of spiritual music and prayer. The Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Anglican

Downtown Toronto at the corner of Ulster St & Manning Ave • www.stmarymagdalene.ca • 416.531.7955

thewholenote.com March 1 – April 7, 2012
March 1 – April 7, 2012

Sacred Music for a Sacred Space

Good Friday, April 6, 2012 7:30 pm
Toronto Mendelssohn Choir at St. Paul’s Basilica
83 Power Street


IN THIS ISSUE: Barrie, Brantford, Cobourg, Dundas, Guelph, Hamilton, Huntsville, Kingston, Kitchener, Lindsay, London, Orillia, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Port Hope, Port Rowan, Sarnia, St. Catharines, Waterloo

Thursday March 01

• 12:00 noon: Wilfrid Laurier University.


• 7:00: Centre for the Arts, Brock University. DROM! Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, 500 Glenridge Ave., St. Catharines. 905-688-5550 x2357. $49.

• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Penderecki Quartet and Pentatâbre Woodwind Quintet. Rheinberger: Octet; Shostakovich: Nonet version of Quartet No.3 (arr. Barshai); Wagner: Siegfried Idyll. Maureen Forrester Hall, 75 University Ave. W., Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo. 519-886-1673. $25; $20(sr); $15(st).

Friday March 02

• 7:00: Art Gallery of Hamilton. Canada Inc.: A World Music Celebration. Waximbo, Luanda Jones, Arlene Bishop, Brian Molo, Tomi Sveick, vocals. 123 King St. W., Hamilton. 905-527-6610 x232. $25; $24(sr/st).

• 7:30: Brock University Department of Music. Viva Voce Choral Series: A Great Lakes Choral Fest. Alma College Choir, William Nicholls, conductor; Brock University Choirs, Harris Loewen, conductor. St. Thomas Anglican Church, 99 Ontario St., St. Catharines. 905-689-5550 x2357. $15; $10(st); $5(under 25).

• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. The Music of John Williams. Featuring music from E.T.; Superman; Broadway, including Don’t Rain on My Parade; Maureen Forrester Recital Hall, 75 University Ave. W., Waterloo. 519-884-0710 x2150. $10; $5 (sr/st). Also Mar 3, 4(mat).

Saturday March 03

• 7:00: Opera Belcanto. Tosca. Puccini. See Apr 5.

• 8:00: Angelwalk Theatre. I Love You Because. See Mar 28.

• 8:00: Green Door Cabaret at the Lower Ossington Theatre. Michael Burgess. 100A Ossington Ave. 416-915-6477. $30(reserved); $25; $20(st)(industry with ID).

Saturday April 07

• 7:30: Opera Belcanto. Tosca. Puccini. See Apr 5.

• 8:00: Angelwalk Theatre. I Love You Because. See Mar 28.

• 8:00: Green Door Cabaret at the Lower Ossington Theatre. Michael Burgess. 100A Ossington Ave. 416-915-6477. $30(reserved); $25; $20(st)(industry with ID).

B. Concerts Beyond the GTA

Friday, April 13, 2012

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 8PM

Trés Rythmé
Special guest pianist & composer Chris Donnelly & singer Hayley Mitchell, Winner of the 2nd Annual Via Salzburg Emerging Artist Competition
Rovel – String Quartet
Selections from Donnelly, Gershwin, Kapustin & more

Friday, May 25, 2012

A Dialogue Across Time
Special guest pianist André Laplanche Debussy Piano Trio
Debussy – Estampes Brahms Piano trio in B major

Rosedale United Church, 159 Roxborough Drive $35; $30 (sr); $20(under 30); $10(st) 416-972-9193 viasalzburg.com

Via Salzburg is generously supported by
selected preludes and fugues. KWCMS Music Room, 57 Young St. W., Waterloo. 519-886-1673. $20; $15(sr); $10(st).

Wednesday March 07
• 12:00 noon: Midday Music With Shigeu-ru. Excepts from Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas. Featuring students from the York University Department of Music. Hi-Way Pentecostal Church, 50 Anne St. N., Barrie. 705-726-1181. Free.
• 7:30: Wilfrid Laurier University. Student Composer Concert. Maureen Forrester Recital Hall, 75 University Ave. W., Waterloo. 519-884-0710 x2150. Free.

Thursday March 08

Sunday March 11
• 8:00: Royal Canadian College of Organ-ists Northumberland Centre. Celebrating International Women’s Week: A Recital of Organ Music by Female Composers. J. Ellen: Danse des Espirits; and other works. Debbie Fingas, Carolyn Hyma, Rod McAvoy and Ian Morton, organ. St. Peter’s Anglican Church, 240 College St., Cobourg. 905-355-3166. Freewill offering.

Tuesday March 13
• 12:00 noon: Brock University Department of Music. Music@Noon: Recital: Instrumental Students. 57 Young St. W., Waterloo. 519-858-5550 x1317. Free.

Friday March 16
• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. 519-758-8090. $25; $22(sr/st).
• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Michael Guttman, violin and Richard Raymond, piano. Thompson Alumni Centre. 705-487-2574. $15/st.
• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Jerome Black (Eccles); Todd Melville (Clifford Brad-shaw); Kathie Gosen (Fraulein Schneider); Peter Holley (Herr Shultz); Katie Profijt-Fazio (Fraulein Kost); Angie Scaparra (Sally Bowles); and others; Wendy Leonard, director and choreographer; Tom Ingles, music director. Ma- Alvandeville Theatre, Ridley College, 2 Ridley Rd., St. Catharines. 905-682-1353. $12/23 (Mar 16 only; $12/st). Also Mar 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 (Mar 1-31); 30, 31; Apr 1-3.
• 8:00: The Aeolian/Acoustic Music Con- certs. J.P. Cornimer & The Elliott Brothers: Fare- well Tour. J.P. Cornimer, singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist; Elliott Brothers, East Coast multi-instrumental swing duo. Aeolian Hall, 795 Dundas St., London. 519-672-1967. $12/22(adult).

Saturday March 17
• 3:00: Port Hope Friends of Music. Stars of Tomorrow. Three young vocal students from the University of Toronto Faculty of Music. St. Peter’s Church, 240 College St., Cobourg. 905-685-1071 or 1-800-434-5092. $2; $15(st).
• 8:00: Cantuerra Productions. Strunz & Farah. Latin, middle eastern, jazz and flamenco guitar duo. Aeolian Hall, 795 Dundas St., London. 519-672-7950 or 519-672-1967. $25/22(adult).

Sunday March 18
• 2:00: Garden City Productions. Cabaret. See Mar 16.

Wednesday March 21
• 12:00 noon: Music at St. Andrew’s. Jeffrey Moelmann, organ and Marie-Caroline Bourque-Meulman, violin. St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, 47 Owen St., Barrie. 705-728-1181. $5; freest.
• 7:30: Brock University Department of Music. Student Recitals: Erin Dempsey, piano. St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, 47 Owen St., St. Catharines. 905-688-5550 x3171. Free.
• 8:00: Wilfrid Laurier University. Student Composer Concert. Maureen Forrester Recital Hall, 75 University Ave. W., Waterloo. 519-884-0710 x2150. Free.
Saturday March 24


• 8:00: Garden City Productions. Cabaret. See Mar 16.

• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Koor. Conducts the Emperor. See Mar 23.

• 8:00: Lindsay Concert Foundation. Kagawa Concerts Series: The Classics/Dance with Tango. Works by Bach, Brahms, Bartók, Piazzolla and Ziegler. Karen Gomyo, violin; Alessio Bax and Pablo Ziegler, piano. Academy for Performing Arts, 2 Lindsay St. S., Lindsay. 705-878-5625. 4/10(adv); $10(youth). See Mar 20.

• 8:00: Wilfrid Laurier University. WLU Symphony Orchestra. Paul Pullford, conductor. Theatre Auditories. 75 University Ave. W., Waterloo. 519-884-0710 x2150, $10; $5(students). See Mar 16.

Sunday March 25

• 2:00: Gallery Players of Niagara. Niagara Winds: Tall Tales and Short Sketches. Music by Ibert, Ger Chew im, O’ Rivera, Freedman, Larson. Douglas Miller, flute; Christie Goodwin, oboe; Zoltan Kallman, clarinet; Christian Sharp, bassoon; Tim Lockwood, horn, St. Barnabas Church, 33 Queenston St., St. Catharines. 905-488-1525, $30; $27(students); $11(students). New March 18.


• 3:00: Lindsay Concert Foundation. Encore Children’s Production Series: Tár: Percussion Quartet. Glenn Crombie Theatre, Fleming College, Lege, 200 Albion St. S., Lindsay. 705-878-5625. $20; $10(youth).

• 3:00: Port Hope Friends of Music. Sinfonia Toronto. Capitol Theatre, 2 Queen St., Port Hope. 905-885-1071 or 1-800-434-5092. $40; $37(students); $13(students). See Mar 16.

Monday March 26

• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Michael Lewin, piano. Bach: Prelude in C; and others; Tausig: The Ghost Ship; Bolcom: Graceful Ghost Rag; Liszt/d’Obermann: Le Rossignol; Gounod: Faust (selections and waltzes). KCWMS Music Room, 57 Young St W., Waterloo. 519-888-1673. $30; $25(students); $20(senior). See Mar 16.

Tuesday March 27

• 12:00 noon: Brock University Department of Music. Music@ Noon: Recital Instrumental Students. Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, 500 Glenridge Ave., St. Catharines. 905-688-5550 x3817. Free.

Wednesday March 28

• 7:00: Performing Factory Brass Band. Marches of the Masters. Hume: Exhibition March; Verdi: Triumphal March from Aida; and others; Henry Meredith, conductor. Byron United Church, 2420 Boler Rd., London. 519-471-1250 or 519-659-3800, $15; $10(students).

• 7:30: Sarnia Coughlin Chamber Ensemble. Ensembl Vivant. With Dave Young, bass. Imperial Oil Centre for the Performing Arts, 168 N. Christi- na St., Sarnia. 519-344-7469. $30; $17(students).

• 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Silver Birch String Quartet. Mozart: String Quartet No. 14, K387; Beethoven: String Quartet No. 14, Op. 131; work by Boccherini. KCWMS Music Room, 57 Young St W., Waterloo. 519-888-1673. $30; $25(students); $20(senior). See Mar 16.

Thursday March 29

• 12:00 noon: Wilfrid Laurier University. WLU Choirs. Lee Willingham, director. First United Church, 16 William St. W., Waterloo. 519-884-0710 x2150. $10; $5(students).

• 2:00: Garden City Productions. Cabaret. See Mar 16.

Friday March 30

• 7:30: Centre for the Arts, Brock University. Julian Smith String Quartet. Sean O’Sullivan Theatre, 500 Glenridge Ave., St. Catharines. 905-688-5550 x3257. $46. See Mar 23.

• 7:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Prokofiev. See Mar 29.

Saturday March 31

• 3:00: Wilfrid Laurier University. WLU Chamber Music. See Mar 29.

• 7:30: Brock University Department of Music. Viva Voce Choral Series: I Come Singing. Brock University Men’s and Women’s Choruses, Harris Loewen, conductor. St. Thomas Anglican Church, 99 Ontario St., St. Catharines. 905-688-6550 x3257. $15; $10(students); $5(students and under).


• 7:30: Northumberland Orchestra & Choir. French Notes. Bizet: suites and arias from Car- deli; Delitz: Waltz and Czardas from Cop- pelia; Gounod: Ballet from Faust; Chabrier: Suite Pastorale. Michael Nevinnam, conductor; guest: Julie Nesraliali, mezzo. Trinity United Church, 284 Division St., Cobourg. 905-372-2210. $28; $25(students); $12(under 12, with accompanying adult). See Mar 16.

• 8:00: Clearly Classic Concerts. Jazz Vocal- ist Diana Panton. With Don Thompson, bass and piano; Reg Schwager, guitar. St. James Anglican Church, 137 Melville St., Dundas. 905-627-4265 or 905-528-4508. $25; $20(students). See Mar 16.

• 8:00: Garden City Productions. Cabaret. See Mar 16.

• 8:00: Perimeter Institute. Colin Stetson, solo saxophone. Opening act: Sarah Neuvel, violin; Debashis Sinha, percussion. Black Hole
Search listings by genre and geographic zone at thewholenote.com
Beat by Beat / In the Clubs

The Devil’s Music

SINCE the days when sleazy speakeasies gave birth to saucy numbers like “Gimme a Pigfoot and a Bottle of Beer,” jazz and booze have gone together like film and popcorn. Thirsty? Good: the venues tend to depend on patrons drinking up in order to keep the music going.

In the collective “spirits” of spontaneity, swiftness and curiosity, a few days before this column was due, I sent out an email to The WholeNote’s jazz contacts, asking if there were any drink specials that our readers might wish to know about, and b) what the most popular drink at their venue was, with an open invitation to share their recipes.

Bold and Distinctive, Indeed!

“Our top selling drink isn’t a cocktail or a wine,” says Robbie Luster, manager of the Tranzac (292 Brunswick Ave.). “It’s a bold and distinctive Scotch ale—a perfect complement to the brash, avant-garde jazz we often feature at the Tranzac. It’s traditional with an adventurous and inventive twist. St-Amboise Scotch Ale is dark ruby red with a tawny head—sweet and malty, with hints of vanilla and butterscotch, and a long hop finish. With its 7.5% alcohol, this beer evokes the classic “wee heavies” or the full-bodied 90-shilling strong winter ales of Scotland. The ingredients are water, pale malt, Munich malt, peated malt and hops.”

Mojito Madness!

“Short and very sweet: “We specialize in piscos, mojitos, margaritas and Cuba libres, and our best sellers are mojitos, piscos and Chilean wines,” says Alfredo Cardoso, owner of Latina (1671 Bloor St. W.). See our club listings for the regular musical happenings at this intimate venue, including residencies for violinist Alex Gajic, pianist Ruben Vazquez and vocalist/ guitarist Onelvis Fernandez.

Our most popular beverage is by far the Mojito Classico,” says Vás Cranis, general manager of the Lula Lounge (1585 Dundas St. W.). “While mojitos are somewhat trendy at the moment and you can get them pretty much anywhere, it’s truly a rarity to find a spot that makes them properly, the authentic Cuban way. Likely because of the time and effort that needs to go into each one. But as we have a large Cuban clientele that is very vocal when they don’t like something, we stick to the traditional method…we offer a few variations on our classic recipe: the spiced mojito, the mango mojito, the coco mojito and the cherry bomb mojito, all of which go for the same price as the classico ($9.30) but hands down, aren’t as popular.”

Listenin’ with Miles.

The signature and best-selling drink at Harlem is the Miles Davis: a two ounce cocktail, blending Jamaican Overproof rum, peach schnapps, mango juice and passion fruit juice. “It’s sweet, intense and powerful. Like Miles!” says Harlem Restaurant owner Carl Allen. There are actually two Harlems—East and West—both great destinations for soul food and live music.

Harlem East (67 Richmond St. E.) features Open Jam Night hosted by Carolyn T, which has become a hotbed of local talent, showcasing jazz, R&B, soul, funk and spoken word.

Priceless Moments & Six Dollar Martinis.

Speaking of open mics, now in its seventh year is Lisa Particelli’s GNOJAZZ jam—a “Girls Night Out (where Gentlemen are welcome too).” Particelli...
found the vocalist-friendly jazz jam in 2005 and since then well over 1000 singers have graced the stage, from curious amateurs to seasoned professionals. The weekly Wednesday event began in Cabbagetown’s defunct Cabbage Patch (now the Flying Beaver Pubare) and then moved to Ten Feet Tall (a venue very much missed) before settling at Chalkers Pub Billiards and Bistro (247 Marlee Ave.) in North York. “My fav premium martini at Chalkers Pub is the Chocolate Swirl,” says Particelli. “It’s all about the cherries for me. The best part is that they’re only $6 on Wednesdays during GNOJAZZ. [Chalkers Pub proprietor] Steve Greco launched the $6 martini and free billiards special in January 2011 to celebrate the GNOJAZZ 6th anniversary and he has kept it going by popular demand.”

Connect the Shots. If you love tequila, Reposado (136 Ossington Ave.) calls your name! The Dundas and Ossington joint prides itself on providing more premium tequila than anywhere else in the city, highlighting nearly 70 varieties on their website. Made with freshly squeezed juice, their most popular cocktail is a blood orange margarita, selling over 1500 units monthly! Reposado never fails to attract a crowd on live music nights, so get there early. Among their weekly roster of bands is Spy vs Spy vs Spy: guitarist James Robertson, drummer Sly Juhas and bassist Michael Herring performing classic spy and Spaghetti Western themes, surf and eclectic covers.

Somewhere There’s Music. “Somewhere There is a temple of art, not a den of sins!” wrote back Michelangelo Iaffaldano from Somewhere There (227 Sterling Rd., Unit 112) to my query. “Just kidding. Thanks for asking; we’re not licensed, but we’ll make you a cup of green tea at no charge.” Personally I am looking forward to checking out the creative music presented in this space, including an experimental performance of sound poetry on March 13 scored by vocalist Zoë Alexis-Abrams; and on March 20, a saxophone duet by Marian Jago and Paul Newman.

Don’t Sample Them All In One Night! “The Emmet Ray specializes in Whisky from all over the world,” says Andrew Kaiser, general manager of The Emmet Ray (922 College St.). “Canadian, American, Scottish, Irish, and some unique single malts from Japan, France and India. I find sipping on a nice whisky while listening to jazz, blues or rockabilly is a perfect match. The jazz enthusiasts seem to prefer single malt whisky from Scotland…now with a great blues band or rockabilly trio, North American matches it best. The bottom line is, you pair one of our 130 whiskies with one of our 47 beers or ciders, great live music, and you will have just made it a night to remember.”

A Licence to Celebrate. A few months back I wrote about the Gallery Studio Café (2877 Lake Shore Blvd. W.) in Etobicoke, which has been doing very well in recent months, with a new Tuesday night jazz jam featuring a Humber College Alumni house band: Riley O’Connor on drums, Scott Kemp on bass, Scott Metcalfe on piano, Shirantha Beddage on saxophones and Lee Wallace on guitar. The Gallery’s owner Derek Houghton emailed me enthusiastically with some big news last month: the venue is now licensed to sell alcohol! On March 10, the sensational Steve Koven Trio will be performing as part of a grand re-opening. Congratulations to Derek Houghton and the Gallery Studio Café!

Please enjoy your beverages of choice, responsibly. Cheers! — D. Laws

Ori Dagan is a Toronto-based jazz vocalist, voice actor and entertainment journalist. He can be contacted at jazz@thewholenote.com.
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Raposado Bar & Lounge
136 Ossington Ave. 416-532-6474
www.reposadobar.com
All shows: PWYC. Every Wed 10pm. Spv vs Spv Every Thu, Fri 10pm The Reposadistas Quartet.

Reservoir Lounge, The
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Every Mon Sophia Perello and the Vipers. Every Tue You’ll Be Happy to Know He’s Back. Every Thu Alhya & the Brillitones. Every Fri Dee Dee & the Dirty Martinis. Every Sat Tyler Yarema and his Rhythm. Every Sat you’re invited to enjoy live music at our ya’ll. Mar 28 6pm Tony¢s Tavern.

Ristorante Roma
1090 Bloor St. W. 416-531-4000
All shows: PWYC. Every Sat/Fri 8pm, Every Sun 6pm. www.ristorateroma.com

Le Saint Tropez
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Somewhere There
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All shows: $10 or PWYC. www.somewherethere.com

Tranzac
292 Brunswick Ave. 416-923-8137
www.tranzac.org (full schedule)

Whitlock’s Restaurant & Wine Café
1961 Queen St. E. 416-681-8748
www.whitlocks.ca
Every Fri 6pm Gerry Mackay, solo jazz guitar, No Cover.

Zemra Bar & Lounge
778 St. Clair Ave. W. 416-651-3123
www.zemrabarlounge.com
Every Wed Open Mic and Jam. Every Fri Live Music Fridays.

Free event listings: listings@thewholenote.com
**GALAS & FUNDRAISERS**


- Mar 16: 8:00: Bonnie Hamilton. Love Conquers All: A Fundraiser for Mission Work in Mexico. Variety evening of live music (see Artword Arbar in Section C, In the Clubs (Mostly Jazz) listings, for performer names). Artword Arbar, 15 Colbourne St., Hamilton, 905-543-8512. Admission by donation; proceeds towards a mission work in Mexico; toys, clothes and personal hygiene items collected.

**COMPETITIONS**


**SCREENINGS**

- Mar 29 8:00: Toronto Silent Film Festival. Our Dancing Daughters (1928 dir. Reiniger). Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave. 416-461-9287. 120.


- Mar 31 4:00: Toronto Silent Film Festival. Cinderella (1922 dir. Reiniger). Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave. 416-461-9287. 15.

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March Break Opera Camp

SING, DANCE, CREATE visual art and PLAY with professional COC artists. Inspired by themes and music of popular operas, participants indulge their creativity during exploratory sessions in MUSIC, ACTING and DESIGN. No music or acting experience required.

AGES 5 to 12:
March 14 to 16, 2012
AGES 7 to 12:
March 15, 2012
AGES 9 to 12:
March 16, 2012
DURATION: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
COST: Full Day: $35; Half Day: $25 (March 14 only)

Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre
227 Front St. E., Toronto
Creative: Endeavour

The Bach Children’s Chorus invites applications for

Artistic Director

Location: Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Start Date: J une 1, 2013
Salary: Commensurate with experience/qualifications
Applications Due: J une 1, 2012

Founded by Linda Beaufre and currently in its 25th season, Bach Children’s Chorus is an award-winning group of children’s and youth choirs. See www.bachchorus.org for more information.

Interested applicants should submit:
• résumé
• cover letter describing experience and philosophy about music education for children
• three reference letters with contact information
• audio and video recordings of two recent performances/rehearsals

By email to: BCCArtisticDirectorSearch@gmail.com

Short-listed candidates will be invited to attend interviews in Toronto in June 2012.

March 1 – April 7, 2012

www.83VOICE.com
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March Break Opera Camp

SING, DANCE, CREATE visual art and PLAY with professional COC artists. Inspired by themes and music of popular operas, participants indulge their creativity during exploratory sessions in MUSIC, ACTING and DESIGN. No music or acting experience required.

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227 Front St. E., Toronto
Creative: Endeavour

coc.ca/Explore
416-363-8231

BACH CHILDREN’S CHORUS
D. The ETCeteras

WORKSHOPS (continued)

- Mar 18 2:00: CAMMAC. Reading for Singers and Instrumentalists. Elgar: The Kingdom. Stephanie Martin, conductor. Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 416-605-2973. $10 (members).
- Mar 19 7:30: Koffler Centre for the Performing Arts. Into the Honeycomb: Discovering Jewish Spiritual Song. Yair Dalal and the Klezmaic’s Frank London speak about the melodies and meanings of piyutim (liturgical poems), mizmorim (psalms), nigunim (spiritual melodies) and zmiros (Shabbat songs). No previous background in Hebrew or music is required. Heliconian Hall, 35 Hazelton Ave. 416-638-1881 x4228. $10.
- Mar 31 10:30am: Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Singalong Saturday: Haydn’s Theresienmesse with guest conductor Thea Kano. Music provided: participants can register at the workshop. Cameron Hall, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. 416-598-0422 x24. $10 includes refreshments. Register online: www.tmchoir.org.

SINGALONGS

- Mar 17 7:00 and Mar 18 2:00: St. Anne’s Music & Drama Series: Irish Pub Night. Eat, Drink & Sing-a-long. St. Anne’s Parish Hall, 651 Dufferin St. 416-922-4415. $20.

ETCETERA: MISCELLANEOUS

- Mar 03 to Mar 31: Singsation Saturday: Haydn’s Theresienmesse. Church of St. Stephen in-the-Field, between Bathurst & Spadina • Historic Kensington Church (circa 1858) • Fully accessible • Wedding and reception facilities • Competitive rates • Concert, rehearsal, seminar space • Website: www.soundstreams.ca • Museum: 255 documents and audio recordings, donated by the TSO to the City of Toronto Archives. 255 Spadina Rd. 416-397-5000. Free.
- Mar 06 7:00pm Soundstreams. Salon 21: Peter Eötvos on Jazz and Opera. Meet and greet, featuring a discussion by composer/conductor Peter Eötvos about his interest in jazz and opera, with live and recorded examples. Gardiner Museum, 111 Queen’s Park. Free, donations welcome. Limited seating; register on website: www.soundstreams.ca
- Exhibit now showing. City of Toronto Archives. A World of Music: Celebrating 90 Seasons with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Exhibit highlights a collection of photographs, documents and audio recordings, donated by the TSO to the City of Toronto Archives. 255 Spadina Rd. 416-397-5000. Free.
- Concert presenters seeking to benefit a good cause can consider the Regent Park School of Music, currently offering highly-subsidized music lessons to over 850 youth in need from Regent Park and other areas of Toronto. The school’s goal is to reach 3000 students by 2015. Musicians interested in helping this cause are encouraged to consider donating the proceeds from a concert, or alternatively, organizing a Salon Night fundraiser where students may be able to perform. www.rpmusic.org. More info: 647-502-4077 or development@rpmusic.org.
- “NOT A CONCERT? NOT A PROBLEM” The ETCeteras is a free service being offered by The WholeNote. Events or Announcements for considerations should be sent to etc@thewholenote.com by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

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“Now there’s a teacher!” R.D., age 13. “Deep pleasure. Sure beats studying with those Quebec nuts!” S.A., age 50+. Peter Kristian Mose, 416-923-3060 or pkmoset@planetree.com. My students have never won any prizes, except for love of music. (And loyalty.)

SALON NIGHTS!
Musicians: support the Regent Park School of Music!
RPMS is a not-for-profit organization and registered charity, offering highly-subsidized music lessons to over 650 youth-in-need from Regent Park and other areas of Toronto. Our goal is to reach 3000 students by 2015
We can provide step-by-step tips for making your Salon Night a success. One of our students could perform at your event. A representative from RPSM could come and say a few words. Musicians work so hard to help forge healthy communities: donating the proceeds from one of your concerts to the Regent Park School of Music will help ensure access to music education for all children.
And you and your friends could have a wonderful night of good food, conversation, and music! Contact development@rpmusic.org

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Here are their answers (some of them quite surprising):

**NICOLE LI** This summer, I will be volunteering at the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital every day for children with multiple complex health conditions. I will also be participating in a medical mission trip (like I did last summer) to El Salvador with the Global Health Outreach (a team of doctors, specialists, and students), to establish a makeshift health clinic where locals can receive free access to healthcare. This fall I will be heading to university.

**ANNIE ZHOU** I have been invited to participate in the Gina Bachauer International Young Artists Competition near the end of June, in Salt Lake City. I will be the only one in my group actually coming from Canada and one of the youngest participants. It will definitely be very tough for me. Then, in July, I will go to Italy for the fourth time. I will give a solo recital, and have my soloist debut with Cameristi del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. After that, I plan to give myself a short break, some time to relax and indulge in my favourite novels and discover new books. Then, I will need to start preparing for my upcoming performance with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra as a soloist in the concert “Behold the Bold Umbrellaphant,” one of the TSO’s Young People’s Concerts next season.

**LILY CHAPNIK** My summer is hugely busy with both musical and non-musical endeavours. My plans include my solo recital for the Ben Steinberg Award on May 16, and in June I will sit my Licentiate of the Royal School of Music (LRSM) practical exam, a full marked recital, in France. In July, I plan to go abroad for some kind of Jewish studies (yet undetermined), probably in Hebrew or Yiddish, and in August I will participate in Klez-Kanada, a week-long music course devoted to Jewish music. I will be working on music theory and practising throughout the summer.

**DANIEL HASS** Since the age of 13, I have participated every summer and every winter in the Perlman Music Program. In the summer it is a six-week session on Shelter Island, NY, and there I study with Ronald Leonard. The sessions include daily practice, chamber music, orchestra, choir and many other musical and social activities. I love being there and playing (not only music) with my friends, whom I get to see twice a year. So this coming summer I will be in New York doing the same programme.

**LESLIE ASHWORTH** During the summer I will be practising the violin for the Lipinski and Wieniawski International Young Musicians Competition in Lublin, Poland, in which I will be participating in September. I hope to attend the Perlman Music Program Summer Institute and/or the National Arts Centre Summer Development of the Gifted and Talented competition, and also branched out into other areas of music, emceeing two musical programmes, or will they be taking a break to avoid musical overdose?

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**WINTER PHOTO SHOOT, Isabel Bader Theatre, February 2011, from left to right:** Nicole Li, Anna Vertypolokh, Annie Zhou, Daniel Hass (partially obscured), Leslie Ashworth, Daniel Temnik and Lily Chapnik.
Institute in Ottawa. I applied for both of these programmes because I have heard such great, positive feedback from other musicians. I also will be playing my ARCT Performance Exam on the piano, which is my secondary instrument.

Finally, a personal confession: as a musician myself (although admittedly a lazy one), I am all too well acquainted with the required hours that must be spent on small details like tweaking of hand positions and embouchures, checking and re-checking intonation, working out fingerings and bowings — but never before have I had any kind of clear idea just how to fill the gaping void of summer as early on as February! But the factors involved in sculpting a formidable performance career multiply infinitely from all these basics. And for anyone as young as these Toronto Sinfonietta Concerto Competition winners, a life in music is a balancing act between school, extracurricular activities, family and friends. Maybe this is the link between these musicians: a knack for looking into the future to find new opportunities and goals toward which to work. Competitions provide motivation to strive for excellence. Performances expand an audience network. Summer programmes provide new inspiration and a broader musical scope at the time of year when Toronto’s heat leaves most of us feeling wilted. It’s the drive to constantly seek out opportunities for growth that brought these musicians to the Toronto Sinfonietta Concerto Competition, and it’s this drive that will take them into the summer and, past that, the great exciting beyond.

To whatever level of musicianship you aspire, perhaps one of the many summer opportunities in this issue of The WholeNote will do the same for you! All you have to do is turn the page.

—Adam Weinmann
**Opportunities For All**

**Bravo Academy for the Performing Arts**

**ACCADEMIA EUROPEA DELL’OPERA (AEDO)**
AEDO Milan (Italy): July 20 to August 7
AEDO Amsterdam (The Netherlands): August 9 to 26

For young opera singers who wish to polish their skills

Applications still accepted

The AEDO is a new programme for young opera singers wishing to develop and polish the skills required for engaging operatic performances. Our international faculty will guide participants throughout the programme, fostering their learning of the many disciplines that shape opera.

AEDO was created through the collaboration of the Canadian Operatic Arts Academy (University of Western Ontario) and the Centro Studi Opera Omnia L. Boccherini (Lucca, Italy). This international partnership shapes the mission of AEDO.

Each participant is assigned an operatic role to prepare in advance and given engaging musical and staging rehearsals. AEDO culminates with the performance of the full opera with orchestra. AEDO also focuses on nurturing the singers in developing the tools to craft any given role.

*The Canadian Operatic Arts Academy (COAA) and Accademia Europea dell’Opera (AEDO) are sister programmes taking place in London (Ontario), Milan and Amsterdam.*

**BELVOIR TERRACE**
June 22 to August 7

For girls 8 – 16 years old
Location: Lenox, Massachusetts

Application deadline: early spring, occasional openings as late as June

Belvoir Terrace is an all arts educational summer camp community following an elective programme. Music majors spend several hours a day in private and group lessons, but can also elect professional instruction in studio art, dance, theatre or individual sports. Belvoir offers quality music instruction in all instruments and voice to beginners through pre-professionals in a supervised supportive camp setting. Interested musicians should see the website and apply on the request form. Prospective students can submit a video clip and have a Skype interview. Belvoir also offers an adult chamber music programme for string players and pianists, August 19 to 26.

www.belviorterrace.com
Nancy Goldberg
info@belviorterrace.com
212-580-3398

**BRAVO ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**
Various programmes from July 2 to August 26

For children ages 7 – 12 and youth 13 – 21

Location: Toronto, ON

Deadlines: open; early bird before April 1

The Bravo Academy will present three camps this summer. The Youth Music Theatre Production Camp (July 2 to 13 and/or July 16 to 27) is a full day, two-week programme in which students 7 – 12 have rehearsals, take lessons in dance, voice and acting and create set pieces and props for their final show, Alice in Wonderland Jr. The Youth Broadway Camp is a similar programme condensed over one week (July 30 to August 3 and/or August 20 to 24), for students 7 – 12, presenting the show The Best Little Theater in Town. For youth, Bravo presents the Teen Music Theatre Production Camp, (ages 13 – 21), running August 2 to 26.

www.bravoacademy.ca
info@bravoacademy.ca
647-350-7464

**CANADIAN OPERATIC ARTS ACADEMY**
May 2 to 26

For singers, pianists and directors (students and professionals) with the skills to obtain, realize and sustain a prolific and rewarding career in the operatic profession.

Location: London, ON

Applications still accepted

The Canadian Operatic Arts Academy is an elite international programme that provides singers, pianists and directors with the skills to obtain, realize and sustain a prolific and rewarding career in the operatic profession.

An internationally recognized faculty from celebrated institutions provides the participants with invaluable insight into the multifaceted world of opera — its preparation, performance and business, through a variety of forums. Topics include role preparation, performance practice, collaboration, dramatic exercises and study, audition training, promotion, management and vocal and physical health. The programme culminates in a public performance through which all participants will gain practical experience.

*The Canadian Operatic Arts Academy (COAA) and Accademia Europea dell’Opera (AEDO) are sister programmes taking place in London (Ontario), Milan and Amsterdam.*

www.music.uwo.ca/coaa.html
coa@uwo.ca
519-661-2111 x80047

**CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY – SUMMER OPERA CAMP**

Ages 9 – 12: July 23 to 27, 9am – 3:30pm

Ages 7 – 9: July 30 to August 3, 9am – 3:30pm

Ages 5 – 6: August 7 to 10, 9am – 3:30pm

Location: Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre, Toronto, ON
Registration open (enrolment limited)

The COC launches a new camp session (August 7 to 10) designed for children ages 5 and 6. Participants explore different art forms in opera, including music, drama and dance. Children ages 7 – 9 and 9 – 12 learn music and stage scenes from Johann Strauss II’s operetta Die Fledermaus, featured in the COC’s 2012/13 season. Guided by guest artists, they present an abridged version of the opera for family and friends and receive dress rehearsal tickets to the COC’s production of Die Fledermaus. No previous performing experience is required. Cost: $200 per week (ages 7 – 12); $160 per four-day camp (ages 5 – 6) with half-days and bursaries available.

www.coc.ca/Explore
carly@coc.ca
416-363-8231

**CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY – SUMMER YOUTH INTENSIVE**

One-week programme: July 2 to 8, 9:30am – 5pm

Two-week programme: July 2 to 13, 9:30am – 5pm

For youth ages 13 – 18
CENTAURI SUMMER ARTS CAMP
July and August
For kids and teens ages 8 – 18
Location: Wellandport, ON
Application deadline: none

Centauri Summer Arts Camp is a residential camp programme for youth aged 8 – 18 based in the Niagara Region. We offer more than 40 intensive arts programmes, many of them music-based: songwriting, musical theatre, vocal, Glee, instrumental music and more. Centauri is an exciting community where young people experience the unique atmosphere of a sleepover camp while working with industry professionals to improve their music skills and participate in varied arts electives. The atmosphere is collaborative and all campers take part in presentations on the final day. Be part of a unique arts community this summer and make life-long memories and friends!

www.centauriartscamp.com
info@centauriartscamp.com
416-766-7124

CENTRE FOR OPERA STUDIES IN ITALY (COSI)
June 19 to July 18
For graduate students in a university opera programme as well as emerging professional opera singers, collaborative pianists and stage management interns
Location: Sulmona, Italy
Application deadline: closed for 2012 singers; all other programmes remain open for application

The COSI experience is rich in operatic training and performances, with immersion in Italian life and Italian language classes. Internationally-renowned faculty in operatic performance, voice and piano instruction and coaching, dramatic coaching, bodywork and lyric Italian work with advanced singers, pianists and stage managers to create a high level of performance in the traditional grandeur of Italian venues. The deadline for singers in the COSI 2013 opera programme applications is December 1, 2012.

www.co-si.com
centreforoperasulmona@gmail.com
416-904-2070

CHOIRS ONTARIO VOCAL TRAINING AND CHORAL CAMP
July 4 to 7
For adult choral singers
Location: TBA
Application deadline: May 14

Choirs Ontario proudly presents the sixth annual VOCAL workshop for adult choral singers. Improve your vocal technique and gain valuable choral expertise in four full days of inspiring vocal lessons, choral sessions and masterclasses with conductor Dr. Lee Willingham and vocal coaches Jamie Hillman and Janet Obermeyer. Participants may register as either a “Masterclass Soloist” or “Masterclass Auditor.”
Masterclass Soloist: $325 (Discount rate for Choirs Ontario members: $300!)
Masterclass Auditor: $255 (Discount rate for Choirs Ontario members: $230!)

www.choirsontario.org
info@choirsontario.org
416-923-1144

DOMAINE FORGET INTERNATIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE ACADEMY
Various sessions May 14 to September 3, depending on instrument, voice and genre
Location: Saint-Îrénéé in Charlevoix, QC
Application Deadlines: February 15 – Chamber Music, New Music, March 15 – Voice, Brass, Woodwinds, Guitar, Dance, Strings; April 1 – Choir; May 15 – Jazz, Soundtrack Composition, Jazz Singing
See website for scholarship application deadlines.

Le Domaine Forget International Music and Dance Academy offers serious students the opportunity to perfect their skills under the auspices of world-renowned artists. The beauty and tranquility of the setting at Domaine Forget inspire creativity whilst the facilities suit the needs of both students and teachers perfectly. Whether you are a young professional or an advanced student, you will benefit from the opportunity to further your musical training through the tutelage of established teachers and the participation in masterclasses given by distinguished international artists.

www.domaineforeget.com
admission@domaineforeget.com
418-452-8111

GUITAR WORKSHOP PLUS
Session 1: July 15 to 20
Session 2: July 22 to 27
For beginners to professionals, ages 12 to adult
Location: Toronto/Oakville, ON

At Guitar Workshop Plus, we possess a strong commitment to music education. Beginner or professional, you will find what you’re looking for! Guitar, bass, drum, keyboard, vocal and songwriting courses are offered for all ages, levels and styles, including classical, jazz, rock, blues and acoustic. Each day consists of morning and afternoon classes that involve a hands-on approach, late afternoon clinics, ensemble performances and evening concerts. Professional faculty and world-class guest artists teach and perform. Resident and non-resident tuitions are available. Join us this summer and treat yourself to a fun, music-filled experience!

www.guitarworkshopplus.com
info@guitarworkshopplus.com
905-567-8000

INTERPROVINCIAL MUSIC CAMP
August 19 to 24: Rock, Jazz, Glee, and Event
The Kingsway Conservatory of Music

Production: August 25 to September 2: Orchestra and Band, Musical Theatre and Songwriting
For kids grades 7 – 12
Location: Camp Manitou, Parry Sound, ON
Application Deadline: August 15

Interprovincial Music Camp has provided young Canadian musicians with exceptional musical training and unforgettable summer camp experiences since 1961. Campers fine-tune their skills as musicians, develop friendships with teenagers from across Canada, and forge a life-long love of music. IMC programmes include orchestra, band, musical theatre, jazz, rock, Glee, songwriting and event production (sound and lighting), challenging and inspiring young musicians from grades 7 through 12. These residential camps are held at Camp Manitou, outside Parry Sound.

www.campIMC.ca
anne@campIMC.ca
416-488-3316

JAZZWORKS SUMMER JAZZ WORKSHOP AND COMPOSERS’ SYMPOSIUM
August 16 to 19
(Two additional days for Composers’ Symposium, August 14 and 15, optional)
For adults at all levels from beginner to advanced and advanced high school students
Location: Lake MacDonald, Harrington, QC (north of Hawkesbury, ON)
Application deadline: July 6; early bird before May 25

JazzWorks’ 19th annual Summer Jazz Workshop is a unique three-day weekend of intensive learning for adult jazz musicians of all levels (beginner through professional) and advanced high school musicians. Participants immerse themselves in a programme that includes masterclasses, combo rehearsals, jazz history, improvisation, arranging and composition, jam sessions, faculty concerts, a public concert including all participants and a Vocal Intensive programme for singers. JazzWorks 2012 will feature an extended five-day Composers’ Symposium. Please check our website for details of our 2012 faculty, including guest saxophonist Ted Nash from New York and artistic director and bassist John Geggie from Ottawa.

www.jazzinjuly.com
jazzinjuly@acad.umass.edu
413-545-3530

KINCARDINE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL
August 5 to 18
For adults, amateurs, children, professionals, students and families
Location: Kincardine, ON
Application deadline: July 28; early registration discount until May 31

Celebrating its 21st anniversary, this world-class concert series features jazz, blues, classical, world and chamber music performances combined with 23 music education programmes to produce a unique musical event. Enjoy the free “4 O’Clock in the Park” concerts, then come to the brilliant performances headlining the KSMF Evening Concert Series starting at 7:30pm.

Daytime classes include programmes from beginner to advanced levels for adults, children and families. From children’s music, choirs, guitar, bands and strings to jazz, blues and chamber music, KSMF is great family fun!

The beautiful Lake Huron location, a welcoming community and the finest musical opportunities make this event unbeatable.

www.ksmf.ca
info@ksmf.ca
519-396-9716; 1-866-453-9716

THE KINGSWAY CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC – SUMMER MUSIC
Weekly programmes from July 2 to August 24
For all ages and experience levels
Location: The Kingsway Conservatory of Music, Toronto, ON
Application deadline: open

The Kingsway Conservatory of Music delivers a vibrant and nurturing environment in which to explore, discover and grow musically. This summer, KCM’s elegant studios will be alive with programmes designed to excite and expire. West Toronto Summer Chamber Music Workshop (new!), is an enrichment opportunity for youth musicians at a minimum level RCM Grade 5, which includes one-on-one coachings, ensemble work, orchestra rehearsals and special guest artists. Also available: Suessical Musical Theatre Camp (new!), which engages youth and teens in a fantastical, full-scale musical produc-
SUMMER MUSIC EDUCATION

**LAKE FIELD MUSIC CAMP**
**August 12 to 19**
For adults and families (Adult amateur programme includes classical, jazz and world music, with a music and arts programme for children ages 5 – 12)
Location: Lakefield, ON
Registration open

Lake Field Music camp brings together amateur musicians of all ages and abilities in a supportive environment on the beautiful campus of Lakefield College School. You can learn new musical skills and improve your existing abilities in a wide array of classes, collaborations and performances. Enjoy evening concerts by participants and faculty. Adults build their programme from more than 40 classes offered by more than 15 exceptional instructors. Classes include a variety of instrument-specific techniques, vocal masterclasses, as well as many vocal and instrumental ensembles. Classes for beginners are also offered for those wanting to try something new. Accommodations are available.

www.lakefieldmusic.ca
info@lakefieldmusic.ca
416-536-3362

**MILES NADAL SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR CREATIVE ADULTS**
**July 16 to 20**
For adults with a passion for singing. Some amateur choral/singing experience beneficial.
Location: Toronto, ON
Registration open; early bird discount prior to May 1

Everyone needs time to refresh, create, explore. Enjoy an intensive week of vocal and choral workshops with top Toronto performers and instructors Micah Barnes, Adi Braun, Gillian Stecyk, Kobi Hass and Tanya Benard. An ideal stay-cation and chance to recharge your batteries.

What you’ll get: 25 hours of instruction/masterclasses in vocal technique, choral singing, jazz, cabaret, opera, Glee, rhythmic training, performance strategies and more; Time in our beautiful fitness centre and saltwater pool; Semi-private voice lesson and Alexander Technique session; Performance workshop in the Al Green Theatre and great camaraderie and our MNJcc passion and dedication. Make time to play!

livepage.apple.com
deannad@mnjcc.org; music@mnjcc.org
416-924-6211 x2250

**MILES NADAL JCC SUZUKI SUMMER MUSIC CAMP**
**July 3 to 6; 9 to 13**

For children and youth studying by Suzuki method.
Location: Toronto, Ontario
Registration open; early bird discount prior to June 1

The 2012 MNJcc Suzuki Summer Music Camp is open to string and piano students studying by the Suzuki method, from Twinkles to beyond Book 6. Along with daily semi-private and group repertoire lessons, campers will also participate in three enrichment classes. Campers may attend Week 1 (four days), Week 2 (five days), or both! Learn with top Suzuki instructors from across Toronto! Enrichment includes Perform with Pizzazz & Poise, Ukulele and Klezmer. Campers also enjoy Alexander Technique, yoga, swimming, cooking and pottery! All take place in the MNJcc’s beautiful downtown facility.

www.mnjcc.org
Gretchen Abberger, director
Suzuki@mnjcc.org
416-466-0208

**MUSIC AT PORT MILFORD CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL AND SUMMER SCHOOL**
**July 14 to August 11**, two and four week sessions
For serious string players and pianists interested in chamber music
Location: Prince Edward County, ON
Application deadline: April 15

MPM offers an intensive four-week chamber music experience for serious string players and pianists in rural Prince Edward County, Ontario. The outstanding music faculty, including Marie Berard, the Linden Quartet (first place winners of 2009 Fischoff Competition), the Tokai Quartet (Finalists at Banff 2007), RCM faculty and members of the Toronto Symphony, National Ballet and Canadian Opera Company, serve as both coaches and mentors. Musicianship and community shape the Port Milford experience.

www.mpmcamp.org

**NATIONAL MUSIC CAMP OF CANADA**

**JUNIOR DIVISION**
**August 19 to 25**
For students of all levels, grades 3 – 12
Location: Orillia, ON
Application deadline: Based on availability in desired programme/instrument

National Music Camp has been operating at Camp Wahanowin on the shores of Lake Couchiching for over 47 years and draws professional musicians and students from across Canada. Campers at National Music Camp will have an overnight camp experience, which includes all lodging and meals for seven or eight days, music instruction by professional faculty (approximately four hours daily), recreational activities, daily faculty concerts and evening programmes. Two tickets to our Open House Concert for parents or friends are included with each registration. The concert takes place on the final day of the camp session.

www.nationalmusiccamp.com
office@nationalmusiccamp.com
416-482-2475; 1-800-701-3132

**NO STRINGS THEATRE, SUMMER MUSIC THEATRE INTENSIVE**
**July 2 to 29**
For youths ages 13 – 21, beginners to professionals
Location: Toronto, ON
Application deadline: March 25
early bird; June 15 final

A summer music theatre intensive designed to develop singing, acting and dancing skills for youths aged 13 to 21 through working with professionals in the field. The programme includes vocal, drama and dance classes, and culminates in a public performance of
Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute

THE NORTH BAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SUMMER STRING RETREAT
August 19 to 24
For adult string players, 18 and over, of all levels
Location: Mattawa, ON
Registration open (limited enrollment); early bird before June 15

The NBSO Summer String Retreat provides a wonderfully positive and challenging experience for adult string players of all abilities. The focus is on chamber music with daily instrumental technique classes. You will be inspired by concerts and instruction by our resident ensemble, the JUNO-nominated Silver Birch String Quartet. New this year is an intensive double bass programme under the tutelage of double bass professor and conductor Thomas Jones. Retreat participants benefit from the outdoor opportunities available in the beautiful and historic Samuel De Champlain Provincial Park while enjoying the modern facilities of the Canadian Ecology Centre.

www.stringretreat.ca
string.retreat@northbaysymphony.org
705-494-7744

OXFORD CHURCHMUSIC: THE SINGING VACATION IN ENGLAND
September 6 to 20
For adults of all singing abilities looking for a unique choral experience

Location: Oxford, England
Application deadline: July 31

After 23 programmes in 17 years, Oxford Churchmusic has become the ultimate summer choral experience in Europe. This year we offer a two-week singing vacation in Oxford for adults of varying vocal abilities who sing, or have sung, in an amateur choir. The course has been prepared by conductors who know singing good music in a group is one of life’s great experiences. We sing every morning in the Balliol College Chapel, covering the finest choral music from Gregorian chant to gospel. Three conductors will work with you daily and the programme ends with a farewell concert in the historic church of St. Michael-at-the-North-Gate. Afternoons and evenings are open for exploring the city.

www.oxfordchurchmusic.ca
Tim and Mary Elia
oxfordchurchmusic@ Rogers.com
416-961-6136

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO SUZUKI INSTITUTE, INC. (SOSI)
Student Institute: August 12 to 17
Teacher Institute: August 11 to 19
For junior to advanced violin, viola, cello, harp and piano students, and their parents; teachers of Suzuki violin, viola, cello, piano; and those interested in Suzuki Early Childhood Education
Location: Waterloo, ON
Application deadlines: early bird, Young Artist Programme and bursary application – May 1; Payment of full tuition – June 1

An annual six-day learning holiday for junior to advanced students and their parents. Programmes include private lessons, group activities, enrichment classes, our new Baby & Toddler Class, exciting optional courses, play-ins and concerts. Our Mini-Institute provides a taste of the Institute to our younger first-time registrants who would like a half-day schedule. SOSI’s Young Artist Programme for violin, cello and piano provides instruction in a setting that moves toward traditional music college/university instruction while maintaining roots in Suzuki philosophy and pedagogy. For teachers, we offer Suzuki Teacher Development courses in violin/viola, cello, piano and Suzuki ECE.

www.mysosi.ca
Tracy Jewell, administrative coordinator
sosi@artset.net
519-824-7609

SUMMER SIZZLE: A PIANO PEDAGOGY SYMPOSIUM AND KEYBOARD KAMP
July 15 to 17
For piano and music teachers, mature students and teachers, piano students ages 7 – 21 and their parents
Location: Mount Forest, ON
Registration open; rates change April 1
(Keyboard Kamp participants should register early to reserve limited space)

Summer Sizzle is a three-day symposium for piano teachers (experienced and new) held in conjunction with a Keyboard Kamp for piano students of all levels and skill. Parents are encouraged to attend and participate with their children. Summer Sizzle offers pedagogy and student workshops, masterclasses and concerts hosted by guest clinicians and Canadian composers from across the country and the United States. Students develop improvisational, performance and compositional skills in a relaxed and friendly camp setting.

www.cnccm.ca
registrar@cnccm.ca
1-866-889-8807; 519-417-5959

TAFELMUSIK BAROQUE SUMMER INSTITUTE
June 3 to 16
For advanced students, pre-professional and professional musicians
Location: Toronto, ON
Application deadline: March 21

Each year Tafelmusik welcomes 90 musicians from around the world to the Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute (TBSI), held at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. TBSI is an intensive 14-day residency in baroque period performance for instrumentalists, singers and conductors/directors taught by members of the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir and distinguished guest faculty. Classes are offered in voice, strings (violin, viola, cello and bass), woodwinds (flute, oboe and bassoon), harpsichord, lute and guitar.

The programme includes orchestra and choir rehearsals, masterclasses, opera scene study for singers, chamber ensembles, private lessons, lectures and workshops, baroque dance classes and concerts by participants and faculty.
THORNHILL CHAMBER MUSIC INSTITUTE
August 7 to 17, weekdays
For beginner to advanced children ages 8 – 16; apprenticeship 17 – 24
Location: Thornhill, ON
Application deadline: $650 before May 31 and $700 until June 30

Thornhill Chamber Music Institute was established in 1991 as an organization dedicated to providing excellence in the training of young musicians in a non-competitive, nurturing environment. The institute features a festival concert series and masterclasses that are open to the public, as well as classes in all aspects of musical training. All areas of chamber music are covered: singing, fiddling, duos, trios, quartets, small and large ensembles, performance and composition. Other activities include soccer, basketball, stretches and fitness for endurance. Volunteer high school credits are available.

info@thornhillchambermusic.com
905-770-9059

TORONTO SCHOOL FOR STRINGS
July 23 to 27
For children ages 4 – 12
Location: Deer Park Public School, Toronto, ON
Registration open

Join us for a fun-filled week of music, art and (new this year) dance from July 23 to 27. Our enriched programming offers high level instruction from experienced, talented professionals in Suzuki strings, traditional strings, fiddling, orchestra, chamber music, guitar, rhythm class, art, choir/vocal and dance. Beginners are welcome. Ages 4 – 12, 9am – 4pm.

Teens can participate and get community service hours. The programme takes place at Deer Park Public School (near the Yonge and St. Clair subway), an air-conditioned environment with shaded playground.

Location: Toronto, ON
Registration: open

info@torontosummermusic.com
647-430-5699

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE 39TH ANNUAL VIOLIN CRAFTSMANSHIP SUMMER INSTITUTE
Take one or more weeks: June 25 to July 27
For musicians, instrument makers and repairers, shop owners and others interested in violin building and bow making (18 years or older)
Location: Durham, New Hampshire
Application deadline: none; limited space

www.torontosummermusic.com/index.php/academy
info@torontosummermusic.com
647-430-5699

THE 2012 SUMMER MUSIC EDUCATION TEAM
Project Manager Karen Ages
Project Editors
Adam Weinmann, Emina Gamulin
Layout & Design Uno Ramat

For more photos and new arrivals, visit thewholenote.com/directories

www.tafelmusik.org/tbsi
416-964-9562 x241

WORLDSONGS VOCAL CAMP
August 6 to 12
For adults, older youth
Location: Midland, ON
Registration open, with either deposit or full payment due March 15

Spend a wonderful week in mid-summer, singing songs from around the world at the beautiful Sugar Ridge Retreat Centre near Midland, Ontario, lead by renowned teachers Alan Gasser, Robert Bouthillier and Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell. We will present a concert on Sunday afternoon at a local historic venue. There will also be time during the week to visit local sights and swim in Georgian Bay! Consult our website for more information.

www.worldsongs.ca
worldsongs4@gmail.com
415-588-9050 x2

THE 2012 SUMMER MUSIC EDUCATION TEAM
Project Manager Karen Ages
Project Editors
Adam Weinmann, Emina Gamulin
Layout & Design Uno Ramat

For more information contact Karen by email at karen@thewholenote.com or call 416-323-2232 x26
About your childhood photo …?
That photo of me playing the accordion was taken in the school auditorium at Swansea Public School, just south of what is now Bloor West Village. There was a fantastic music teacher named Mrs. Melvin who ran a wonderful music programme: all students in the school were required to play recorder and sing.

She also took great care to encourage kids taking private music lessons outside the school to display their musical talent at school events. She was probably the first person to recognize my talent as a performer and therefore she thrust me onto the stage where the photo was taken. I recall at this concert being mesmerized — on a kind of automatic pilot — and hoping my memory would hold out to get me to the end of the piece.

This was the prelude to my starting various bands that involved me as leader and accordionist — polka bands playing at Ukrainian weddings, high school dance bands (playing standards when we should have been playing rock ’n roll — bad move) and jazz bands for the sheer pleasure of it. Ultimately, even though I was fairly virtuosic, I switched to piano to pursue studies at the U of T Faculty of Music. The accordion pioneering and legitimization was then left to Joe Macerollo. (We when we were in short pants.)

In those days, accordion music (other than folkloric) consisted of many transcriptions of classical works as well as pieces like Sharpshooter’s March and Lady of Spain. The photo also reminds me of my experiences in the 100-piece Mundinger Accordion Orchestra (I played electric bass accordion — the only one) and the sold-out concerts the group gave at Massey Hall.

This group played transcriptions of Beethoven symphonies, Romberg medleys etc.

Anything you would like to tell the young musician in that photo?
I used to like improvising, and exploring the unusual sounds that could be made on the instrument — playing clusters with my ear to the bellows, using the air sounds from the bellows, playing flourishes on the keyboard and buttons using unusual register combinations. I was at the early stages of my composing career without knowing it.

My advice to that child would have been “Find a way to channel this into composing or self-expression beyond the practice room.” Such sounds ultimately became standard fare in new music of the ensuing decades.

Alex Pauk, composer, conductor, educator and entrepreneur, helped found Arraymusic, and in 1983 founded the 65-member Esprit Orchestra. Esprit performs and promotes music by Canadian composers, and introduces significant international new works through an annual concert series at Koerner Hall and through commissioning, recording, education and outreach initiatives.

Pauk has composed more than 60 works for a diverse range of performing ensembles, for theatre and dance companies, and many scores for film and television, some in collaboration with his wife — composer Alexina Louie. He is a vigorous proponent of taking music to people in their communities (not always in concert halls) and an ongoing champion for music education. He was named Musician of the Year (1999) by peers at the Toronto Musicians’ Association.

Alex Pauk lives in the High Park area of Toronto with Alexina and their daughters, Jasmine and Jade Pauk.

A full-length version of Alex Pauk’s interview continues at www.thewholenote.com.

Who is April’s Child?
That trademark smile, but leading with a bow instead of a baton.
Out on the Mira on soft summer nights
The bonfires blaze to the children’s delight
They dance round the flames singing songs with their friends
And I wish I was with them again...

So many songs, so many friends!
Know our mystery child’s name?
Send your best guess to music'schildren@thewholenote.com
Provide your mailing address in case your name is drawn from correct replies received by midnight on March 20, 2012.


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS! HERE’S WHAT THEY WON

• Turned On By Texture is the Esprit Orchestra’s fourth concert for the 2011-12 season (March 29, at Koerner Hall). Alex Pauk conducts Lontano by Ligeti, Jonchaies by Xenakis, a LeBlanc world premiere called The Touch of Psyche (Le Toucher de Psyché), and the orchestra is joined by pianist Jamie Parker for Somers’ Third Piano Concerto. Christine Nicholls and Adrienne Pollak each win a pair of tickets.

• Maki Ishii Live features acclaimed percussionist Ryan Scott in North American premieres of three Ishii percussion concerti, played from memory and recorded live in performance by CBC Radio 2, with the Esprit Orchestra, Canada’s only full-sized orchestra devoted exclusively to performing and promoting new orchestral music. Conducted by Alex Pauk. (Innova 809) David Olsen and Mary Golbourne will each receive a copy.

Music’s Children gratefully acknowledges Jenny, Peter, Alex and Jenny, Florence and Bob, Elena, and the Esprit Orchestra.
This special edition of American composer John Cage’s Silence celebrates two milestones in 20th century music—the 50th anniversary of Cage’s first and still most influential book, and the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Throughout the writings and lectures gathered here, Cage is looking for various ways to say that all sounds are material for music. “Silence, like music, is nonexistent,” he writes. “There always are sounds. That is to say, if one is alive to hear them.” When Silence was first published, the impact was explosive. Today, many of Cage’s most controversial ideas have become commonplace. But his probing questions about sound, silence and life in general resonate just as intensely, and his answers still open doors. Reading him today we realize that the opportunities for musical experiment he offers have yet to be fully explored.

Cage is an irrepresible storyteller, and he embellishes these writings with stories. In fact, one of the most well-known pieces here, Indeterminacy, is nothing but a series of stories. Many of his stories are exceptionally funny, some are delightfully absurd, a number are poignant, and a few are simply baffling. But they all hit home. In Edgard Varèse he describes a visit to his Aunt Marge. “She was doing her laundry. She turned to me and said, ‘You know? I love this machine more than I do your Uncle Walter.’” Then later, in Indeterminacy, he reveals that there is something more going on here when he writes, “Uncle Walter insisted, when he married her, that Aunt Marge, who was a contralto, should give up her career.”

In Composition as Process Cage takes inquisitiveness to new extremes by asking an extended sequence of questions such as, “Why do I have to go on asking questions? Is it the same reason I have to go on writing music?” Like everything else here, these questions add up to something powerful.

For me, the actual beginning of this book is at the very end, when, in Music Lovers’ Field Companion, he describes his joy in performing 4’33” (which he refers to here as “my silent piece”) all alone in a field where he has been gathering mushrooms. “The second movement,” he writes, “was extremely dramatic, beginning with the sounds of a buck and a doe leaping up to within ten feet of my rocky podium.”

This edition has been reprinted with care, using the original typeface and layout. The only difference from the original, apart from the cover design, is the addition of a perceptive and appropriately provocative introduction by composer, critic and Cage expert Kyle Gann, who writes, “He thought his way out of the twentieth century’s artistic neuroses and discovered a more vibrant, less uptight world that we didn’t realize was there. Silence is the traveler’s guide to that world.”

**Concert Note:** Soundstreams presents “So Percussion: Cage @ 100” on Friday March 2, 8pm at Koerner Hall, with a pre-concert chat at 7pm. The programme includes 4’33”.

A conference on John Cage, “The Future of Cage: Credo,” will be held at the Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama at the University of Toronto from October 25 until October 28, 2012. Further information is available at www.humanities.utoronto.ca/event details.

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**Silence: Lectures and Writings – 50th Anniversary Edition**

by John Cage

Wesleyan University Press

310 pages; $30.00 US

**Antonio Carlos Jobim: An Illuminated Man**

by Helena Jobim

translated by Dário Borim Jr.

Hal Leonard Books

314 pages, photos; $27.99 US

Like John Cage, Brazilian composer Antonio Carlos Jobim was as much an inventor as a composer. But what Jobim invented was a new style, rather than new sounds. By infusing traditional Brazilian samba with jazz rhythms, he came up with what became known as bossa nova.

Jobim’s sophisticated melodies, complex rhythms, and unusual harmonies proved irresistible, and his popularity soon reached far outside of Brazil, with songs like Girl from Ipanema, Corcovado (Quiet Nights of Quiet Stars) and Desafinado becoming huge international hits.

Poet and novelist Helena Jobim has written a tender portrait of her older brother, who died 18 years ago. She is able to offer insights into the anguish and self-destructive insecurities that drove him. With her special access to his spiritual life she is equally able to reveal the deep sensitivities of a man who thrived on a tight-knit family atmosphere, and who, even after the break-up of his first marriage and subsequent marriage to a woman younger than his daughter, managed to maintain professional as well as personal visibility and intellectual engagement.

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**Unheard Of Memoirs of a Canadian Composer John Beckwith**

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY PRESS

529.95 Paper • 408 pp.
74 b/w photos, 8 music examples
978-1-55458-358-4

Life Writing series

In this fascinating personal and professional odyssey, John Beckwith delivers rich cultural history, opening a wide window on Canadian musical and educational institutions of the mid-to-late twentieth century. The book’s wryly modest title reflects its author’s gentle wit, but don’t be misled: Unheard Of chronicles a life of high professional visibility and intellectual engagement.

— Carol J. Oja, Department of Music, Harvard University
emotional ties with his adult children.

Helena Jobim sets the stage for Jobim’s disarmingly elegant and cool music of the 1950s and 60s by introducing the circle of gifted poets, musicians and intellectuals who contributed to his songs, like João Gilberto, whose 1958 recording of Vinícius de Moraes’ and Jobim’s Chega de Saudade marked the first time bossa nova was put on disc. It was Gilberto’s wife at the time, Astrud Gilberto, who created a sensation with her singing on the legendary 1964 recording of the English versions of The Girl From Ipanema and Corcovado, with Stan Getz joining Gilberto and Jobim.

One of the things I enjoyed most about this biography is the way Helena Jobim shows the direct influence of Jobim’s physical surroundings on his music, especially in Rio de Janeiro, where he spent most of his life. She describes his overwhelming need to be able to see Corcovado mountain from his window wherever he lived in Rio, and she evokes the atmosphere of the neighbourhood of Ipanema, where the family lived when Helena and Carlos were growing up.

Though Helena Jobim doesn’t overplay her own role in Jobim’s life story, she does have an essential part in it. So I was confused by the way she sometimes refers to herself as “I,” and at other times as “Helena.” Her focus is clearly on her brother, which leaves little room for a broader perspective on the development of bossa nova, the volatile political and intellectual currents it reflected, and its eventual decline. Yet Helena Jobim’s writing, here sensitively translated by Dário Borim Jr., resonates with the power and sweep of a great romantic family saga centred around an altogether extraordinary musician.

**Concert Note:** The Art of Time Ensemble, with singers Guinga, Monica Whitcher and Luanda Jones, presents “Brasil,” a programme of Brazilian music featuring songs by Antonio Carlos Jobim, on March 3, 8pm at Koerner Hall.

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**D A V I D O L D S**

**The Big News**

This month is the launch of Tafelmusik Media, a new initiative which will include CDs and DVDs, a digital concert hall and internet television productions, all under the auspices of the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir. By launching its own record label Tafelmusik is taking charge not only of its back catalogue, re-releasing the best of previous Sony and CBC recordings, but also its march into the digital future. This month sees the release of a DVD+CD set of the stunning multi-media Galileo Project (TMK1001DVDCD) conceived and programmed by Alison Mackay, along with re-issues of the 1995 JUNO award winning Bach Brandenburg Concertos (TMK1004CD2) and the critically acclaimed Vivaldi Four Seasons (TMK1007CD) both originally released by Sony.

Having already enjoyed these recordings for years, as is the case for many Tafelmusik fans I’m sure, for me it is the new material that is of most interest. If the production values on The Galileo Project are any indication, there are good things in store indeed. Upcoming projects include Beethoven’s “Eroica” symphony and a full-length audio recording of Handel’s Messiah. As a precursor to this, a DVD of a live “Sing-Along” performance of Messiah is scheduled for release in April. Tafelmusik has also launched a new “Watch and Listen” section on its website www.tafelmusik.org where you can find a host of streaming videos and full details of the label’s developments, including highlights of Alison Mackay’s latest extravaganza, House of Dreams, which premiered in Banff and Toronto last month and which Tafelmusik is currently touring in the U.S.A.

**Concert Note:** The Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir can next be heard in Toronto March 29 through April 1 at Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre. “Choral Anniversary: Celebrating 30 Years” includes works by Bach, Charpentier, Purcell, Rameau, Handel, Poulenc, Saint-Saëns and Rolfe. Ivans Taurins, directs.

Other news of course includes the announcement of the 2012 JUNO nominations. A week of festivities will take place in Ottawa this year, culminating with the April 1 awards ceremony broadcast. You can visit WholeNote columnist Ori Dagan’s blog at www.thewholenote.com for a full list of nominees in the categories relevant to our magazine and links to the reviews of these discs which have appeared here over the past year. With Robert Tomas’ enthusiastic assessment of Marie-Josée Lord’s debut CD, Daniel Foley’s “the home team wins” review of Yannick Nézet-Séguin’s Bruckner Fourth and Allan Pulker’s appreciation of Susan Hoepner’s American Flute Masterpieces to be found further on in these pages, I’m pleased to note that we have reviewed all but one of the 20 contenders in the classical categories. And that missing one? I will rectify that right now. The Saint John String Quartet’s latest recording, Saint John String Quartet & Jacques Dupriez (www.sjsq.ca) includes one of the five nominated works in the Best Classical Composition category, String Quartet No.2 Op.50, written in 1991 by the late Jacques Hétu. Hétu (1938–2010) was perhaps the foremost “Romantic” composer of his generation and although his music always showed strong ties to the past there was an innate modernity to his language that belied any sense of anachronism. The second string quartet is an apt example of this in his mature style. The dark and sombre opening movement, with viola lines that almost sound like an oboe, is haunting. This gives way to a rhythmic scherzo somewhat reminiscent of Shostakovich. The finale returns to the lush and pensive mood of the opening movement and sustains this sense of introspection to the quartet’s end. The other works on the disc include Brahms’ Quintet in B Minor Op.115, written exactly one hundred years before the Hétu, and a mid-20th century string quartet by Belgian composer Flor Alpaerts. It is a nicely balance programme, with Hétu’s quartet growing seamlessly out of the Brahms and the sunny opening of the Alpaerts, with its more complex but still quite tonal palette, providing relief from the doleful music that comes before.

Of special note in the Brahms is the use of a baritone violin in place of the original clarinet. This rare 18th century instrument, which fell out of favour due to its large size, is tuned an octave below the violin—halfway between viola and cello—and has a dark tone particularly well suited to this repertoire. Paganini, who had exceptionally large...
hands, was evidently the last major champion of the baritone violin and it is thanks to Jacques Dupriez that the instrument has come to light again in modern times.

A highlight of my listening this past month has been an ebullient two piano recording by local artists Attila Fias (www.attilafias.com) and John Kameel Farah (www.johnfarrah.com). Pieces of the Earth (AFJKF-01) was recorded at the Music Gallery last year and intersperses four formal compositions by each composer with brief, often playful improvised interludes. The disc opens in full minimalist fashion with a lively piece entitled Fluttering by Fias. This motoric romp sets the pace for the bulk of this presentation, but there are moments of contemplation such as Farah’s My Parents’ Garden with its quiet jazzy treatment of some Messiaen-like harmonies, and of foreboding in Warning and Plumes, two works that consider the devastation that oil spills wreak on our oceans. These two accomplished artists have been collaborating for a number of years and it shows, especially in the spontaneous improvised bridges between the composed works. With technical abilities to spare, Fias and Farah delight us with virtuosic panache and thoughtful musicality.

—David Olds, DISCoveries Editor
discoveries@thewholenote.com

VOCAL

Mahler – Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen; Kindertotenlieder
Julie Boulianne; Ensemble Orford; Jean-Francois Rivest
ATMA ACD2 2665

The emerging Canadian mezzo-soprano Julie Boulianne makes her debut solo recording on the ATMA label with an exquisitely sung pair of orchestral song cycles by Gustav Mahler, in relatively unfamiliar chamber versions, along with five lieder by Mahler’s wife/muse and notorious Viennese femme-fatale Alma Schindler-Mahler-Gropius-Werfel.

The arrangement of the first of the song cycles, the formative Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen (Songs of a Wayfarer, 1884–5), was prepared by Arnold Schoenberg in 1920 for his short-lived concert series, the ultra-exclusive Society for Private Musical Performances. Though the glowing canvas of the symphonic original has been reduced to a monochrome ensemble of ten instruments (including the rarely-heard harmonium, uncharacteristically perfectly in tune and unobtrusive in this recording) the integrity of the composition still shines through. The same can be said for conductor Reinbert de Leeuw’s masterful reduction for Amsterdam’s Schoenberg Ensemble of the Kindertotenlieder cycle (1901–4), Mahler’s settings of the elegies poet Friedrich Rückert wrote commemorating the tragic deaths of his two children.

Boulianne’s voice, precise and well balanced with a voluptuous lower register, is ideally suited for this repertoire. Jean-Francois Rivest conducts a well-balanced though emotionally reticent ensemble. The album closes with five very attractive songs

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by Alma Mahler which her husband, upon the advice of Sigmund Freud, edited and arranged to have published in 1910 as re-compense for his ill-considered ban on her own composing career upon their marriage in 1902. Accompanied by pianist Marc Bourdeau, Boulianne brings to life the captivating charm of these scarce remnants of Alma’s youthful dreams.

—Daniel Foley

Marie-Josée Lord
Marie-Josée Lord; Orchestre Métropolitain; Giuseppe Pietraroia
ATMA ACD2 2649

● “A star is born” should be the headline in The WholeNote on the occasion of the announcement of the 2012 JUNO nominees. I speak in particular of one contender for Classical Record of the Year, Vocal and Choral Category, the self-titled Marie-Josée Lord. Alas, it takes a long time to become an overnight success. Lord has been charming Quebec audiences with her magnificent voice since her debut in the fall of 2003. Be it Liu, Mimi, Nedda, Suor Angelica or Carmen—passionate, dispossessed or heartbroken heroines are her royal domain. But there is also Gershwin’s Bess and Marie-Jeanne of Plamondon’s super-hit Starmania. Each of these roles gets transformed by Lord’s smoky, fascinating voice. Soft and velvety in the lower registers, it has a lovely, robust and crystalline quality in the upper range. To call her “a soprano” is like describing Mozart as “a composer.” Her voice has the power to send shivers down your spine, make you grip the armrest and lean forward in your seat. This artist is all her own, not emulating anybody else’s style, rendering her instantly recognizable and unforgettable. With all this attention on the vocals, one barely notices the competent, if sometimes ham-fisted playing by the Orchestre Métropolitain under Giuseppe Pietraroia.

These selections are well known, but you have never heard them sung like this. I eagerly wait for something and which look towards the heavens rather than towards hell.” For example, Fauré abandoned the fiery “Dies Irae” except for a fleeting appearance in the “Libera me” and conductor Paavo Järvi, despite large forces at his disposal, respects Fauré’s intention, bringing forth the transcendent beauty of the piece by using a light touch throughout. At the start, the orchestra and chorus are barely perceptible with the subsequent crescendo sublimely subtle and gradual. It is within the harmonic framework that the composer imbibes this work with emotion and Järvi ensures a warm and lush delivery through the subtle metamorphoses. Warm, rich and deep tones from baritone Matthias Goerne mirror the orchestration perfectly, while a delightfully unconventional twist is provided by engaging the pure, yet mature timbre of countertenor Philippe Jaroussky for the “Pie Jesu.”

The other choral works included on this CD are the deeply inspirational and gorgeously performed Cantique de Jean Racine, the playfully quirky Pavane and the recording debut of a youthful (and hence more volatile) work, Super flumina Babylonis (By the rivers of Babylon). There is one instrumental work, the magnificent Elégie for cello and orchestra, featuring Orchestre de Paris’ superb principal, Eric Picard.

Concert Notes: The Hart House singers present Fauré’s Requiem and Taverner’s Three Songs with soloists and orchestra under David Arnot-Johnston, in the Great Hall, Hart House, on March 24 at 8pm. The Choir of the Church of St. Nicholas Birchcliffe features Fauré’s Requiem and Messe Basse in a programme of music for Lent on March 30 at 7:30pm. The Amadeus Choir will perform Fauré’s Requiem at All Saints Kingsway Anglican Church at 4pm on April 1.

Ponchielli – La Gioconda
Deborah Voigt; Elisabeth Fiorillo; Ewa Podles; Richard Margison; Carlo Guelli; Carlo Colbara; Gran Teatre del Liceu; Daniele Callegari
ArtHaus Musik 107 291

● This latest video production of La Gioconda from 2005 is most notable for its staging and sets by architect and theatre designer Pier Luigi Pizzi. The stylized set of interconnected stairways and a colour scheme dominated by greys with accents of deep blue, scarlet and orange creates an all-pervasive sense of approaching death in decaying Venice during the terror of the dreaded Council of Ten. The effect is so dazzling that one is reminded of frescoes of the 16th century Paolo Veronese. It is an extremely difficult and expensive opera to produce mainly for its demand of top singers, six in all, in all vocal ranges. In today’s world there are no more Callases, Tebaldis, Bergonzi and Pavarottis (even Domingo is now a baritone), the great stars of the late 20th century who brought their glory to this firmly demanding opera. Today we have Deborah Voigt, one of the few remaining dramatic sopranos with stamina and power to cope with the gruelling title role. Her voice and characterization have what it takes and it’s a great thrill to hear her carry over the top of the choruses and the orchestra. In terms of power Canadian tenor Richard Margison surely belts out the murderous high notes, but the Italianate inflection and charm of the likes of a Pavarotti is unfortunately missing. Still… the beautiful aria “Cielo e il mar” is very successful and warmly applauded. Another great credit to the performance is Ewa Podles, whose sympathetic portrayal and mellifluous alto voice of the abused blind mother is simply heartbreaking. Neither Carlo Guelfi as the evil Barnaba nor Elisabeta Fiorillo as Laura measures up to the historic legends in these major roles, but the conducting of Daniele Callegari is outstanding especially in the exquisitely choreographed, beautifully executed “Dance of the Hours.”

—Janos Gardonyi

EARLY & PERIOD PERFORMANCE

Bach – Keyboard Concertos
Alexandre Tharaud; Les Violons du Roy; Bernard Labadie
Virgin Classics 50999 087109 2 5

● I eagerly wait for new CDs of Bach to arrive and this one doesn’t disappoint. In fact, it goes on my list of favourites. I admire Alexandre Tharaud for putting the piano behind the orchestra in a position more conducive to the spirit of chamber music. It makes for an intimate listening experience.

I also love the touch Tharaud coaxes from the piano, so reminiscent of the harpsichord. Playing with Les Violins du Roy and their baroque bows you would expect a harpsichord but Tharaud performs with such a crisp, clean and articulate technique that you don’t miss it at all. Tharaud also maintains a lyrical and flowing line in the expressivo movements. For the quicker movements the brisk tempos are infectious and remind
us that Vivaldi, Corelli and Torelli were establishing the violin concerto at the same time that Bach was creating his keyboard masterworks. Bach also relied on a practice that was common at the time by adapting and transcribing works originally written for solo violin or oboe for harpsichord. You can hear many of these reminders in the virtuosic **Concerto in D Minor BWV1052.** The **Concerto in D Major BWV1054** and **Concerto in G Minor BWV1058** are reworkings of two violin concertos. The **Concerto in F Minor BWV1056** is brief but exquisite and clearly demonstrates the Italian inspiration. The g minor concerto is also better known in its original version for violin. Tharaud’s stunning technique and fingerwork suit this Italian style and he plays with a concise and crisp articulation.

In Tharaud’s wonderful transcription of the Adagio from the oboe concerto by Marcello he sings the melodic line with a velvet tone and heart-stopping intensity. I was also transfixed by his performance of the **Concerto for Four Keyboards and Strings.**

Concert Notes: Alphonse Melville curates and performs in “A Musical Bestiary” featuring vocal and instrumental music about creatures of earth, sea, sky and myth for the Toronto Consort at Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre March 23 and 24. Melville is also involved in “The Bird Project” which will be featured in a noon-hour multi-media presentation at Walter Hall, University of Toronto on March 15. And finally, Melville’s Ensemble Polaris has a new CD **Uncharted Waters** which will be reviewed in the April WholeNote.

—**Alison Melville**

**Schubert – Piano Sonatas**

**Boris Zarankin**

Doremi DHR-71153

If the listener didn’t know it before, this CD confirms that Boris Zarankin possesses an ardent empathy with Schubert. From the opening bars of the first movement of the great **Sonata in B-Flat Major,** marked molto moderato, there is almost a quasi religious awakening and as the music unfolds, further dimensions are revealed that one does not hear in other versions of this familiar work. Well, not quite. Hearing Zarankin conjured up the performance by Valery Afanassiev recorded live at the Lockenhaus Festival in 1986 that has lingered in my memory as an interpretation with the same intense, poetic introversion. However, listening to that performance once again, as attractive as it is, Zarankin is the more poetic, realizing the tragedy of Schubert playing out the last chapter of his life.

In both sonatas Boris Zarankin is in a class of his own, fully justifying his venture into such frequently charted repertoire. Zarankin has his own ideas about playing these sonatas but I sense that they are also Schubert’s. These recordings were made last August in Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto and engineered by Clive Allen who is responsible for the eminently truthful and dynamic, wide-range sound.

—**Bruce Surtees**

**Bruckner – Symphony No.4**

London Symphony Orchestra; Bernard Haitink

LSO Live LS00716

**Bruckner – Symphony No.4**

Orchestre Métropolitain du Grand Montréal; Yannick Nézet-Séguin

ATMA ACD2 2667

This is Bernard Haitink’s third commercial recording of Bruckner’s popular **Symphony No.4,** in this instance using the Nowak edition of the score and culled from a pair of live performances from June 2011. The London Symphony Orchestra is unquestionably an outstanding ensemble with an exceptionally impressive string section, seated here in the European style with the violins divided right and left and the double basses to the left rear. The orchestra responds adroitly to the stolid octogenarian Haitink, a celebrated master of elucidating the oftimes shambling structure of Bruckner’s symphonies. Ultimately, however, all this excellence is undermined by the problematic acoustics of London’s Barbican Centre. The resplendent string tone is noticeably recessed and the sound-stage, though wide, lacks depth. Some tremendous brass playing, particularly from the closely-miked horn section, offers considerable recompense however.

No such problems mar the lively sound of Nézet-Séguin’s conventionally seated Métropolitain string ensemble, though they are a comparatively lean and slightly underpowered force compared to the LSO ensemble, with two fewer players in each section. The response from the judiciously balanced full orchestra is consistently precise, electric and blessed with a contagious enthusiasm and attention to dynamic shading that renders even the most meandering passages of Bruckner’s rambling discourse riveting. The performance utilizes the 1936 Haas edition in splendid studio sound recorded at Québec’s Église Saint-Ferdinand. Some may consider Nézet-Séguin’s overtly theatrical approach rather over-the-top in the Scherzo movement, where he drives his forces into a Berliozian frenzy, but for my money this is one of those rare Bruckner performances that commands my complete attention. The clear winner? The home team!

—**Daniel Foley**

**CLASSICAL & BEYOND**
Strings Attached

Terry Robbins

The Canadian violinist Lara St. John, by her own admission, never managed to really connect with the Bach Sonatas for Violin and Harpsichord; somehow, she says, she “never thought they quite clicked,” either with harpsichord or modern piano accompaniment. Several years ago, when St. John was staying in Berlin with Marie-Pierre Langlamet, the principal harpist of the Berlin Philharmonic since 1993, the two read through some Bach sonatas. It was, says St. John, “a revelation.” Bach Sonatas, her new CD with Langlamet on her own Ancalagon label (ANC 139) is the result, and it is, indeed, a revelation. The switch from harpsichord to harp is obviously the major factor here. There might be very little dynamic range on the keyboard instrument, but it’s scarcely any bigger on the harp. Moreover, the crisp, precise incision of the note attack on the harpsichord is replaced by a softer, gentler and more luminous sound on the harp, especially in the bass lines of the lower register. This completely changes the nature of the accompaniment, and poses significant questions for the violinist: straightforward, by-the-numbers playing, especially in the faster contrapuntal passages, simply won’t work anymore. St. John, however, has the perfect answer, playing not only with unerring accuracy but also with a wonderfully expressive sensitivity, almost as if thoughtfully probing and exploring the music rather than simply presenting it. It’s intelligent and nuanced musical making of the highest level, and matched for both nuance and sensitivity by Langlamet.

This is by no means a complete set of the six sonatas. The performers chose sonatas where the keyboard part could be played as written (and the harpsichord parts for these works were fully written out, and not just a figured bass part) with no need for transcription for the harp. Two violin sonatas — No.1 in B Minor BWV1014 and No.3 in E Major BWV1016 — are here, together with the Flute Sonatas in G Minor BWV1020 (possibly not written by Bach) and in B Minor BWV1030, and the Siciliana from the Flute Sonata in E-Flat Major BWV1031.

Beautifully recorded in Berlin, the result is a supremely satisfying CD that presents these works in a quite different light. Concert Note: The Lindsay Concert Foundation presents Lara St. John and Marie-Pierre Langlamet at Fleming College, Lindsay, on March 4 at 7:30pm.

Strings Attached continues at www.thewholenote.com with a new release from violinist Joshua Bell and string quartet discs featuring Quatuor Diotima performing American works, the Doric Quartet playing Schumann and the Wieniawski Quartet with three pieces by Polish composer Krzysztof Meyer.

American Flute Masterpieces

Susan Hoeppner; Lydia Wong

Marquis 774718141323

This CD is itself a little masterpiece: the six works on it by 20th century American composers, already recorded by many other flutists, are performed with such style, panache, and artistry that it is a welcome and justified addition to the catalogue.

The first track is the opening movement of Elidon Burton’s Sonata. Susan Hoeppner’s phrasing is mesmerizing, to the point that I played this over and over again! Her interpretation of the Canzone from the second movement of Samuel Barber’s Piano Concerto is serene and measured, but perhaps a little too dispassionate. The most wonderful moments in the entire CD come in the second movement of Lowell Liebermann’s Sonata Op.23. Hoeppner and Lydia Wong build on the strength of each other’s playing to come to a thrilling and almost superhuman intensity. Their performance of John Corigliano’s Voyage, while embracing the simplicity of the piece, infuses it with great sensitivity and tenderness and at times intensity that arises entirely out of the sound and colour of the flute. Hoeppner and Wong give stirring performances of the last two compositions, Aaron Copland’s lyrical Duo for Flute and Piano and Robert Muczynski’s technically challenging Sonata Op.14.

American Flute Masterpieces

Susan Hoeppner; Lydia Wong

Marquis 774718141323

This CD brings us definitive performances of music from an ongoing “golden age” of composition in the United States, which continues to thrive in the protective enclaves of universities despite the vicissitudes of these tumultuous times. Kudos to both artists; this CD is a winner.

—Allan Pulker

24 Frames – Scatter

Tim Brady; Bradyworks

ambiances magnetiques AM 206 CD

24 Frames – Trance

Tim Brady; Martin Messier

ambiances magnetiques AM 203 CD-DVD

www.timbrady.ca

Tim Brady’s most ambitious composition to date must surely be 24 Frames consisting of a series of 24 movements each of which he identifies as a “frame.”
Adding up to three CDs and a DVD (AM 905), it amounts to well over two hours of sometimes meditatively calm and at other times challenging and exhilarating music. While a soprano voice, baritone sax, bass clarinet, viola, bass trombone and percussion make appearances one at a time in substantial though supporting roles, the through-line here is Brady’s writing for electric guitar and his masterful virtuoso playing in every section of his sprawling opus.

Indeed the 8’53” section called “Scatter – Frame 1” could easily stand as a self-contained work. Featuring the nuanced vocalise of Karen Young, her vocal performance is so densely processed at times that it becomes a virtual choir. Yet Brady reminds us that this is a human voice first and foremost, by having vocalist Young imitate a wow-wow pedal effect acoustically about halfway in. It only lasts a moment but for me it is such deft and delicate touches which impress the most in 24 Frames. At the end of this section the guitar’s distant bell-like sonorities admirably support Young’s soft cooing.

Frame 2 is subtitled “In Almost Unison” and it’s an apt description of the relentless tempo giusto and metrically complex character of the joint duo of guitar and baritone sax, marvellously played by Jean-Marc Bouchard. Frame 3 on the other hand, featuring Lori Freedman’s dramatic bass clarinet, has many more contrasting angles and emotional facets to it.

Frame 4 – “Still” – is a highlight, a lyrical, spacious and languid essay in viola long tones, chords and slow, surprisingly moody mid-20th century melodic passages. It’s underpinned by a lexicon of exposed delicate electric guitar effects: I heard reverb, precise string harmonics, thick gong-like chords, chorus effects and perhaps even pitch-shifted other-worldly echoes. This is a gorgeous, satisfying movement that I’ll be returning to repeatedly.

Reviewing such an immense, assured and accomplished work—and I’ve only touched on a third of it—is truly an insurmountable challenge given the constraints of this review. I hope my listening notes have successfully reflected the scope of Brady’s fertile compositional imagination, and my own pleasure and enthusiasm for the music in his multi-CD project.

—Andrzej Timar

An extended version of this review can be found at www.thewholenote.com.

JAZZ & IMPROVISED

The Other Side
Melissa Lauren
Independent ML1111
(www.melissalaurenmusic.ca)

Singer-songwriter Melissa Lauren has been a part of the Toronto music community for a few years now, but with her sophomore release, The Other Side, she’s really making her mark. Lauren has a beguiling voice that mixes sweet playfulness with solid technique, control and range. Which would be plenty, but on top of that she has songwriting abilities that put her in another category from the legion of lovely crooners who enlist others’ work to tell their musical story. Harmonically speaking, Lauren’s songwriting doesn’t push a whole lot of boundaries, and she’s got a clever way with words that goes enough beyond cute to make things interesting without getting overly heavy. All of which suits the breezy, jazzy air of the album. The dozen songs each have a whiff of a bygone era hovering somewhere between the 1930s and the 60s, without being too derivative of any time or genre. So we get a bit of Mancini-esque cool on the opening Art Class, a touch of twangy longing on Somehow, a slightly Eastern European edge to Your Fool and an old tyme rollick from the title track. It all adds up to a special sound, much of the credit for which should be shared with guitarist Nathan Hiltz who is the main instrumental support and negotiates the shifts in style with taste and personality that never overwhelms. The rhythm section is ably rounded out by Ernesto Cervini on drums and Ross MacIntyre on bass. Lauren’s CD release event is March 1 at The Rex in Toronto. Check melissalaurenmusic.ca for details.

—Cathy Riches

Something in the Air
Improvisers’ Unexpected Inspirations

KEN WAXMAN

Over the past few years as post-modernism has made anything fair game for musical interpretation, sophisticated improviser/composers have taken inspiration from the most unlikely sources, far beyond the motifs, historicism and pastels of earlier times. Canadian bassist in New York Michael Bates for instance, has organized a salute to Dmitri Shostakovich (1906–75), using his own music and variants on the modern Russian composer’s oeuvre. Iconoclastic American composer/saxophonist Fred Ho has produced a five-part suite honouring boxer Muhammad Ali (b.1942) as a militant, outspoken fighter for social justice. The luminous canvases of American visual artist Cy Twombly (1928–2011) stimulate Israeli saxophonist Ariel Shibolet’s creativity, while Polish saxophonist Adam Pieronczyk recasts in his own fashion the distinctive film scores of composer Krzysztof Komeda (1931–69). Michael Bates’ masterful arrangements on Acrobat: Music For, and By, Dmitri Shostakovich (Sunnyside SSC 1291 www.sunnysiderecords.com) are so perceptible that during the course of nine tracks he almost reveals symphonic colours using only a top-flight quintet: his double bass; the perfectly timed drums of Tom Rainey; Russ Lossing’s shuddering smears from electric and regular pianos; trumpeter Russ Johnson’s brassy blasts; and the fluid lyricism of Chris Speed’s sax and clarinet. This is apparent from the first track, “Dance of Death,” from Shostakovich’s Piano Trio No.2 in E Minor. Very quickly the bouncy melody is transformed with plunger trumpet work and well-modulated reed trills to a motif that’s as much 1970s Miles Davis as it is a mazurka. Later Silent Witness uses fusion references to atmospherically suggest the composer’s Stalin-era paranoia, with Speed’s singular reed slurs becoming progressively lower-pitched and tonal as Rainey’s drums smack and rebound while Lossing’s ratcheting licks make it seem as if he’s playing electric guitar not piano. Held together by Bates’ reliable thumping, the cacophonous final section gives way to repeated theme variations and conclusive keyboard echoes. Elsewhere, with music derived from the Russian composer’s work or not, the tunes use varied strategies. Intermozzo can be atmospheric and formal, with the reedist approximating oboe-like burrs and timed runs arising from Lossing’s acoustic instrument; as loose and swinging as a Benny Goodman-led combo; or exploding with tougher near-Jazz Messengers-like harmonies. Arcangel is another highpoint, allowing both Russes sufficient solo space. The pianist showcases a series of repeated glissandi centred by Bates’ stentorian pulse; while the trumpeter’s capillary slurs evolve into a quicksilver flow cushioned by harmonized keyboard and reed textures. All in all the wrap-around themes simultaneously celebrate Shostakovich’s intent while exposing improvisations that are true to jazz’s ethos.

To read how Ho, Shibolet and Pieronczyk transform their varied influences into distinctive improv sessions see the continuation of this column at www.thewholenote.com.
Old Wine, New Bottles  | Fine Old Recordings Re-Released

BRUCE SURTEES

LAST MONTH some of us, in fact many of us around the world, “attended” the MET’s production of Gotterdammerung, the final opera of their “Ring Cycle” live in HD at local movie houses. The conductor was Fabio Luisi who has taken over at the MET from the incapacitated James Levine. Luisi can be seen and heard on many CDs and DVDs, one example of which is a live performance of Mahler’s First Symphony that is outstanding in every way. The concert took place in the Philharmonie in Gasteig, Munich, with the Staatskapelle Dresden of which he was the music director at the time, in April 2008. From the first few bars of the first movement Luisi emerges as a true Mahlerian. His tempos and pacing are flawless as are the dynamics. It’s a gift to know what to do between the notes and, at least here, Luisi gets it. When he lets the orchestra out in the coda of the fourth movement the effect is spectacular in the grand manner. Earlier, the concert opens with a performance of the Beethoven Piano Concerto No.1 with pianist Margarita Hohenrieder. Her brilliant performance is engaging, witty and animated, proving that one can play Beethoven and smile at the same time. She and Luisi are on exactly the same page (EuroArts DVD 2057718).

Back to the MET ...

Some of their productions have been issued on DVD by other companies but recently the MET has begun issuing selected performances from their archives that were broadcast live. The tapes of the selected performances are produced, transferred, restored and re-mastered by the MET themselves. Sony, who publishes them, has issued eight new two-CD sets since our first reviews some months ago and, as before, offer singers and conductors no longer with us.

Risë Stevens, one of the favourites of the day, stars with Richard Tucker and Nadine Connor in Bizet’s Carmen, conducted by Fritz Reiner in the performance of February 16, 1952 (Sony 88697 96189). Reiner was then a staff conductor at the MET but a year later he was appointed music director of the Chicago Symphony, a post that lasted for an illustrious ten years. Risë Stevens and Richard Tucker are featured again in Offenbach’s Les Contes d’Hoffmann with an all star cast including Roberta Peters, Lucine Amara, James McCracken and Martial Singher conducted by Pierre Monteux (88697 96190). This production was broadcast live on December 3, 1955, and the sound, as it is in all these sets, is clean and clear monaural, complete with some sounds of stage business that contributes, for me at least, to the illusion. In this case, however, the home listener of the time would not have heard the fidelity we have here. Hoffmann is one of my favourite operas and I listen to it regularly. This production does in no way disappoint.

Risë Stevens is joined by James Melton, Mimi Benzeil and Ezio Pinza for Thomas’ Mignon from January 27, 1945 (88697 96192). Canadian Wilfrid Pelletier is the conductor and Pinza, who would retire from the Met in 1948 after 22 years, was still four years away from playing Emil de Beque. Handsome James Melton was a popular tenor in the 20s and 30s until the popularity of ballad singers and the romantic repertoire declined. He sang at the MET in suitable roles for just a few years only and here is a rare chance to hear him.

Donizetti’s La Fille du Régiment was once the property of Lily Pons and here she is on December 28, 1940 assisted by Raoul Jobin, Salvatore Baccaloni and others conducted by Gennaro Papi (88697 96191). It is the great bass Baccaloni as Suplice who dominates every time he opens his mouth and Lily Pons and the rest of the cast are swamped. Still, she has her moments and the whole production is good fun. Very good sound, too.

Moving into the 1960s, the usual suspects included Carlo Bergonzi, Leontyne Price, Cornell MacNeil, Carlotta Ordassy, Giorgio Tozzi, Roald Reitin and Robert Nagy and here they are in Verdi’s Ernani from December 1, 1962 under Thomas Schippers (88691 90996). The opera is basically about ill-fated lovers... the same old story of girl meets bandido, conspirators, revenge, the Holy Roman Empire and 16th century Spanish politicking. A good plot for an opera which this cast makes believable. A new production was seen in HD in movie theatres on February 25 with an encore presentation for those who missed it, or wish to see it again, coming up on March 31.

From March 5, 1966, we have Roberta Peters, Carlo Bergonzi, Frank Guarrera and Fernando Corena in Donizetti’s L’Elisir d’Amore conducted by Thomas Schippers (88691 90991). Love makers again, this time between a “poor villager and the beautiful, alluring landowner; the pair exude charm and vivacity...” It’s an amusing story with many comic situations that the cast have a great time conveying to the audience.

Thomas Schippers also conducts Verdi’s Luisa Miller from February 17, 1968, featuring Sherill Milnes, Montserrat Caballé, Richard Tucker, Ezio Flagello and Giorgio Tozzi... a dream cast if there ever was one (88691 90994). This opera is a fine example of love — both requited and unrequited — deception and betrayal, with a tragic last scene. In other words, melodrama at its best. The artistry of the entire ensemble draws the listener in and holds on until the final curtain.

Finally, the double bill of “Cav & Pag,” Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci broadcast on April 14, 1954 (88691 90999). “Cav” features Richard Tucker, Eileen Farrell, Lili Chooikasian, Cesare Bardelli and Mildred Miller. “Pag” stars Anselmo Colzani, Franco Corelli, Franco Ghiotti, Lucine Amara and Calvin Marsh. Nello Santi conducts. The evening could not have been in better hands. Each singer brings his or her character to life, reacting seamlessly to the various situations. These really are marvelous performances.

Concert Notes: You can hear an abridged version of La Fille du Régiment at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music’s annual Opera Tea at MacMillan Theatre on April 1. The Canadian Opera Company presents The Tales of Hoffmann in performances at the Four Seasons Centre April 10 to May 14.
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UNWELCOME VISITORS, or The Perils of Being a Pit Band

The National Ballet of Canada Orchestra has its own folklore, particularly about falling objects, human or otherwise.

During a performance of Grant Strate’s House of Atreus in 1965, Howard Marcus landed on top of William Findlay’s cello and broke the neck scroll. Findlay gamely played on with one string.

In 1983, during Celia Franca’s The Nutcracker, a young Martine Lamy’s vision was obstructed by her Gingerbread costume (a total body suit). She ended up breaking a flute in half.

While not quite a fall, but a flutter, there was the matter of the real pigeons used in Frederick Ashton’s ballet The Two Pigeons in 1972. Attracted by the light glinting off Jean Verch’s flute, a pigeon landed on her hand.Apparently the musical vibrations encouraged the pigeon to leave bird droppings running down her arm.

As for objects, a rolling haystack (1992) from Ashton’s La Fille mal gardée caused a cellist to be off work for two years with an injured wrist. A wayward cabbage (1982) from the same ballet dented a trombone slide. In the fight scene of John Cranko’s Romeo and Juliet, the tip of a sword (1976) broke off and went through an oboe player’s cheek.

The most spectacular fall of all concerns Veronica Tennant and Clinton Rothwell at ArtPark in upstate New York in 1981, during a performance of Fille (clearly the bad luck ballet). Her regular partner, Tomas Schramek, dislocated a finger in a baseball game due to Frank Augustyn’s errant throw. Rothwell was the cover.

Says Tennant: “It was during the ‘Wedding pas de deux.’ Clinton had me in a full overhead lift and my long dress was covering his head. One of his feet went off the stage and we dropped 18 ft. He held me all the way down, and my mother said later I was smiling all the way. I was unscathed because I landed on Clinton. He had a cracked coccyx.”

What saved the dancers from a worse fate was the quick thinking of violinist Andrea Hansen. When she realized what was happening, Hansen got the other players to help her clear away the music stands, chairs and instruments to create an open landing pad.

The Playhouse, Fredericton, 1978

Once again, the company was performing Ashton’s infamous La Fille mal gardée. Unfortunately, there was no pit although the theatre had just been renovated. The orchestra was put in a boiler room/bunker under the stage, accessed through a trap door and a circular staircase.

In order for George Crum to conduct the orchestra, a hole had been drilled into the side of the stage for his arm to fit through. Crum stood on the floor, with his nose at the end of the stage and his eyes tilting upward to see the dancers. He was wearing a woman’s long white opera glove to make his arm more visible in the gloom of the bunker.

As stage manager Ernie Abugov slammed the trap door shut on the orchestra, he shouted: “Row you bastards!”

And finally, a delightful story about the orchestra from former principal dancer Jocelyn Terell (1956–1964)

“I was 16 when I joined the company. The only reason my father let me go was because he believed all men associated with ballet were gay. He presumed I was safe, but he forgot about the orchestra. On tours in particular, ballerinas would date members of the orchestra. One musician told me that when Celia Franca got wind of a romance, she’d tell the guy, ‘Don’t get my dancer pregnant!’ She wasn’t thinking of us so much as the fact that she needed every dancer.”

—Paula Citron

Veronica Tennant in La Fille mal gardée.

George Crum with the Orchestra on tour in Germany.
"A Feast for the Ears and the Eyes!"
- Classical 96.3FM

TAKÁCS QUARTET WITH JOYCE YANG
Sunday, March 11, 2012 3pm
Koerner Hall
“The most gifted young pianist of her generation” will perform the Dvořák Piano Quintet and other works with one of the world’s great string quartets which performs “with passionate commitment.” (The New York Times)

COLIN CARR
Saturday, March 17, 2012 7pm
Mazzaoleni Concert Hall
Cellist Colin Carr will perform all of Bach’s Six Suites for Unaccompanied Cello. “Carr’s velvety tone is a delight in itself.” (The Strad)

TANGO! KAREN GOMYO WITH PABLO ZIEGLER
Sunday, March 25, 2012 3pm
Koerner Hall
Tango and classical music come together as virtuoso violinist Gomyo, Astor Piazzolla’s legendary pianist Pablo Ziegler, and an all-star ensemble from Argentina, perform Bach, Brahms, Bartók, and Piazzolla.

ANDRÉA TYNIEC WITH BEN SMITH
Tuesday, March 27, 2012 7:30pm
Mazzaoleni Concert Hall
Violinistos Tyniec, recipient of the new GGS Fellowship Residency, performs a challenging program of Ravel, Ysaye, Pärt, and Franck with GGS Graduate pianist Ben Smith.

INTERCULTURAL JOURNEYS
Saturday, March 31, 2012 8pm
Koerner Hall
European and Arabic classical music mingle in a program of Vivaldi, Um Kulthum, and others, with Israeli cellist Udi Bar-David, Syrian violinist Hanna Khoury, Palestinian percussionist Hafez Ali, Syrian singer Yousef Kassab, and Egyptian qanun master George Sawa.

ERIKA RAUM AND DIANNE WERNER
Sunday, April 1, 2012 2pm
Mazzaoleni Concert Hall
Known for her “gorgeously full tone,” (The Strad) violinist Erika Raum joins pianist Dianne Werner in a program that features Beethoven’s Sonata No. 10, Janáček’s Sonata for Violin and Piano, and other works.

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Jennifer Koh, violin

Rob Kapilow is your stimulating and entertaining guide to Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons*. After intermission, enjoy a complete performance of the Spring and Summer concerti.

Honorary patron: Ana P. Lopes, C.M.

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Russian Romantics

March 24 at 7:30pm
March 25 at 3:00pm
Nathan Brock, conductor
Joshua Roman, cello

Flashing colours, folk-like dance rhythms, and gutsy emotions run throughout this hearty programme of Russian gems.

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A Century of Broadway

March 20 & 21 at 8:00pm
March 21 at 2:00pm
Jeff Tyzik, conductor
Christiane Noll, soprano
Doug LeBrecque, tenor

Join us for a trip through 100 years of solid-gold Broadway!

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Saraste Conducts Brahms 3

March 29 & 31 at 8:00pm

Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor
Pekka Kuusisto, violin
Sibelius: Tapiola
Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 1
Brahms: Symphony No. 3