Aiyun Huang —
cool drummings

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THE FESTIVAL SEASON

CD REVIEWS • BOOKS • COMPREHENSIVE CONCERT LISTINGS
red hot new wave finale

**Sunday, May 13**
8:00 pm concert
**JANE MALLETT THEATRE, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts**
27 Front St., Toronto, ON

Alex Pauk • conductor
Joaanne Kong • harpsichord and piano
Shauna Rolston • cello
Eleanor James • mezzo-soprano

Michael Colgrass  
*R* Side by Side*
R. Murray Schafer  
Letters from Mignon
and Minnelieder
Douglas Schmidt  
(Grandma’s Sore Back)  
Omies Rükenschmerzen
György Ligeti  
Concerto for Cello
and Orchestra

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**hot new wave composers festival**

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CMC Professional Reading session

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6:00 pm - 7:15 pm  Opening Reception and Brian Current CD Launch
7:30 pm  *hot new wave two (2)*
Brian Current – curator/conductor
Patricia Green – mezzo-soprano/flute
8:45 pm  *hot new wave three (3)*
Scott Good – curator/conductor
Rob Macdonald – guitar
10:00 pm  late night band sets with *Kanaka*

**Wednesday, May 9**  
(TICKETS: $7 at the door)
**INNIS TOWN HALL, 2 Sussex Avenue**
hot new wave four (4)
F. Lang’s *Metropolis*  
screening & live performance of new film score
7:15 pm  Pre-screening chat with composer and musicians
6:00 pm  Screening

**Thursday, May 10**
**GRAND RISTORANTE, 2039 Yonge Street**
6:00 pm  *hot new wave five (5)*
Squeeze, Squeeze, Squeeze (Esprit Fundraising Bash)

**Friday, May 11**
**ELGIN REHEARSAL STUDIO, 158 Victoria Street, 4th Floor**
10:00 am – 11:30 am  
**Toward A Living Art Education Series**  (free student event)
hot new wave six (6)
6:00 pm  *Rea Forum/Roundtable - The Paradox of Material
7:00 pm  Coffee Chat

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Barber: Violin Concerto
Dvořák: Symphony No. 7

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Alban Gerhardt, cello
Abigail Richardson: Éris
TSO Commission/World Premiere
Schumann: Cello Concerto
Holst: The Planets

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Itzhak Perlman, conductor
Schmidt-Perlman-Bailey Trio
Beethoven: Triple Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Piano
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4

WIND SERENADE
May 26 at 7:30 pm
May 27 at 3:00 pm
Douglas Boyd, conductor
Nora Shulman, flute
Beethoven: Prometheus Overture
Vivaldi: Flute Concerto "Il Cardellino"
Dvořák: Serenade for Winds
John Weinzweig: Divertimento No. 1
for Flute and String Orchestra
Britten: The Young Person's Guide
to the Orchestra

BRAHMS SYMPHONY 2
May 30 & 31 at 8:00 pm
Jiří Bělohlávký, conductor
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FOR OPENERS ...

Scope and scale
In this issue’s cover story, percussionist Aiyun Huang muses that one of the advantages of organizing a festival, as compared to a concert series spread out over time, is the savings that can be achieved. One campaign to advertise eight concerts bunched together has to be more economical that eight campaigns promoting one concert each time out. You can see why concert presenters themselves would find the idea appealing.

But you can also see, alas, why the bean counters holding the whip hand over the programme officers who disburse taxpayer money at the arts councils would like the idea too. “Economies of scale” you hear the bean counters boom. “Sexy economies of scale! Bigger is better.” Which as we know, it sometimes is. But sometimes it isn’t.

Remember Lord of the Rings.

This year sees the arrival of a new King Kong on the local festival scene – Luminato, bestriding the first ten days of June like a colossus. Welcome aboard, guys. As you’ll see from reading our magazine, you’re in pretty festive company. More than any year I can remember, the early part of this summer in the city is going to be a nonstop “festival of festivals”, large and small.

There’s a tricky balance for the folks at Luminato to find, methinks. Put the message out that the first ten days of June are totally unprecedented, and you run the risk of people getting the opposite message – namely that if they can’t make it to Toronto during those ten days, there’s no point in coming at all. “See, you can come back to our city for culture any time” seems to me to be just as important a part of the message to get across.

Speaking of big and little
WholeNote’s Canary Pages – safely tucked away at the centre of this issue – is one of several, carefully colour-coordinated directories that we put out during the course of the year: Canary in May (Choirs); Green in June (Summer music festivals of every shape and size across Ontario and beyond); Blue in October … The list goes on.

Of all of them, I find the Canary Pages the most inspiring; the one that leaves me most hopeful about the future of the music. Once a year we take a snapshot of the choral community, framed in such a way that people interested in being part of a choir (singing or otherwise) can find one that will suit their current circumstances and desires. Sometimes it’s a chorister out there wanting to take the leap from non-auditioned choral participation to something more challenging. Sometimes it’s the reverse – someone wanting to scale back intensive choral involvement without losing it altogether. Maybe this year’s Canary Pages will actually help me take the plunge, get back into the choral swim. I won’t be the first one helped.

BACK BEAT: READERS RESPOND
Tinkering with our cd reviews in last month’s magazine (there were only abbreviated reviews in the magazine, full-length versions on the website) drew the most ire from readers. We’ve had to do the same thing again this month, and for the same reason – namely insufficient CD-related advertising revenue to cover the costs of the space required. (If you can think of a better solution to the problem, let us know.)

Here’s a sample of what we’ve heard from readers so far:

Dear Sir,
I object strenuously to the truncated jazz reviews in the April/May issue of the magazine. As a jazz reviewer for an American publication for nearly thirty years, I expected to have my deathless prose edited or amended to some degree but never was it abbreviated or “chopped” with the reader told to read the balance “on line”. You should be aware that there are many old fogies like myself who are not on the internet and never will be.

In the circumstances I would request that you send COMPLETE transcripts of the jazz reviews in question. I also request your assurance that future jazz reviews will appear intact in later issues of the magazine.

Yours in frustration, John Nelson

BACK BEAT CONTINUES ON PAGE 70

GREAT CHAMBER MUSIC DOWNTOWN

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EDITOR’S CORNER by David Olds

While the recording industry re-invents itself as a web-based phenomenon and the “majors” slash A&R, personnel and advertising budgets, padding their catalogues with endless re-issues, there is still a wealth of new material crossing my desk each month. In actuality, about three quarters of the discs that we receive must go unnoticed due to space and budget constraints. Some people have asked why we seem to only print good reviews. The answer is simple – we receive so much good material, more than we can possibly make room for, that it would be a shame to devote space to discs we cannot recommend. Much of the material we receive is independent, artist-produced product and that of smaller commercial labels. Thanks to the World Wide Web, individuals can now make their CDs widely available without depending on commercial distributors or retailers and that is why you will find website addresses accompanying our reviews of independent releases.

The first disc I’d like to talk about this month is just such a case in point. *Four Trees in Winter* (www.anum.ca) is a solo classical guitar release featuring original music composed and performed by Stephen Zurakovsky. Zurakovsky studied at the University of Toronto and was nominated for a Kitchener–Waterloo Arts Award for his previous recording. It was in fact the K-W Regional Arts Fund which made this current project possible.

The CD is dedicated to “the souls affected by the Great Ukrainian Famine of 1932–33”. In the very personal program notes Zurakovsky tells us “*Four Trees in Winter* is a musical Ukrainian/Canadian reflection based on personal healing and family history... My father suffered through one of the worst ethnic cleansings in his history, where seven to ten million Ukrainians died in an orchestrated famine. The tragic emotions created an unbearable silence that has permeated generations... Healing begins when we are silent no more. Let the passion of music warm our hearts... Somewhow and somehow, my new compositions released in me the power to look at life with joy, compassion and gratitude.” I’m not sure that without the program notes I would have realized the tragic inspiration of this music, because Zurakovsky seems to have genuinely overcome the grief and personal depression that led to the creation of these works which successfully embody his hopeful vision of the future.

Another significant portion of the discs we receive are produced by dedicated, independent labels which have established significant niches in the marketplace. *Channel Classics* is a quality record label based in Holland. The director, producer and recording engineer is C. Jared Sacks. Having grown up in Boston Massachusetts, schooled at Oberlin Conservatory and the Amsterdam Conservatory of Music with 15 years experience playing French horn, Jared decided to turn his hobby of recording into a profession in 1987. The label started in 1990 with the name Channel Classics coming from the street he lived on in Amsterdam.

Jared and his Dutch wife Lydi Groenewegen form the core of the company which has grown to include an extensive catalogue of several hundred releases with distribution in more than three dozen countries around the world (including Canada through SRI). One of Channel’s prime artists is the outstanding cellist Pieter Wispelwey, who first came to my attention with his 1990 period instrument recording of the Bach’s cello suites which still ranks among my favourite recordings of these seminal works. With the release of his 24th Channel Classics CD, **Brahms Sonatas** (CCS SA 24707), Wispelwey has captured my heart once again. In a bold move he and pianist Dejan Lazic have chosen to include only one of Brahms’ original compositions for cello and piano, Op. 38 the first of the two cello sonatas, supplemented with (my favourite) a transcription attributed to Brahms of the Op. 78 violin sonata representing the composer’s middle period and Wispelwey’s own transcription of the late clarinet (or viola) sonata Op. 120, No. 1. In this cleverly programmed disc with program notes that include a philosophical overview of Brahms’ career by Wispelwey and a scholarly treatise on the works themselves by Clemens Romijn, we are presented with a convincing case for Brahms as a consummate chamber composer and exceptional performances to clinch the debate. As successful as Channel Classics has become in recent years, most would concede that the cream of the crop of smaller “high end” record labels with an extensive international catalogue is the Swedish *BIS* label (also distributed by SRI). Founded by Robert von Bahr in 1973, BIS is still in many ways a one man operation. Oh to be sure he has an expert team at his disposal, but every one of the now more than 1,700 releases is personally approved by Mr. von Bahr. The most recent to peak my interest includes two *concertos* by the Finnish modern master Kalevi Aho, one for contrabassoon and one for tuba (*BIS CD-1574*). I must confess that I don’t think I have ever heard a concerted work for either of these instruments, and Aho’s writing makes me wonder why. I am personally drawn to the growly sound of ultra-bass instruments – you just can’t beat the sound of a baritone sax for my ears, except with that truly rare animal, the bass saxophone – and I wish that they would be given centre stage much more often. Listening...
Marimba Madness
Cool Drumming Launch Party!
May 22 @ 8 pm  Lula Lounge
Anne-Julie Caron, Beverly Johnston, Kuniko Kato. Works by Christos Hatzis, Alice Ho (world premiere), Bach, Astor Piazzolla Iannis Xenakis, and Keiko Abe.

Latin American Rhythms
May 23 @ 8 pm  Walter Hall
Tambuco (Mexico) and Celso Machado (Brazil/BC) showcase music from Spain, Portugal and the Americas.

Latin American Dance
May 23 @ 10:30 pm  Lula Lounge
Toto Barrie, members of Tambuco and Sal Ferrera perform a joyous dance-drum spectacle.

Steve Reich @ 70
May 24 @ 8 pm  MacMillan Theatre
Canadian premiere of Daniel Variations and Music for Mallet Instruments, Voices and Organ and Six Pianos.

Nexus and Friends
May 25 @ 8 pm  Walter Hall
International superstars Peter Erskine, Hugh Marsh, and Liam Teague. Works by John Cage, Toru Takemitsu, members of Nexus, improvisation and ragtime.

Percussion Theatre
May 26 @ 2 pm  MacMillan Theatre
R. Murray Schafer’s Tantrika, George Apergis’ Le Corps a Corps and Louis Andriessen’s Workers Union; Brian Cherney (world premiere) and Gilles Tremblay.

World Beats
May 26 @ 8 pm  MacMillan Theatre
Safa Ensemble with Bill Brennan, Autorickshaw with Trichy Sankaran, Celso Machado, Liam Teague, Kwasi Dunyo and more.

Distillery Drumming
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Drumming in the festival season

Say “drumming” and any number of associations spring to mind: the invocation of ancestral spirits; seven minute 70s progrock solos; thunderous Wagnerian death scenes; marching, rallying, being summoned for celebration or sacrifice. On balance the festive tends to outweigh the sacrificial these days, but the primal power of the drum’s call is still undeniable, never more so than in the spring, when energies which have lain dormant through the long winter begin to wake.

Could be hard pressed to find anyone who better embodies the spirit of drumming than Ayun Huang. And embodies is certainly the operative word. “I see performance as a coalescence of sound, physicality and theatricality,” she says. Her work, both in practice and in theory (she also teaches at McGill University), places great emphasis on the physical nature of drumming, the fact that it is an instrument, or set of instruments, in the playing of which the whole body is potentially involved. As such, her approach pushes percussion playing to the point that it becomes a kind of theatre.

“The physicality of playing percussion instruments,” she says, “allows for “multi-faceted theatricality, which can be inherent in the action of striking, can be embedded in the narrative of the music, or can dictate musical expressions. I see myself as someone who is expanding the boundaries of percussive arts by incorporating other ingredients - artistic skills and forms, such as voice, gestures, and dance... Percussion theatre.”

It is this notion of “Percussion Theatre” that she brings to the May 26 program she was asked to curate as part of Soundstreams Canada’s upcoming Cool Drumming’s International Percussion Festival and Conference – an eight concert, 6 day immersion in the world of drumming – from May 22nd to 27th.

“All of these ‘ingredients’ are present in the May 26 program” she says, “articulated to varying degrees of theatricality.” It sounds a bit heady, but, she is quick to add, “at a more basic level, it is simply a lot of fun to play, and to listen and watch players who are no longer allowed to hide behind the music stands.” (The ‘non-hiders’ in this case, will include marimbist/percussionist Ryan Scott, the McGill Percussion Ensemble, flutist Robert Cram and dancer Danielle Baskerville.)

The pros and cons of festivals? “It is easier to get a good audience in festivals than in a single concert” she says. “Publicity costs less when you break it down per concert and you can target a much wider audience. I think that is why we are seeing more festivals these days. Cool Drumming’s brings performers of many styles together into one week of events. The audience can really pick and choose according their tastes and curiosities. Without a festival like Cool Drumming, Torontonians probably would not have a chance to see Tambaico, or Peter Erskine with Nexus. My students will probably benefit the most from this festival. It is going to be an eye opening experience for them.”

Any downside to the festival approach? “Sometimes the audience gets burned out before the festival is over. They become overwhelmed and shut down. I don’t think that it will happen in this one.”

Huang’s passion to explore her vision of the theatrical potential of percussion has led to multiple collaborations with composers: she mentions Canadians Gary Kulesha, Linda Bouchard, David Jaeger, Inouk Demers, Heather Schmidt, Chris Paul Harman and Alcino Ho, Americans Rick Burkhardt, Derek Keller, Chris Mercer, Sean Griffin, and Farangis Nuraull-kheja, a composer from the Central Asian Republic of Tajikistan. She sees such projects as central to her work.

“As a percussionist,” she says, “I will continue to commission and champion new works for percussion.” And she will continue to extend and blur boundaries. In addition to more works for percussion and theatre, she intends to promote and co-create “works for percussion and live video, and improvisation with live electronics.”

You can see her principles at play, too, in her ongoing work with new music ensemble Toca Loca (profiled in WholeNote in February of last year) whose programming is often touched with theatrical devility.

“Next year, Toca Loca is going to embark on its first national tour with P*P Project, a composer-driven project. We asked a group of colleagues drawn from a number of different disciplines to write for Toca Loca incorporating popular influences as they saw fit.”

All this is in addition to recently accepting a full-time position at McGill as an Assistant Professor, as well as Chair of the Percussion Program. “This year has been quite challenging for me to juggle being a mom, a performer, a teacher and a researcher. I often wish that there were more than 24 hours in a day and that I could teleport myself from place to place.” Six days of drumming should cure that.

Clearly she thrives on challenges, and her artistically ambitious “inner objective” won’t allow her to rest on previous achievements. “Ultimately, I want to contribute and help shape the future of percussion through repertoire, interpretation, performance, teaching, and research.”

Massey Hall... and all that jazz

Last month’s “Have some jazz with that opera” feature looked at jazz clubs around the new opera house at Queen and University. From the newest, to the oldest. This month, we look at the area around Toronto’s first great concert hall.

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Busking experiment designed to fail?

April 20, 2007: Now here's something interesting. Earlier this month, The Washington Post Magazine tried an experiment. A clever journalist talked the violin virtuoso Joshua Bell into busking in front of a Washington D.C. subway station, during the morning rush hour, just to see what would happen. Would busy bureaucrats, on their way to their offices, stop and listen for a minute? Would they even notice that they were being serenaded by one of the world's finest violinists?

Sadly, the answers turned out to be no and no. Some people threw coins in his direction (he made about $32), but beyond that, few people seemed to care. A storm of internet chatter followed this little stunt, with some bloggers claiming the results were yet another proof that most people today are indifferent to talent and beauty.

Now London's Independent newspaper has tried much the same thing – persuading the renowned violinst Tasmin Little to play her Strad under a bridge near Waterloo Station. The results weren't much different. "The well-heeled, grey-haired clientele," noted the article, "are the most likely to turn away, lips pursed in snobbish disapproval: busking, one may infer, is the equivalent to begging and shouldn't be encouraged."

April 25: 2007: Passing through the Bloor-Yonge subway station at 4:30 pm, I pause to listen to a guitar-saxophone duo. At the conclusion of their jumpy rendition of "Ain't Misbehavin," I take the opportunity to find out a little more about the local busking scene.

I soon learn that the two young men, who call their band The Strip, are serious about their work, playing in subway stations about four days a week. They make money at it (although they decline to say exactly how much) – moreover, they also feel appreciated by their transitory audience. "We thought that people would be kind of miserable on their way to work," guitarist Kevin Robinson remarks, "but that's not the case. I appreciate it when people stop to listen – but I don't get upset when they don't."

There are other advantages to busking, as well: they sell their CDs and distribute flyers about their upcoming engagements. And playing in subway stations is also a good way to try out their own material on the public. "If people walk away humming one of our songs," says Robinson, "that's a success."

April 26, 2007: It's 11:00 am, and the guitarist playing and singing Spanish songs in the Bloor-Yonge subway has attracted a small crowd around him. his name is Daniel Huezco, and he's originally from El Salvador. He has no fewer than four CDs for sale – and they're selling well. "I get gigs from playing in the subway," he tells me. Just don't call him a "busker," though. He prefers to describe himself as "a musician who performs in the TTC."

Later in the day, I encounter a guitarist-singer-songwriter named Ernest Osterhout in Spadina Station. When I ask him how business is, he quips, "Considering that I have nothing to compare it to, it's pretty good!" And I also meet Nikolai Teichchenko, playing his balalaika at York Mills Station. He's from Ukraine, and his English is a little weak – but he too has a CD for sale, and he plies me with his business card.

In short, by the end of the day, I've found nothing resembling the depressing image presented by The Washington Post and The Independent. Musicians who play in the TTC seem to be an optimistic, entrepreneurial bunch. Granted, they aren't international stars, used to making thousands of dollars a day – but they also aren't used to having their audiences' willingness to listen for granted. Bloor-Yonge Station isn't Roy Thomson Hall, after all.

In other words, perhaps Bell and Little simply lacked experience in the art of busking (if I may use the term) – and were, in effect, unwitting guinea pigs in experiments designed to fail. Or maybe they should just move to Toronto.

Colin Eatock is a Toronto-based composer and writer, who frequently contributes to The Globe and Mail and other publications.

Innovative Programming

What struck me first about the listings this issue was innovation in both instrumentation and programming. Classics Organ Works on May 12 will reveal the potential of MIDI technology as applied to the organ. The same evening organist/pianist, George Heldt, will perform on both instruments at St. Mark's Church in Don Mills. A presenter new to me, Voxworks, will present music by British composers who set the words of English poet Robert Bridges May 4 and 5. On May 6 Off Centre brings us Spanish-influenced music by composers of various nationalities. The same afternoon, Aliicer Arts presents its very different variation on the same theme.

The bells – hand bells, that is – will be ringing at St. John's York Mills (accompanied by fiddler Christopher Jääskellinen) on May 6, and June 2 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. The Mississauga Symphony's May 5 concert will be on a cowboy theme and Morricone's powerful score from the film The Mission will be performed by the York Symphony Orchestra on May 6. The TSO won't be left in anyone's dust either: June 1 and 2 they offer a "comic" oratorio, NOT the Messiah, by Eric Idle, who, believe it or not, is TSO music director Peter Oundjian's cousin! Art of Time Ensemble gives us songs in a wide variety of styles, in their Toronto Song Book concert on May 10 and 11. Bora Dugic, a player of the Serbian Shepherd's flute will perform at Glenn Gould Studio on May 13, presented by the Academy of Serbian Folk Dancing; and on May 14 the Rudolph family will perform music for flute, viola and percussion.

New Presenters

I have already mentioned several new presenters. Several others caught my eye: Panda Eye Passion (May 6); Chinese Artists Society, doing a concert on May 13 with a reincarnated Baroque Music Beside the Grange; Li Delun – East Meets West (May 20); Mosaic Trio (May 24); Toronto Opera Ensemble (May 26); Etohiko Youth Strings (May 28) and Vocal cords Opera Ensemble (June 2). They are all in the concert listings.
**Vocal Recitals**

American superstar soprano, Deborah Voigt, described as “a vocal powerhouse with one of the world’s most thrilling voices,” will make her Toronto debut on May 8 at Roy Thomson Hall.

Another thrilling voice, that of soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian, will perform with Amici and friends, including her pianist husband Serouj Kradjian, May 25. And as the joke goes, what’s three times more (you fill in the blank) than one diva? Why, three divas, of course, and three (count ‘em) - Patricia O’Callaghan, Jean Stilwell Deborah Voigt at RTH May 8 and Theresa Tova - are on Tapestry’s May 26-27 program. The Talisker Players will bring us both innovative programming and great singers - mezzo Norine Burgess and tenor Colin Ainsworth - with pianist, Peter Longworth, on May 29.

**Festivals**

With the Open Ears Festival at the end of April, the festival season is already off to a flying start, and I detect rather more thematic festivals than usual. The Deep Wireless Festival, which runs from May 1 to 31, is covered elsewhere in this issue (see Some Thing New, page 22). The Organix Festival runs from May 5 to June 1, with an emphasis on the organ in combination with other instruments – trumpet on May 9, piano on May 23, percussion on May 30 and choir on June 1. Their organ and percussion event, by the way, would have fitted naturally into the Cool Drumming International Percussion Festival, another creation from the fertile curatorial mind of Lawrence Cherney, brought to us from May 22 to 27. The ambitious Luminato Festival opens on June 1 with Idle’s NOT the Messiah, and The Book of Longing by Leonard Cohen and Philip Glass.

Just two days later, on June 3, a new series of summer concerts, Music at Sharon, programmed by former Livent programmer, and currently Maclean’s Magazine writer, Stephen Cera, begins with Jacques Israelievitch and friends performing a program of French and Canadian music. See our Beyond the GTA listings for details.

Never a dull moment! Read our listings carefully. There’s LOTS more there!
Spring is finally here, and many musical organizations present their end of season concerts. Spring is also the beginning of the music festival season, with more happening throughout the summer. One such festival already under way is Small World Music’s South Asian Music Festival, which continues with four more concerts this month. Bollywood Fever comes to the Lula Lounge on May 3; this showcase of music and dance in the style of Bombay’s huge movie industry is a fundraiser in support of the Monay Asha Foundation’s work with children in Bangladesh.

May 6 (also at Lula), Toronto’s Evergreen Club Gamelan Ensemble, Canada’s only professional gamelan group, is commissioning and performing new works, as well as traditional Indonesian music, in a special evening of “Sunda Songs - songs of love, loss, longing and devotion.” The Gamelan members will be joined by guest singers Maryem Tollar (Canada’s premier Meze), Suba Sankaran (Israel), Neige Karle, Canada’s only professional vocal ensemble of recombinant hindustani music, and Jennifer Moore (Maza Meze, Pirate Jenny). The songs, performed in English, include popular compositions by Sundanese songwriter Nono Surianto, “classical” Sundanese songs, and a new work by Evergreen member Mark Duggan.

May 12 at Harbourfront’s Enwave Theatre, Juno award winning vocalist Kiran Ahluwalia, best known as a singer of ghazals (Indian and Pakistani love songs) and Punjabi folk songs, releases her new CD Wanderlust. The album is inspired by both ancient and modern poetry, and features ten new original works including some Portuguese Fado recorded in Lisbon, Saharan African blues, jazz influenced pieces and more. The connecting theme is the subject of desire and heartbreak.

“Ghazals are hard to explain” says Kiran. “The majority of them are about romantic passion, and a common theme is that there is a lover and a beloved. The lover is forever yearning for the beloved and the beloved is forever unattainable.” Fado deals similarly with romantic longings. Kiran will be joined in concert by her five-piece ensemble, and guest qawwali singer Shahid Ali Khan. The last event in the festival features Indian musician Karsh Kale and guests who blend tabla and techno music, May 18 at the Dragonfly (1279 Queen West).

In another Small World presentation in collaboration with Music Africa, Ba Cissoko from Guinea-Conakry performs at the Lula Lounge May 11. Born into a musical family (his father was one of the founders of Ballet Djoliba, the group that exposed the world to the music of Guinea), he learned to play the kora, the 21-stringed African harp-lute as a teenager from his uncle. The music of Cissoko and his group blends tradition with Afro-pop, reggae and hip-hop.

And while we’re on the topic of plucked instruments, the Chinese Artists’ Society of Toronto and Baroque Music Beside the Grange present “Lute Legends: ancient airs from east and west”, May 13 at Church of St. George the Martyr (the Music Gallery). The concert features Wen Zhao, pipa, and Lucas Harris, lute, who will alternate solos from their instruments’ traditional repertoire, and join forces for a cross-cultural duet at the program’s finale.

As you are aware, May is WholeNote’s “Canary Pages” month, where we present a directory of participating choirs from across Ontario (16 pages following page 36). A few of those choirs have concerts coming up with “world music” themes. The Oakville Children’s Choir presents its annual fundraising gala on May 10. The evening features international cuisine, a silent auction, salsa dancing, belly dancing, djembe drumming and choral highlights. Still with Oakville Children’s Choir, their final concert of the season takes place May 26; Fiesta! explores the music of Latin and South America, with guest guitarist Johannes Linstead. This is also the final concert for founder/music director Glenda Crawford. Also on May 26, the Cantabile Choirs of Kingston presents Earth and Fire, with guest conductor James O’Donnell.

May 28 the East York Choir presents Spring Soul, which will include spirituals and African music, with guest conductor Paul Fairclough and Tom Dryden, percussion, and Adwoa Badoe, storyteller/dancer. And the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir holds its 81st spring concert on June 3, with guest performers, vocalist David Wall and pianist Marilyn Lerner. The concert pays tribute to the late Milton Barnes, in a suite of excerpts from his music written for the choir. Also featured is the Canadian premiere of a work by Vladimir Heifetz, Di Lererin Mire: Ghetto Cantata, a schoolteacher in the Vilnius ghetto, and Yiddish songs.

Last but not least, tabla player Ravi Naimpally’s South Asian fusion band Tasa performs at the Gladstone Hotel on May 20. They are currently working on their fourth CD. Performing with them at the Gladstone will be vocalist Samidha Joglekar.

Karen Ages is an oboist who has also been a member of several world music ensembles. She can be reached at worldmusic@thewholenote.com.
Highlights of my April concert-going

It was a busy concert-going month for me.

Bach's St. John Passion, performed by Tafelmusik with Les Voix Baroques, on April 4, with eight excellent singers, plus an Evangelist (Charles Daniels), achieved a highly emotional communication of the story with clarity and refinement. Perhaps there were a few who might have missed the grandeur of larger forces? It was recorded and broadcast on CBC radio on Good Friday.

The Toronto Chamber Choir demonstrated a fine tonal blend, uniform balanced phrasing, and dynamic expression, in their performance of sacred motets by Monteverdi on April 6 (Good Friday). The featured soloists followed with a trio, duet and quintet, also by Monteverdi. Everyone, choir and soloists, with organ and theorbo accompaniment, joined together for the rarely-heard Cavalli Requiem.

House of the Devil: Music from the Italian Baroque, on April 14, featured various combinations of Tafelmusik musicians. Highlights included Marinelli's Sonata in ecco for 3 violins (only one of which was on stage) and continuo; Albinoni's Concerto for 2 oboes, op. 9 no. 12 featuring John Abberger and Marco Cera; also Vitaldi's Concerto for 2 horns in F Major RV 538. The featured work, Boccherini's Symphony in D minor, G. 506 "Nella casa del diavolo" was wild, frothy and, yes, scary!

And at the April 15th Musically Speaking event, you could have witnessed how French style crept into 16th century German keyboard music, brilliantly performed by Bo­rys Medicky. His playing, upon the Yves Beaupre two-manual harpsichord, was thoughtful and intuitive.

Coming Up in May

First, a reminder of Andrew Parrott returning to conduct Tafelmusik Orchestra and Chamber Choir, plus the Artists of Opera Atelier, in the Canadian premiere of the 1774 French version of Gluck's Orpheus and Eurydice (May 2, 4, 5) and starring tenor Colin Ainsworth.

And the Toronto Chamber Choir continues its Bach Cantata series (May 6), with David Fallis directing Bach's Cantata #78 "Jesu, der du meine Seele." More info at www.geocities.com/torontochamberchoir

The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir ends its 25th anniversary season with Handel's magnificent oratorio, Solomon (May 10-13), the great and wise king. Surely you remember the arrival of the Queen of Sheba, and the famous story of Solomon's judgment?

The Exultate Singers commemorate the 300th anniversary of the death of Buxtehude. According to the legend, Bach walked more than 200 miles to meet Buxtehude! That's the same distance as eight Boston Marathons! Now is your chance to hear his influence on Bach's music for yourself (May 11) and you don't have to walk 200 miles to get there. This concert features Membra Jesu Nostri by Buxtehude, Jesu, Meine
Early Music
continued from page 17

Freude by Bach, and organ selections by both composers, played by John Tuttle.

May 13, you won’t want to miss a fascinating “East meets West” program played upon two lutes—one, the Chinese pipa, played by Wen Zhao, and the other the European Baroque lute, played by Lucas Harris. Alternating solos from each instrument’s traditional repertoire give way to a finale where the two instruments join together in a cross-cultural duo.

The Musicians in Ordinary, soprano Hallie Fishel accompanied by John Edwards on theorbo, perform courtly airs by Etienne Moulinie and Michel Lambert, two composers associated with the courts of Louis XIII and XIV. Joining them are guest violinists Christopher Verrette and Geneviève Gillage, and Laura Jones on bass viol (May 19). Edwards will also perform solos by the famed Robert de Visée and the guest artists will perform a trio sonata by the great Marin Marais. The Bata Shoe Museum’s presentation In the Shoes of an Elizabethan Lady: The Passions and Scandals of Frances Walsingham (May 25) introduces us to a woman who was no stranger to danger, intrigue and scandal, first married to the Queen’s courtier, and second to the Queen’s lover, the Earl of Essex. Get to know her life with a curator’s talk and music from that time (Musicians in Ordinary), not to mention a treasured pair of her shoes which have been in the family of her last husband since the 1600s.

More Bach! It’s not often that one can hear the Six Motets by Bach in a concert. These works, considered by many to be great masterpieces of the choral repertoire are both challenging and rewarding. The Tallis Choir, under the direction of Peter Mahon, performs them May 26.

Frank T. Nakashima can be reached at franknak@interlog.com

CHORAL Scene
by Larry Beckwith
In place of my usual column, please see my introduction to the 5th Annual WholeNote Canary Pages Choral Directory (following page 36). In the meantime, while I have your attention, let me draw it to four performances not mentioned there.

The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir is front and center in performances of Handel’s grand oratorio Solomon beginning May 9, featuring the renowned English countertenor Michael Chance in the title role.

The Amadeus Choir presents the Triumph of the Spirit featuring music by Canadians Willan, Robinovitch and Kulesha on May 12.

Jean Ashworth Barton bids adieu to the Toronto Children’s Chorus May 13. Her successor has been chosen and the future looks promising. Christopher Verrette to the Toronto Children’s Chorus begins May 19. Ed- wards will also perform solos by the famed Robert de Visée and the guest artists will perform a trio sonata by the great Marin Marais.

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Band Stand
by Jack MacQuarrie

Reminiscing
My first band activity since writing last month’s column was in the form of musical reminiscing at two very different concerts on successive afternoons.

The first of these musical reminiscences was A Musical Tribute to Roland G. White by The Concert Band of Cobourg. Here, the band, through their programming, led us through the musical career of their Conductor Emeritus and his long association with The Royal Marines Band Service and the Cobourg band.

The second of these was the annual spring concert by the Philharmonic Band and Choir of the Music Society of St. Helen’s. Founded in 1974, the MSSH is devoted to the promotion of Portuguese musical heritage, and to develop opportunities for the broad community to participate in cultural activity. The band is a community band, but not associated with any specific municipal locality. Rather, its community is made up of those who share a common heritage of language and history from a distant homeland. The MSSH program offers a broad spectrum of free vocal and instrumental musical instruction for members of all ages.

In order to learn more about MSSH and its work, I arrived at the concert early enough to chat with the band’s musical director Mr. Jose Resendes. By happy coincidence, this backstage visit prompted some personal reminiscing for me. As we chatted, we discovered that the last time I had set foot on Portuguese soil many years ago was in the city of Ponta Delgada in the Azores, Mr. Resendes’ home town.

The concert consisted of band selections and choir with band accompaniment. While most of the program was devoted to Portuguese music, there was a brief visit to the music of the Beatles. For me, the highlight of the show was a solo cabaret style offering by a young Rose Mary da Silva, singing with band accompaniment. I don’t speak a word of Portuguese and didn’t understand the lyrics. However, in this rendition, I received her message loud and clear. I was completely captivated by her performance. Not only did she have considerable vocal talent, but she displayed a remarkable stage presence for a young singer. It almost made me homesick for Portugal.

Later in the month I visited the Malta Band Club. Here again community takes on a different connotation. The word community doesn’t refer to any local geographic boundaries, but all those within a large area of Southern Ontario who trace their roots to that tiny island in the Mediterran. Founded in 1971, the club has grown to be much more than just a band organization. Under the guidance of Mr. Sam Caruana, students of all ages can receive twice weekly instruction on all band instruments at the club’s building in Mississauga. These facilities now occupy close to 10,000 square feet in a modern building and provide a wide range of activities one might expect of a cultural social club.

Do you know of other such cultural organizations in Ontario where their central purpose is the preservation of musical heritage through the sponsorship of a band and the training of new members to carry on the traditions of a distant homeland? If you do, please get in touch with us.

Before closing this month’s column I would be remiss if I did not mention the Hannaford Street Silver Band’s recent Russian Odyssey program. With guest conductor James Somerville at the helm, the band produced dazzling renditions of Shostakovich’s “Festive Overture”, a new concerto for piano and band by Larysa Kuzmenko, a new transcription of Mussorgsky’s “Pictures at an Exhibition” and a barn burner encore of Khachaturian’s “Sabre Dance”. The concert was recorded for broadcast at a later date by CBC Radio 2. Check the program listings. Don’t miss it.

Reunions
The Northdale Concert Band has scheduled its 40th anniversary Reunion for Saturday, May 26. The Reunion begins at 2pm at St. Jude’s Anglican Church, Scarborough, and will be followed by a Buffet Dinner. All former members are invited. For details, www.northdalemusic.com

Conductor wanted
The recently formed Silverthorn Symphonic Winds is looking for a conductor. For a job posting and job description visit their website at www.silverthornsymphonicwinds.ca or call Carol Anne Lynch 416-652-2077 for details.

Instructor wanted
The Lindsay Kinsmen Band, a youth marching band, is searching for a music instructor. For information, visit their website, www.lindsaykinsmenband.ca or contact the band’s administrator Mr. Michael Warren daytime at 1-888-527-6168, or evenings at 705-328-3212.

Coming Events - Please see the listings section for full details.
Sunday, May 6, 3pm The Markham Concert Band presents An Afternoon at the Bandstand. It’s just like a summer afternoon in the park, but with comfortable seats. With an international flavour, the program includes Australian composer Sir Charles Mackerras’ ballet suite Pineapple Poll, based on Gilbert and Sullivan melodies as well as two contrasting works by Torontonians Ron McNamara (Century of Progress) and J. Scott Irving (Hannaford Overture).

Sunday, May 6, 7:30pm, Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre: The Hannaford Street Silver Band will premier Nine Dates Wonder, Bramwell Tovey’s new work for solo violin, brass and percussion. The solo violin part will be performed by Mark Fewer, for whom it was written.

Saturday, May 12, 7pm, Brampton City Hall Atrium, 2 Wellington Street

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West, Brampton. The City of Brampton Concert Band will be holding its annual fund-raising event, *Blarney We’re Goin’ to Killarney Pub Night and Silent Auction*. Funds raised will support the band for their trip to Killarney, Ireland to participate in the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) conference in July.

Saturday, May 26, 2pm, Walter Hall, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. The Hannaford Youth, Community and Junior Bands will present a combined concert with guest artist Guido Basso.

**Down the Road**
Check in next month’s issue for details of these events.

**The Northdale Concert Band**

**40th ANNIVERSARY Reunion**

May 13 & 26, 2007

Visit www.northdalemusic.com for more information.

**The Encore Symphonic Concert Band** is presenting a *Tribute to Johnny Cowell concert*. This will feature Johnny as composer, conductor and trumpet virtuoso. Several of Johnny’s friends will also make guest appearances.

Jack MacQuarrie can be reached at bandstand@thewholenote.com
Some Thing New

by Jason van Eyk

Toronto audiences seemed to fully appreciate last month’s range of new music events that crossed over the audiovisual divide.

CONTACT’s Opera Interna interactive experience attracted a respectable audience, which was encouraged to walk a labyrinth while enveloped by a contemplative environment complete with candles, flowers and subdued lighting. Composer John Burke’s score – an eb and flow of beautiful melodies, rich harmonies and dense textures – was deceptively simple to the ear, but crafted with a complexity that was suitably challenging to the performers. The music completed a meditative space through which participants were asked to walk in contemplation of their personal story. Many audience members were so moved by the experience that they stayed to the very end of the two-hour performance, well after they had finished their course through the labyrinth.

A completely different experience took over the Music Gallery on April 13th, when an almost claustrophobic capacity audience crunched in to experience Jürgen Köhler’s 40-minute Quasar live performance installation. The large set up of five film projectors, smoke machine and quadruphonics sound (including two subwoofers for a bass-heavy feel) relegated the audience to a portion of the hall too cramped to comfortably accommodate all. Still, the event clearly had impact. As composer Juliet Palmer remarked: “I was impressed by the use of the projector’s light as a sculptural element shifting over time. I had expected a sonic assault and was pleasantly surprised by the subtlety of the sonic and visual palettes. One of those trance-inducing pieces that you need to enter into with both body and mind to experience.”

Feel of spring

But we can finally break free of such cramped quarters now that we firmly have a feel of spring in the air. Even more importantly, we can start filling our calendars with great offerings from an always rich summer festival season. It seems that every year Toronto’s parade of music festivals creeps ever closer to the end of the concert season. Lucky for us! This shortened gap means that live new music is becoming a richer, year-round experience. This year in particular the two worlds collide, where an extended new music season crosses over the launch of three unique festivals.

Launching on May 1st is the sixth installment of the Deep Wireless Festival, which encourages involvement not only from those interested in radio and transmission art, but also from individuals that simply want more from their radio. This month-long festival is jam-packed with live performances, installations, artists-in-residence, workshops, a three-day conference, and radio broadcasts on numerous local stations. It’s impossible to do justice here to the rich range of festival activity taking place in multiple venues throughout the city. Perhaps the simplest suggestion is to make your way to the Radio Art Salon in Gallery 1313, where you can relax in 50’s style hair salon chairs while you listen to programs curated by UK’s Resonance FM, Austria’s Kunstradio and other content drawn from the festival’s international call for works. For full details, be sure to visit www.deepwireless.ca.

Esprit Orchestra’s annual New Wave Composers Festival returns in full force from May 7th to 13th with a rich roster of concerts and events designed specifically to create a forum for emerging artists to exchange ideas, showcase their talents and meet the public. The en-
tire festival uses a number of top Toronto venues for events ranging from a one-day series of concerts curated by early career composers Brian Current and Scott Good, to the much-anticipated premiere of David Ogorn’s film score for Metropolis in live performance. Also on the schedule are two CD launches, two gala events, educational projects, public forums, and lots of music by both emerging composers and their mentors. The festival launches on May 7th with an open reading session. Here, Esprit and invited soloists will create an interactive and relaxed “behind-the-scenes” environment to bring to life previously unperformed orchestral works by Canadian composers Gideon Kim and Robert A. Baker.

This free public workshop is offered in collaboration with the Canadian Music Centre’s Professional Readings Series, starting at 8pm at the Walter Carsen Centre. For full festival details, please visit www.espritorchestra.com or call 416-815-7887.

Near the end of the month, Soundstreams Canada presents its Cool Drumming International Percussion Festival and Conference, giving Torontonians unprecedented access to the finest percussion soloists and ensembles from across Canada and around the world. Drawing together the traditions of new music, world music and jazz, Cool Drumming packs a cross-cultural and multi-genre percussion punch into eight dynamic concerts across four locations all within six days.

For the new music crowd, highlights include appearances by Beverley Johnston, Aiyun Huang, Ryan Scott, Nexus and the Steven Reich Ensemble performing a huge lineup of works, including world premieres from composers Alice Ho and Brian Chichney, alongside music by Cage, Takemitsu, Aphergis, Xenakis, Keiko Abe, Gilles Tremblay and R.Murray Schafer. A special treat will be the Canadian premiere of Reich’s Daniel Variations on May 24th. The Festival launches at the ever-funky Lula Lounge on May 22nd with Marimba Madness! and closes with a free outdoor concert at the Distillery Historic District on May 27th. Events in between take place at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music. For full details about Cool Drumming, including the conference portion, please visit www.soundstreams.ca or call 416-504-1282.

So come be a part of the festive feeling. Celebrate spring with some thing new.

Jason van Eyk is the Canadian Music Centre’s Ontario Regional Director. He can be reached at 416-961-6601 x. 207 or jvaneyk@musiccentre.ca.
Jazz Notes
by Jim Galloway

Go East Yonge (Jazz) Man

The spirit of jazz past in Toronto - the Colonial Tavern, The Town Tavern, George's Spaghetti House, The Maison Dore, Friars, East 85th, The Sapphire, The Old Firehall, The Underground Railroad, Cafe Des Copains and more recently, Top O'The Senator and The Montreal Bistro - were all venues for jazz that were east of Yonge Street (and I know I've left some out). They all helped to give this city a reputation for being 'a good town for jazz'.

Well, jazz clubs come and jazz clubs go, but jazz, that Cinderella of the music world, seems to survive. It is a more fashionable art form than it once was, but, compared to the Symphony, Opera and Ballet, it fails to generate the subsidies and endorsements that sustain "serious" art forms. Rather, support for jazz comes from dedicated individuals and groups who give time, effort and love to help sustain the music.

I have mentioned in earlier columns the newest of the clubs, LiveAtCourthouse, an ambitious venture to raise the profile of jazz a few notches, dare I say 'buenos notches', by presenting, at least some of the time, international names as well as the cream of the local crop. (It joins that aforementioned group of venues to the east of Yonge - where angels fear to tread.)

This month, on the 14th, the club will be the setting for the 9th Annual Ken Page Memorial Trust Fundraising Gala and KPMT is indeed one of those small organisations formed to foster jazz in Canada. As such, it relies heavily on donations and 9 years ago many of those contributions came from personal friends and business associates of Ken Page. Attrition has taken its inevitable toll and the annual fundraiser has become correspondingly more important in the Trust's ability to carry on its good work which includes funding workshops and masterclasses, giving financial support to several jazz festivals throughout the province, helping emerging musicians and on occasion giving assistance to jazz musicians who are unable to work because of accident or illness. This year the evening takes the form of a jazz party with Echoes of Swing kicking off the proceedings before the main event which will feature Warren Vache, the most lyrical cornet sound in all of jazz, George Masso, well known to Toronto audiences from his work with The World's Greatest Jazz Band, and a clutch of the straightaheadjazzers in Canada - John Sherwood on piano, Reg Schwa- der with a brief reflection by Jazz Vespers.

It is a more fashionable art form than it once was, but, compared to the Symphony, Opera and Ballet, it fails to generate the subsidies and endorsements that sustain “serious” art forms. Rather, support for jazz comes from dedicated individuals and groups who give time, effort and love to help sustain the music.

A performance by Sonny Rollins is always worth a mention and on May 14th this icon of jazz will be at Massey Hall. Sonny's favourite for only the last 50 years! But don't for one minute think you will hear a senior citizen saxophone player resting on his laurels when you go to hear Rollins play. You may recognise some of the themes, but he is still a strong, creative player. If there is a spark in your soul, you will be moved by his music.

Here's an interesting, non-essential footnote: the date is also an interesting anniversary for another famous concert hall, for it was on May 5th, 1891 that The Music Hall in New York, built by Andrew Carnegie, and now known as Carnegie Hall, had its grand opening and first public performance, with Pyotr Ilitch Tchaikovsky as the guest conductor.

As always, happy (live) listening. Check out WholeNote's live club listings on page 50 to whet your appetite.

Bravo International - Singers on Stage present

Come a Little Closer for a Jazz Journey

Voices of three exceptional singers take you on a gem-filled journey, with their rich melange of jazz, classics, Latin and European sounds.

Marek Balata - premier male jazz vocalist in Eastern Europe
John Alcorn - nominee for “best male jazz vocalist” of the year
Margaret Maye - mezzo-soprano

with The Jazz Ensemble and Toronto Sinfonietta Strings

Saturday, July 7, 2007 at 7pm
Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles St. W., Toronto
Info & Tickets: (416) 892-7799
Main Sponsor: Art Home Furniture (905) 277-1272

GET A LIFT WITH JAZZ!
Thursday, May 10 starting at 8 pm
Promises to be a hot night in the old town.

The David Warrack Sextet will be performing at Hillcrest Christian Church in a rollicking fundraiser to provide elevator access for the physically challenged.

The evening will also feature the smooth vocal stylings of Stevie Vallance, the hot harmonies of Swing Rosie, and surprise guests to get your hands clapping and your toes tapping. Don’t miss this wonderful event.

Adults $25.00 Seniors/Students $15.00

Hillcrest Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
2 Vaughan Road Toronto M6G 2N1

contact Patty Gill 416-361-0716 www.davidwarrack.ca
www.stevievallance.com
www.swingrosie.com

Main Contact: Art Home Furniture (905) 277-1272
On OPERA
by Christopher Hoile

For eleven performances from May 4-26, the Canadian Opera Company will be remounting a “revised” version of its controversial 1999 production of Verdi’s La Traviata directed by Dmitri Bertman, Artistic Director of the Helikon Opera in Moscow. Never before had a production so stirred up Toronto audiences and critics like this one.

“Crazy Heroine Adds Little to Wretched Show,” screamed The Globe and Mail. “Enough. Already! Messing with La Traviata Most Annoying,” shrieked the Toronto Star. “Give Traviata a Raspberry,” shouted NOW. Such were some of the more strident headlines that greeted the production. Anyone who was present at the opening on September 29 that year will remember it as a very unCanadian night at the opera. Usually when a Canadian audience dislikes a production it simply applauds less enthusiastically. Not so that night. At the curtain call loud choruses of boos suddenly burst out across the auditorium. These, in turn, were answered by equal numbers of ringing bravos. After years of opera-going I had never heard anything like this in Canada. It was rather as if I were back in Europe. The conflict actually left me elated since I realized that underneath all their polite—torments Canadians really do care passionately about opera.

Bertman’s innovations in Traviata pale in comparison to some of the more bizarre interpretations inflicted upon opera in recent years, e.g. Brünnhilde as a suicide bomber in Götterdämmerung at the ENO or the chorus of Hebrew slaves in Nabucco costumed as bees at the Deutsche Oper in Berlin. Reading through reviews of the time two things seem to have upset critics most. First was that Bertman moved the setting of the opera from the 18th century to the 20th and second that he presented the action as events in the memory of Violetta whose grip on reason is loosening.

In judging Bertman’s choices it is useful to look at the background of the opera itself. Francesco Maria Piave based his libretto on the novel and play La Dame au Camélias by Alexandre Dumas fils, of 1848. To have as the title character a courtesan, basically a high-class prostitute or “she who has gone astray” to translate the Italian, disturbed the censors of Verdi’s day so much they considered changing the title to the more abstract Amore et morte. In the end they decided to move the setting back in time from the 19th to the 18th century as if to imply that such things didn’t happen in the present. Bertman, thus, in moving the setting forward undores the cosmically historical distancing and lavish gowns that distract many people from realizing what profession Violetta actually engages in and why Germont should be so upset that his son Alfredo should fall in love with her. That Violetta should so desperately hope for respectability contrary to Alfredo’s weakness and the reality of her situation leads to her breakdown both in the original and in Bertman’s version. In the original, Violetta, dying of consumption (i.e. tuberculosis), has feverish visions of a future happy life that Bertman links not just to her physical decline but to her mental decline as well.

Just as there were cheers at the premiere of Bertman’s production in 1999, there were also less vitriolic reviews than the ones quoted above. The British magazine Opera Now called the production “exciting” and “stimulating” and another British magazine Opera called the show “frequently packed a theatrical wallop.” The Toronto Sun called Bertman’s “a concept of breathtaking beauty.”

In 2005 the COC loaned the production to New Zealand Opera, which performs both in Auckland and Wellington, where, contrary to the mixed reception in Toronto, it was lavished with praise. The New Zealand Herald said, “This was brilliant mise-en-scene which alone made the production well worth the price of a ticket” and summed up, “In a phrase: not to be missed.” Wellington’s Dominion Post reported that “This is a production that has taken Auckland by storm and is set to do the same in Wellington,” one which “no lover of theatre would want to miss.”

What gives then? Has the passage of six years somehow made Bertman’s vision more acceptable? Or are the Kiwis simply more open to modern interpretations of operatic warhorses than we are? We will soon have a chance to find out for ourselves. Whatever we decide, I think most of us will agree with Brian Hunt’s conclusion in his review for The National Post in 1999: “I would think less of the Canadian Opera Company if it were not prepared to challenge Toronto’s conservatism with such vigour and confidence.”

Please see our comprehensive Opera/Music Theatre/Dance listings on page 48
MAY’s Child ....
This little fellow’s mother used to dress up his teddy bears with bow ties for an audience. He would later become known for his fondness for bow ties, and currently owns 64. That’s a Lotte bow tie! (He is also a renowned lover of puns).

Think you might know who May’s child is?
Send your best guess to musicchildren@thewholenote.com. (Anecdotes are welcome!) Winners will be selected by random draw among correct entries received by May 15th.

“Playing together” circa spring, 1947

APRIL’s Children ... Adi and Russell Braun
See page 36 for photos and their shared memories of musical life

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS! and keep up the good guessing!

TICKETS!
John Kent and a companion will enjoy dinner for two, and an intimate evening of music with Adi Braun (Chris Donnelly, piano; George Koller, bass; Mark Kelso, drums) as guests of Live@Courthouse, on May 11. www.liveatcourthouse.com

Patricia and George Hiemstra, as guests of the Elora Festival, will hear Russell Braun and the Elora Festival Singers in Oh Shenandoah: folk songs from around the world, including settings by Harry Somers, Mark Sirett, Vaughan Williams and John Rutter on Friday, August 3 at 8pm (Gambrel Barn, Elora. 519-846-0331 or 1-888-747-7550 or www.elfestival.com)

RECORDINGS!
Kitty Liu will receive Mozart: Arias & Duets Bayrakdarian, Schade & Braun (2007 Juno Award for Classical Album Of The Year: Vocal or Choral Performance, CBC Records)


Ivan Elkan will receive Adi Braun’s newest recording Rules of the Game (Blue Rider Records) www.adibraun.com

Music’s Children gratefully acknowledges Live@Courthouse, The Elora Festival, CBC Records, Blue Rider Records, and Moira Johnson.

Are you hoarding a treasured old photo? Know someone whose photograph should appear on this page?
Contact musicchildren@thewholenote.com

WholeNote MarketPlace
Please visit WholeNote MarketPlace on pages 55 and 58.
CONCERT LISTINGS
Toronto & GTA

In this issue: Metro Toronto, Ajax, Bramalea, Brampton, Kleinburg, Markham, Mississauga, Oakville, Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Vaughan.

Concerts beyond the GTA PAGE 44
Music Theatre/Opera/Dance PAGE 48
Jazz in the Clubs PAGE 50
Announcements/Lectures/Etcetera PAGE 52

Performers and repertoire change! Events are sometimes postponed or cancelled. Call ahead to confirm details with presenters.

Tuesday May 01


- 1:00: St. James’ Cathedral, Midat the Midday; Eastman School students, organ, 65 Church St. 416-364-7865 x224. Free.


- 7:30: CCO: Electra. By R. Strauss; Susan Bullock, soprano; Evva Padles, contralto; Thomas de Mallet Burgess, dir.; Richard Brathwaite, cond. Four Seasons Centre, 145 Queen St. West, 416-363-8231. 4:30-1275; 4:20-8:15 & under with adult; $20; spec price, call. For complete run see music theatre listings.


- 8:00: Encore Entertainment. Blood Brothers. By Willy Russell; Marie D’Alimonte, dir.; Ellen Kestenbaum, mus. dir; Studio Theatre, 5040 Yonge St. 416-733-0568. 1:30; 2:00 & 6:30 (Sat); 2:00 & 7:30 (Sun); 7:00 (Fri). For complete run see music theatre listings.


- 8:00: Mirvish Productions/Théatre Garantie: e60.00. Royal Alexandra Theatre, 285 King St. West, 416-872-1212, 800-411-3333. $20-45. For complete run see music theatre listings.

- 8:00: Panasonic Theatre. Manopqua Out Loud! Book & lyrics by Jeannine Laidney, Joyce Lewis, Nicole Robert, Cynthia Jones, Race Ryan & Jenny Hall, performers, 561 Yonge St. 416-872-1111. 448.95. For complete run see music theatre listings.

- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music. Community School Concert Series: Repertory Chorus & Children’s Choir: Songs of Love. Dir. Marzio Reggiani, dir. Church of St. Andrew’s, 162 Bloor St. West, 416-408-2824 x231. Free, suggested donation to Out of the Cold Program.

- 8:30: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Todd Yaniw, piano. Concert Hall, 90 Queen St. 416-408-2824 x232. Free.

Wednesday May 02


- 5:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School. Student Recital. Stephie Lanrune, trumpet, Concert Hall, 90 Queen St. 416-408-2824 x322. Free.

- 7:30: Canadian Opera Company, Louis Miller. By Yanni, Sara Fannacco, soprano; Mikhail Agitashvili, tenor; Alexander March-Behnster, baritone; Larissa Kestelio, mezzo-soprano; & others; Jose Maria Cerdonio, dir. Four Seasons Centre, 145 Queen St. West, 416-363-8231. 4:30; $20-45 (Sat) & under with adult; $20/spec price, call. For complete run see music theatre listings.


- 8:00: JAZZ FM91. Jazz Lives. Today’s jazz giants & tomorrow’s most promising superstars, Roberto Occhipinti, mus. dir, Convocation Hall, 35 York Blvd. 416-410-2254. $25.


- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Cory Knight, tenor, Concert Hall, 90 Queen St. 416-408- 2824 x322. Free.

- 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Dvorak & Barlow. Studio; Seni on lambrecht. Violin Concerto; Dvorak: Symphony #7; Chu-Liang Liu, violin; Jeffrey Kahane, cond. Roy Thomson Hall, 90 Queen St. West. 416-867-8848. Free.


- 8:00: Scrap Arts Music. Scrap Arts Music In Concert. Percussion music on scrap metal.

Join Via Salzburg, Chamber Orchestra, for its last concert of the season. Artistic director and world-renowned violinist Mayumi Seiler will be joined on-stage by her sisters Midori, Naomi and Yuri for a memorable evening of music-making, accompanied by the unique choreography of guest-dancer Sasho Ivanochko.

Via Salzburg, Chamber Orchestra
May 3 & 4, 2007, 8:00 p.m.
Glenn Gould Studio. Toronto • 250 Front Street West
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Tel: 416-205-5555 or at the Glenn Gould Studio Box Office

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May 1 • June 7 2007
ELEVENTH ANNUAL SERIES

LUNCHEON TIME CHAMBER AT

CHRIST CHURCH DEAK

May 3rd: Emma Elkinson and Alison Melville, flutes; Borys Medicki, harpsichord.

May 10th: Koichi Inoue, solo piano. Music by Albeniz and Fauré

May 17th: Corey Gemmell, violin; Mary Katherine Finch, cello; Ron Greidanus, piano. Mendelssohn Trio in c-minor

May 24th: Jonathan Tortolano, solo cello. Music by Ysaye and J.S. Bach

May 31st: Trio Nomade: Caroline Chéhadé and Andrée Picard, violins; Marie-Hélène Trempe, piano. Trios by Haydn, Moszkowski and Sarasate


Admission by donation

1570 Yonge St. (at Heath), Toronto

Music Toronto

DAVID JALBERT
May 3 at 3 p.m.

Rena Theatre, 1 Theatre Lane, Brampton. 905-674-2600. $35-365.

9:00: Take My Hand Benefit. All-in-jersey, Celebrating Canadian music, George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111. 9:00-11:00 AM.

9:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Dvorak & Beethoven. Roy Thomson Hall, Sea May 2.


8:00: Hugh’s Room, Jon Brooks Ouse and the Shepherds CD Release. Singers about Canada at war. Opening: Greg Gyll, 2261 Dundas St. West, 416-531-6804. $16; $14 (student).


Frida May 04

4:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School. Student Recital, Gabor Ekeles, clarinet, Concert Hall, 90 St. George St. 416-408-3242 x 322. Free.

7:00: Ella Perot’s Piano Studio. Student Piano Recital. Donnelly College United Church, 230 The Donway West. 416-444-8113. Free.

7:00: Richmond Hill Montessori School. Main Stage, Media in the World, Spring concert. Main Stage, Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111. $20.


7:00: The Music Gallery/Game Over the Top Festival. Michael Gira, Peter & the Wolf. Pop Avant series; sound-based music, plus soundscapes, found sound and loops. St. George the Martyr Church, 179 St. John St. 416-204-1080. $20.

7:30: Canadian Opera Company, La Traviata. By Verdi. Nicole Car/Alice Dalar, Inva Mula, soprano; Gombon Giur, Demil Sotocola, tenors; Dmitri Bertman, dir. Four Seasons Centre, 145 Yonge St. 416-323-2821. 160-2275. $20-$95 (and) $15 (and) $20 (student). For complete run see music theatre listings.


8:00: Harbour front Centre Next Steps. Andrea Nunn Dreamwalker Dance Company/Volcano. The White Stag. Dancers, poets, filmmakers, songwriters & visual artists: original composers by Gradowski, Andy Mazur, Josh Frederick, Greg Kosler, Charlie Angus, Sadi Ungerleder (Dh Suansia), musicians; Andrea Mann, art dir. choreographer. Enwave Theatre, 231 Queens Quay West. 416-873-4000. $35; $25 (student). For complete run see music theatre listings.

8:00: Minnowy Hall. Ron Saxton. Guest: Amy Millan, chantees. 15 Shuter St. 416-672-4255. 258-53-43. $40.

8:00: Performing Arts York Region. The Meridian Trio. Unusual wind and chamber music. Thankyou Presbyterian Church, 271 Centre St. 905-881-1941. 225; $20 (student).


8:00: Living Arts Centre. Valdy in Concert. Canadian pop & folk legend. CBC Theatre, 414 Living Arts Dr., Mississauga, 905-968-8000. 888-895-8988. $36; $30; $25; $20 ($20) ($20).


8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music. Community School Concert Series: Helen Jacob Stein & Gadfield Ensemble. Room 305, 80 Cremona St. 416-408-2254 x 221, 416; 454 (student).

Saturday May 05

12:00 noon: Royal Conservatory of Mu sic. Community School Concert Series: Helen Jacob Stein & Gadfield Ensemble. Room 305, 80 Cremona St. 416-408-2254 x 221, 416; 454 (student).

3:00 & 7:00: Toronto Stage Theatre Company. Music from Disney’s 101 Dalmatians! Kid’s! Mary Poppins, Cinderella, Song of the South. The Littles Mermaid, Beauty & the Beast, Aladdin. Andrew Prashad, dir. 511 Stiletto Theatre, 904 Parliament St. 416-849-8283. 250; $154 to $16. For complete run see music theatre listings.

7:00: Ann Arbor Youth Chorale’s Con cert Choir/Canadian Children’s Opera Choruses. Classical Choral Concert. For ages 5+. Run see music theatre listings.


Now 65 strong, Unionville’s Village Voices and the Rob Christian Jazz Quartet celebrate the diversity of love in its many musical forms.

Saturday May 5th at 8:00 pm

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church, 5833 Highway 7, Markham

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DEER PARK CONCERTS

129 St. Clair Avenue West (just east of Avenue Road)
Saturday-Night Organ Recital Series

Plays its 37th season

Organist

William Wright
Saturday May 5, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

Performing works of Bach, Hesse, Mozart, Widor, Mendelssohn, Rameau, Hollins, Grainger and Kerll

This is the final concert in the series and is the opening event of Organix 07, a music festival running from May 3 to June 1, 2007

General Admission $20.00
Students: $15.00

Call 416-241-9785 for ticket information or visit www.organixconcats.ca

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ETOBICOKE YOUTH CHOIR
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(see Concert Listings – Toronto)

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MAY 1 – JUNE 7 2007

... CONCERTS: Toronto and GTA

– 7:30: Oakville Chamber Orchestra, undergetable. Missakovsky: Cello Concerto in c; Vivaldi: La folia; Beethoven: Symphony #4; David Rahmer, Arpad Jaszczzenik, violins; Alisa Ham, cello; Stephane Potvin, harpsichord. Central Baptist Church, 340 Rebecca St. Oakville. 905-879-1083. 8 p.m.; $15(sat).
– 8:00: Bell’Arte Singers. Springtime with Friends: Musical celebration of the world at our doorstep; music of Canada’s diverse traditions. Guests: Cantabile Women’s Choir of Kingston, Mark Sertic, cond.; Lee Williams, music dir. Havergal College, 1451 Avenue Rd. 416-889-5879. 8:30; $15(sat).
– 8:00: Brampton Symphony Orchestra. Beethoven’s 9th Symphony. With BSO Chorus, Orchestra & soloists; Robert Reames, cond. Rose Theatre, 1 Theatre Lane, Brampton. 905-948-2400. 8 p.m.; $30(sat).
– 8:30: Massey Hall, Songy Rattler. Tenor sax player from the golden era of jazz, 15 Shuttle St. 416-927-4255. 8:30; $15(sat).
– 8:30: Mediterranean Chorus of Greater Toronto. That’s Entertainment! A cappella barbershop chorus. Guests: Charles Forghanam (Don Harron); After Hours (Doug webb, group); Carliettte, vocalist, Brad Brown, emcee; Chris Arnold, mus. dir. John Bassett Theatre, 255 Front St. W. 416-282-2603. 8:30; $15(sat).
– 8:30: Mississauga Festival Choral. Canadian Women’s Songs. Songs for Canadian female composers: Primadonna Chorale, a sakute to choral music by Mary Lou Follis, soprano & Peter Tiefenbach, piano. David Ambose, arr. dir. REIC Theatre, 4141 Living Arts Dr. Mississauga. 905-360-8000, 888-805-8888. 8 p.m.; $33(sat); $18(sun); $12 under.
– 8:30: Newtonbrook Nights Concert Series. Chamber Music Concert. Classical to contemporary. Judith Koechling, piano; Rob Titze, clarinet; Carina Reeves, cello. Newtonbrook United Church, 53 Cummer Ave. 416-222-5470. 8:30; $15(sat).
– 8:30: The Music Gallery. Arnold Dreyblatt: Composer in Residence. Classic Avant series; Compositions centered on harmonics, and just intonation, Anne Bourne, cello; Rob Clut­ton, double bass; Nick Fraser, drums; John Gwozdz, guitar; Kathleen Kajyoka, violin; Scott Thomsen; Aline Kaplan, soprano; Nurhan Arman, cond. Grace Church on the Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd. 416-499-0430. 8:30; $32(sat).

Sunday May 6

– 11:00: Solar Stage Children’s Theatre. The Beatles Brothers: Blues, jazz, world beat & soul, for ages 4 to 10. Concourse Level, 4860 Yonge St. 416-769-0111. $18.
– 2:00: Royal Conservatory of Music. Community School Concert Series. RCM Or­chestra in Concert. Concert Hall, 80 Scotia St. 416-459-2624. 3:30; $10(fam).
– 2:00: Royal Conservatory of Music. Community School Concert Series. RCM Or­chestra in Concert. Concert Hall, 80 Scotia St. 416-459-2624. 3:30; $10(fam).
– 2:30: Royal Conservatory of Music. Community School Concert Series. RCM Or­chestra in Concert. Concert Hall, 80 Scotia St. 416-459-2624. 3:30; $10(fam).
– 3:00: Village Voices. Love Notes: Love in its many musical forms, madrigals, classical & romantic songs, & show tunes. Guests: Rob Christian Jazz Quartet, Rob Christian, flute; saxophone; Barry Peters, piano; Joan Andrews, dir. St. Patrick’s Church, 102 High­way #7, Markham. 905-294-8687. 3:00; $20(fam).

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MAY 1 – JUNE 7 2007

**Georgina's on-the-Hill Church, 4800 Dundas St. West. 416-731-3599. $15; $12 (students/arts workers); $10 (ch.).**


Luciano Silva, dir. St. Dunstan of Canterbury Church, 50 Lawson Rd. 905-509-1883. $15.

- 3:00: Choirs of Grace Church on-the-Hill; Praise the Lord. I My Soul. Canticles & Anthems for Evenings; A: The Ransomed of the Lord (premiere); Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis; Carter: Praise the Lord. I My Soul; works by Holman, Kodaly, Mendelssohn, insh & Parry. $20.50; $15; $12 (adv); $8 (sr/st/underwaged).

Praise the Lord, O My Soul. Scenes & Anthems for Evensong; works by Holman, Kodaly, Mendelssohn, insh & Parry.

- 3:00: Toronto Chamber Choir. Kafefemous. Jean and Geoffrey Riggs Bach Cantate Series; Bach: Cantata BWV. 78. (Jesu, du meine Seele), with analysis & full performance. Amy Dodington, soprano; Laura Pudwell, altos; Kevin Skelton, tenor; Baroque orchestra; David Falls, dir. Speaker. Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 416-763-1895. $20; $16 (sr/st).


- 4:00: PANDA Eye Passion. Mother's Day Italian Classics Gala Concert. Italian songs, love duets, children's choruses, opera arias, and Oriental melodies. Canadian Children's Opera Chorus; Jennifer Pina, Natalie Rogerston, singers; Mario Zhang, tenor; Orchestra Toronto; Ann Cooper Gay, Errol Gay, conductors.

**The HSSB's Chief Conductor and Artistic Advisor will be joined by Vancouver Symphony Concertmaster Mark Fewer for a remarkable evening of music-making. This concert will feature the world premier of Tovey's Nine Days Wonder for solo violin, brass band and percussion commissioned by the HSSB. In this work, Mark Fewer will spin the tale of the legendary comic Shakespearean actor Will Kemp (a contemporary and friend of the playwright) who danced from London to Norwich for nine days straight in 1600. Other featured works include Holst's St. Paul's Suite; Cables' Banks of Newfoundland and Hтик扛的Mummy's Carnival. This concert is generously sponsored by Tsubaki of Canada Limited.**

**The Hanrahd Street River Band**

**Strings Attached**

Sunday, May 6, 2007, 7:30 p.m.

Jane Mallet Theatre

Bramwell Tovey, Chief Conductor

Mark Fewer, violin soloist

The HSBB's Chief Conductor and Artistic Advisor will be joined by Vancouver Symphony Concertmaster Mark Fewer for a remarkable evening of music-making. This concert will feature the world premier of Tovey's Nine Days Wonder for solo violin, brass band and percussion commissioned by the HSBB. In this work, Mark Fewer will spin the tale of the legendary comic Shakespearean actor Will Kemp (a contemporary and friend of the playwright) who danced from London to Norwich for nine days straight in 1600. Other featured works include Holst's St. Paul's Suite; Cables' Banks of Newfoundland and Hтик扛的Mummy's Carnival. This concert is generously sponsored by Tsubaki of Canada Limited.

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Get set for the HSSB’s gala fundraising event at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club's Toronto Islands Clubhouse, Monday June 18th, 2007. Tickets and information available by calling the HSSB's office: 416-426-2874
CONCERTS: Toronto and GTA

Main Stage, Toronto Centre for the Arts, 500 Young St., 416-872-1111, 1:35-193, 4:35 (post-concert wine reception).

- 4:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Community School Concert Series; RCM Choir in Concert, Vox Continental; Lyric Singers; Silver Singers; Linda Eyman, dir. St. Leonard's Church, 25 Wainfleet Ave. 416-408-2824 x221. Free.


- 7:30: Royal Conservatory of Music, Community School Concert Series; RCM Percussion Ensemble, Paul Holic, dir. Concert Hall, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x221. Free.

- 7:30: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Ching Ling Lin, double bass, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Micajah Stingless, French horn, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

- 8:00: Toronto Theatre Organ Society/ Kiwanis Club of Casa Loma/ORGANIX 07, Saint Scollich, theatre organ, in Recital Light classics, showtunes & popular songs. 1 Austin Terrace. 416-241-9785. $20.

Monday May 07

- 5:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Evangelos Grizas, double bass. 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

- 7:30: Royal Conservatory of Music. Community School Concert Series; RCM Percussion Ensemble, Paul Holic, dir. Concert Hall, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x221. Free.

- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Ching Lin, double bass, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

Tuesday May 08

- 12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company, Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre; Jazz Series: Mixed Program; Jazz/favourites & original compositions. Humber Student All-Stars. Four Seasons Centre, 145 Queen St. W. 416-408-2824 x221. Free.

- 7:30: York Symphony Orchestra, Grant Film Music: Conflagration: Chaconne from the Red Violin: Reza; La Stella Sull' Aria; Marricco: Music from the Mission; Custer: Music from 07; Williams: Harry Potter Suite. Guest: Joanna Tang, violin; Gregory Burton, cond. Markham Theatre, 171 Town Centre Blvd. 905-305-7489. $25, (7:08) (7:10).

- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital. Mark Fewer, violin/actor; Noah Houston, cello. 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

- 1:30: St. James' Cathedral, Music at Midday; Eastman School students, organ. 65 Church St. 416-384-7985 x224. Free.

- 7:30: Esprit Orchestra, Red Hot New Wave Composers Festival: Rising Star Composers. Works by skeletal, Linda, Green, Stainer and others. Patricia Green, mezzo-soprano; Brian Current, Scott Good, curators. 8:00 Opening Reception & Brian Current CD Launch. 9:30pm. Kazania (jazz, free improvisation, pop & world music. Lula Lounge. 1468 Dundas St. West. 416-815-7687. Free.

- 7:30: Royal Conservatory of Music, Community School Concert Series; RCM World Music Showcase. World music tour with students & faculty of the RCM World Music Centre. Concert Hall, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x221. Free.


- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital, Micajah Stingless, French horn, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

Wednesday May 09


- 5:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital, Hyunhee Yang, cello, Concert Hall, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

- 6:00: ORGANIX 07. Trumpet & Organ. Damascus: Transparents sans paroles; Plag: Four Themen on Paintings of Edward Munch; Kalaja: Toccata on Allein Gott, Michael Berth, trumpet; Andrei Shereiev, organ. St. Andrew's Church, 383 Jarvis St. 416-291-9785. Free.

- 6:00: Esprit Orchestra, Red Hot New Wave Composers Festival: Rising Star Composers. Works by skeletal, Linda, Green, Stainer and others. Patricia Green, mezzo-soprano; Brian Current, Scott Good, curators. 8:00 Opening Reception & Brian Current CD Launch. 9:30pm. Kazania (jazz, free improvisation, pop & world music. Lula Lounge. 1468 Dundas St. West. 416-815-7687. Free.

- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School, Student Recital, Ke Mao, mezzo-soprano. Concert Hall, 90 St, George St. 416-408-2824 x222. Free.

Syrius Sunday Salons presents

Pamina String Quartet

Schubert, Coulthard, Glick, Dvorak

Sunday May 6, 2007 3pm

Helenion Hall, 35 Hazelton Ave

Tickets $20, students $15


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Sunday May 6th, 2:00 pm

Spanish Siesta: A musical journey through Andalusia with 3 Spaniards, 2 Frenchmen, a few Russians and a Pole!

French Canadian soprano Agathe Martel - though we assure you, she is Spanish at heart! - ushers in the spring with the tantalizing sounds of castanets and swishing flamenco skirts in the music of Granados, Turina, de Falla and their honorary Spanish brothers Ravel, Debussy, Glinka, Rimsky-Korsakov, Shostakovich and Moszkowski. Artistic Directors and pianists Inna Perkiss and Boris Zarkzin join her in our exciting season finale. ¡Olé!

Enjoy the intimacy of the 19th Century Salon with our "special blend" of music, poetry and pastry!

Tickets: $45/$35/$35 adults/seniors/students

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May 1 - June 7 2007
Music at the Cathedral

The LAST NIGHT of the PROMS
FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2007 • 7:30 pm

Regimental Band of the Royal Regiment
The Choirs of St. James Cathedral • Opera Soloists Andrew Ager and David Low, conductors
$40 reserved seating with wine & cheese reception
$20 regular, $15 students/seniors
Doors open at 6:30 pm for Silent Auction in support of St. James' Singers South Africa tour

Music at the Cathedral

A GREAT AND GLORIOUS VICTORY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2007 • 7:30 pm

The Canadian première of Willcock's "A Great and Glorious Victory" and "Sea-Dogs" by Andrew Ager • Portsmouth Choral Union (UK) St. James Choral Society • St. James Singers Talisker Players Orchestra
Jonathan Willcocks, Andrew Ager, conductors
$20 regular, $15 students/seniors

Tickets available in advance (416-364-7865) or at the door

The Cathedral Church of St. James
King & Church, Toronto
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8:00: Show One Productions. Luka Okljenarovic, piano, in Recital. Schumann: Fantasie in C, Op. 17; Chopin: Nocturnes, in C, Op. 48/1 & 2; Op. 69, 1 & 2; Op. 10, 1; Op. 25; Rach-

nothoff: Prelude in G, Op. 32; Moments Musi-
caux, in c. Op. 104 & D in flat, Op. 16; & other
5040 Yonge St. 416-870-8000. $20; $15(st/ad).

8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Hadik: The Planets. Also Schmarnick: Collo Concer-
to: Richardson: Eris (world premiere). Alan Ger-
hard, cello; Peter Kundjian, cond. 7:00 discus-
son with Rick Phillips. Roy Thomson Hall, 80
Simcoe St. 416-593-8428. $35. $120.
8:30: Lula Loung. David Buchbinder’s Ca-
dasa/Kavana. Two musical styles with Italian
roots, sharing Arabic, Roma (Gypsy), Sephardic &
North African ancestry. David Buchbinder, trum-
peter/composer; Hilaro Duron, piano/composer;
Quinnel Nachoff, reeds/flute; Alexander Gajic,vi-
olin/veil; Roberto Occhipinti, bass; Mark Koza,
drums; Jorge Luis Papiosco” Torres, percuss.
1506 Dundas St. West. 416-598-0397.

8:30: Noon at Met. Street. Blues Meets Classical Guitar.
Mike Downes, bass. 681 St.Clair Ave. West.

8:00: Harbourfront. An Hour of Piano
Guitar. Works by Liszt, Granada, Tchaikovsky,
& Scriabin. Lesly Myrick, piano. 59 Belmont St.
7:00: Royal St. George’s College. Michele
Mela and Open Your Heart to Art! 120 Howland
Ave. 416-365-2940. $20; $100(10 yr tax re-
cipt).
7:30: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Hadik:
The Planets. Also Schmarnick: Collo Concerto;
Richardson: Eris (world premiere). Alan Ger-
hard, cello; Peter Kundjian, cond. 7:00 discus-
son with Rick Phillips. Roy Thomson Hall, 80
Simcoe St. 416-593-8428. $35. $120.
8:30: Lula Loung. David Buchbinder’s Ca-
dasa/Kavana. Two musical styles with Italian
roots, sharing Arabic, Roma (Gypsy), Sephardic &
North African ancestry. David Buchbinder, trum-
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Quinnel Nachoff, reeds/flute; Alexander Gajic,vi-
olin/veil; Roberto Occhipinti, bass; Mark Koza,
drums; Jorge Luis Papiosco” Torres, percuss.
1506 Dundas St. West. 416-598-0397.

9:00: Show Two Productions. Luka
Mendelssohn’s Lobgesang
Hymn of Praise

The concert will also include Alto Rhapsody, Schicksalslied and Nanie, by Johannes Brahms.

NOEL EDISON, conductor
LESLIE FAGAN, soprano
SUSAN PLATTS, mezzo-soprano
LAWRENCE WILFORD, tenor
THE FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

Friday, May 11, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.
7:15 p.m. pre-concert chat with Rick Phillips of CBC Radio
Yorkminster Park Baptist Church
1585 Yonge Street, Toronto

Tickets: $30-$65
Tickets: 416-598-0422 x 21

... CONCERTS: Toronto and GTA

MUSIC at TIMOTHY’S
Rutter’s “Magnificat”
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Friday, May 11, 2007
7:30 PM

Tickets available at the door or by phone at 416-925-5977
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416-925-5977
www.temc.net/music-concerts.html

May 1 - June 7 2007
Afro-pop, reggae, soul and hip-hop, with Tiken Jah Fakoly, K’naan, Amadou Bagayogo, guitar; Les Nubians, female hip-hop collective & Emmanuel Mabe. Lula Lounge, 1585 Dundas St. West. 416-589-0397; 425; $20 adv.

Saturday May 12

11:00am & 2:00: Solar Stage Children’s Theatre. Pincocchio. Adapted by William Martyn, for ages 3 to 10. Concourse Level, 4950 Yonge St. 416-368-8031. $13. For complete run see music theatre listings.


6:30: St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church. ORGANic Evolution Concert: Exploring MIDI Technology in Restored Casavant. Selection of various genres demonstrating the potential of this technology, interspersed with mini-lecture. David Smith, Rob Adlers, organ. 383 Jarvis St. 416-705-2522. $10.

Saturday, May 12, 8 p.m.

JANÉ MALLET THEATRE

Forte 10th Anniversary Concert

with a little help from our friends

JANÉ MALLET THEATRE

Forte 10th Anniversary Concert

with a little help from our friends

Saturday, May 12, 8 p.m.

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Forte 10th Anniversary Concert

with a little help from our friends

Saturday, May 12, 8 p.m.

JANÉ MALLET THEATRE

Forte 10th Anniversary Concert

with a little help from our friends
Montreal May 14

- 7:30: Associates of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Ruddolf Family Players. Davina Bruce, Duce; Luciano Scirello; Brenda Goodin; Medley: Pavane for a Dead Princess; Haydn: London Trio #1; Gersh: Kaddish. Kathleen Raffi, flute; Theresa Rudolph, violin; John Rudolph; Daniel Murphy, percussion, Trini-tv-St. Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor St. W. 416-221-8517, 416-848-6403 (adv.);
- 8:00: Al Green Theatre at the Mills Nanadal JCC. David Buchbinder’s Odessa/Havana Suite. Two musical styles with Ukrainian roots, featuring Alexei Rudolph, violin/viola; Roberto Occhipinti, bass; Mark Kalos, drums; Jorge Luis "Papiosco" Torres, percussion. 750 Spadina Ave. 416-524-6211 x 6, 416-5196;
- 9:00: East York Concert Band, Around the World with Music: Songs of the American West; Korean Folk Rhapsody; In a Persian Market; Temple of the Nile; Carnival of Venice (trumpet trio); British Isles Medley; Cape Cod Calypso; Canada Centennial theme song (CA-NA-OA); Erin Walker, music director. Blue Danube Restaurant, 1889 Eglinton Ave. R. 416-298-1658. 12.50.
- 8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School. Student Recital. Paul Alarcon, flute. Rm 305, 80 St. George St. 416-408-2624 322. Free.

Jacques Israelievitch violin
Michael Israelievitch percussion


Monday May 15

- 8:00: Al Green Theatre at the Milnadal JCC. Jacques Israelievitch & Friends: Hammer & Bow. Chamber music, Jacques Israelievitch, violin; Michael Israelievitch, percussion. 750 Spadina Ave. 416-924-6211 x 120; 818/863-120 (adv.); $10 (sr/member); $10 (elem/st);
- 8:00: The Music Gallery/Rough Idea. VT007: Cor Fuhler’s Circula. Jazz Avant 2007 series: music from The Netherlands. Cor Fuhler; cuentistas/organ/fourth electronics; Anna de Borge, flute; electronics; AB Baars, clarinet/trumpet saxophone; Tobias Delius, tenor saxophonicl; Nore Muller, cimbalom; Michael Vatcher, percussion/singing saw; Tony Buck, percussion. Wilbert de Joode, double bass. St. George the Martyr Church, 197 John St. 416-304-1165. 20; 15; 15 (members); 10 (sr);
- 8:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The Magical Music of Disney. The Lion King, Beauty and the Beast, Mary Poppins, Peter Pan, Aladdin & more. Ashley Brown, soprano; Sally Taggie, tenor; Jeffrey Berger, baritone; Mississauga Choral Society; Erich Kunzel, cond. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. 416 665-3828. 43-$96.

Tuesday May 15

- 12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company. Richard Bradshaw Amphi-theatre World Music Series.

Toronto Children’s Chorus
Jean Ashworth Barrie, O.Ont., Founder/Music Director

To Everything There is a Season

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2007 - 4:00 p.m.
ROY THOMSON HALL

Celebrating the unique partnership and legacy of Founding Director Jean Ashworth Barrie, Accompanist Ruth Watson Henderson, and Heather Wood, Manager, Artistic Administration, in their final concert.

Featuring music from five centuries and two World Premieres

To Everything There is a Season, by Derek Holman

When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple, by Ruth Watson Henderson

Carol Anderson, Tevi Dun, and Marie-Claire Gervasoni, Conductors
Ruth Watson Henderson, Piano
Christopher Dawes, Organ

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Presented by
The Associates of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra

The Rudolph Family Players with Special Guest

In concert at
Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre
447 Bloor Street West Toronto

Monday May 14, 2007 7:30pm

The Program will feature
François Devienne - Duo For Flute and Viola
Raymond Luedke - Silence! For Viola and Percussion
Fred Stride, Arranger. Benny Goodman Medley for Flute, Marimba and Drum Set
Joe Green Xylophone Xylophone, Flutes, Percussion
Maurice Ravel Pavane for a Dead Princess, Flute, Viola, Vibes
Joseph Haydn London Trio #1 Flute Viola Marimba

Artists
Kathleen Rudolph, Flute, Theresa Rudolph, Viola, John Rudolph, Percussion + Guest Daniel Morphy, Percussion

Tickets $17.00 Regular, $14.00 Students / Seniors
For further information call (416) 221-8742
**CONCERTS: Toronto and GTA**

St. Andrew’s Church, 383 Jarvis St. 416-241-9785, $5.
- 8:00: St. Augustine’s Church, 383 Bay St. 416-977-5611, $10.

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**Spring Music on the Hill**

**Thursdays, 12:15 - 1:00 pm**


**MAY 24** - “Treasured Memories” Giori Gage, vocals. Carol Gibson, piano.


**JUNE 7** - “Music in the Kitchen” Rose Bolton, fiddle. Abby Zott, vocals, guitar, bodhran, recorder.


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**The Toronto Choral Society**

**Presented by**

**Ein deutsches Requiem**

by Johannes Brahms

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**Five Mystical Songs**

by R. Vaughan Williams

Cantate pour une joie

by Pierre Mercure

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**Wednesday, May 16, 2007 7:30 PM**

Eastminster United Church

310 Danforth Avenue

Tickets $20 from choir members or at the door

For more information, please visit our website at www.torontochoralsociety.org or call 416-410-3309

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**Festival Series: The Music of Renaissance England**

- 7:30: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School. Student Recital, Joseph Angelo, tenor. Concert Hall, 90 St. George St. 416-408-2824 x322, Free.

**Thursday May 17**

- 12:00 noon: Canadian Opera Company, Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre Renaissance

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**Friday May 10**


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**Saturday May 19, 2007 at 8 pm**

Hillcrest Hall 35 Hazelton Avenue. Toronto

For more information, email musicinord@sympatico.ca or call 416 535 9956

**www.musiciansinordinary.ca**
5th Annual WholeNote

A Directory of Choirs
May 2007
Welcome to The WholeNote’s fifth annual choral directory – the 2007 Canary Pages! This is something to celebrate, as these pages overflow with an abundance of rich and varied choral programs. The short stories of nearly 140 choirs are captured here and on our website. These stories traverse the Province, span generations, and encompass centuries of music and culture. Roughly 10,000 individuals are involved, in a wide range of organizational and artistic roles, and most of them freely contribute their time and talents to making their music. And through it all, like a golden thread, runs an incredible dedication and commitment to supporting local causes and charitable initiatives. These pages are a wonderful testament to the importance of music in our community. Enjoy!

Speaking of Choirs

By Larry Beckwith

An intriguing and delightful conversation I had recently got me thinking about the challenges of making a living as an entrepreneurial musician with something to say in 2007.

We tend to take our musical organizations – big and small – for granted and assume that they are healthy and solid and will be with us forever. Yet, many of the leaders of these organizations are subsidized, in a way, by institutions, thereby allowing them to do the important work that they do with their concert-giving outfits.

A perusal of the sensational Wholenote Canary Pages this month brings one into contact with the plethora of choral organizations that strongly contribute to the cultural and spiritual well-being of the Greater Toronto Area. And the staggering fact is that the artistic leaders of most of these organizations do it in their “spare time”.

I first noticed the phenomenon of the church organist with a desire to lead a secular concert-giving outfit back in the early 1980s, when I was a part of the Deer Park United Church Choir under William Wright. Having a first-rate group of paid and volunteer singers in his choir and a goal to perform the larger choral works of J.S. Bach, William decided to form the Toronto Bach Society. On the evening of the inaugural presentation of the first three cantatas of the Christmas Oratorio (with Ben Heppner as the tenor soloist, no less), the audience was lined up around the block to get in and the church was jam-packed with hundreds more people than one would see at a Sunday morning service.

I spoke to Mary Legge, who is stepping down as the director of the Penthelia Singers at their 10th anniversary concert on June 3 at the Glenn Gould Studio. The choir has rehearsed and performed at Mary’s church – Rosedale Presbyterian – for the past nine years. Mary tells me, “At a recent Celtic Christmas concert of the choir’s, which was sold out, one of the people from the church looked at the crowd and said, ‘How do you do that?’”

She goes on to say that the church has always been “very supportive,” giving Penthelia rehearsal space and room for their library, and it’s clear that she reciprocates that support by working with young people in the congregation and by maintaining the handbell choir at the church, on top of being its paid organist and choir director.

In the west end of the city at St. Wilfrid’s Anglican Church, James Wells plays the organ and leads the choir in Sunday services. He has recently formed a secular choir called vox works, that performs a program exploring the relationship between words and vocal ensemble music on May 5 and 6.

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene (and Calvin Presbyterian Church before that), Stephanie Martin is in charge of preparing the music for weekly Sunday worship services. Her community choir, Pax Christi Chorale, gives two major concerts a year and their performances pack Grace Church on-the-Hill to the rafters.

Wayne Strongman, a veteran opera and choral leader in Toronto, has maintained an association with Rosedale United Church, and been its organist and choir director for many, many years, in addition to his many other duties and projects. John Tuttle’s Exultate Chamber Singers make their home at St. Thomas’ United Church, and rehearse and perform there, almost as a community outreach project. They give a concert of works by Bach and Buxtehude at the church on May 11.

Other examples of this phenomenon that spring to mind are Brainerd Blyden-Taylor, who was associated with St. Paul’s Anglican Church, and is now based at St. Timothy’s. He now directs the celebrated Nathaniel Dett Chorale, which gives a concert on May 25 at the George Weston Hall.

The composer Eleanor Daley is another; she accompanies, writes music and is the music director at Roselawn United Church.

Paul Jenkins, mainstay of the Toronto Consort and ubiquitous harpsichordist and tenor soloist about town, is the organist at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

Noel Edison, director of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir – who give a performance of Mendelssohn’s Lobgesang on May 5 – and artistic director of the Elora Festival, has been the organist and choirmaster at St. John’s Elora for many years, and is found there most Thursday nights rehearsing the church choir for Sunday services.

Becca Whilta can be found most Sunday mornings directing the music at the Church of the Holy Trinity and yet she and her husband, Alan Gasser, are active in many of the city’s progressive choral groups, such as the Echo Women’s Choir, who give a special concert on May 6 entitled Working in Harmony.

So Mary Legge isn’t the only church organist and choir director to found and direct a “secular” choral organization by any means. We wish her well in her retirement from the Penthelia Singers, a special choir that formed out of alumni from the Claude Watson program at Earl Haig Secondary School, including the likes of Michele DeBoer, Suba Sankaran and Alice Malach, who has been accompanying the choir and is now taking over its directorship.

“I just jump at the words ‘choral music,’” says Mary. “They make my heart soar.” Obviously, this is also the case with audience members across the city, and this is a fact that church leaders must recognize, as they support and encourage their music directors to house secular choir within the walls of their churches.

This is a special month at WholeNote, with the publication of the Canary Pages. In addition to what I have mentioned here, there are numerous other exciting choral concerts taking place. I encourage you to search the listings for the ones that appeal to you.

Larry Beckwith has authored WholeNote’s Choral Scene column since November 1997 at which time he made it his mission to “gently nudge WholeNote readers in the direction of intriguing choral events in and around Toronto ... with... one or two trips beyond the city limits from time to time.”
ACHILL CHORAL SOCIETY

ACS is a mixed 85-voice community choir of accomplished amateur singers, under founding director A. Dale Wood, that delights audiences in Alliston, Beeton, Caledon, Orangeville, Shelburne and Tottenham. Founded in 1982, the choir attracts high calibre guests and accompanists. Extensive repertoire includes classical and contemporary music, and tours have taken us to England, Holland and Ireland. 25th Anniversary celebrations begin early November 2007 with a spirited concert for our troops and their families at Base Borden. In November, our Christmas concert series will premiere a commissioned work by A. Dale Wood. Concert series: November and April. Rehearsals: Wednesday evenings in Hockley. Auditions: twice annually.

Jerrry Black 905-880-8111
jaback@outlook.com
www.achill.ca

ALEXANDER SINGERS AND PLAYERS

We started in 1987 as a summer choir and under the enthusiastic direction of Angela Hawaleshka have evolved to enjoy near-professional status; indeed, many members have gone on to successful professional careers. Under a strong educational mandate, members grow in their ability to sing a wide variety of musical styles, from masses and opera to spirituals, carols and Hebrew songs. Our highly acclaimed spring productions have included The Merry Widow, Die Fledermäus, Fiddler on the Roof, Most Happy Fella and G&S operettas. Rehearsals start in September for our December concerts. All are welcome to join our Festival Choir.

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

ALL THE KING'S VOICES

All the King's Voices is a mixed-voice semi-professional community choir that sings works from a wide variety of genres. Founder and conductor David King is assisted by six highly trained section leaders in providing professional leadership. Next season's concerts include Requiem by Mozart and Fauré (with orchestra), Joy to the World (carols from Worcester Cathedral) and Spring, The Sweet Spring (featuring the music of Steven Chatman). The choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at Willowdale United Church, 349 Kennedy Avenue. David King also offers vocal technique and sight singing courses to any singers wishing to improve their skills.

David King 416-225-2255
allthekingvoices@canada.com
www.allthekingvoices.ca

AMADEUS CHOIR

Founded 32 years ago, the Amadeus Choir is the 100-voice, semi-professional choir-in-residence at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. During Artistic Director Lydia Adams's twenty-two years as conductor, Amadeus has grown into one of Canada's preeminent choral groups. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings at Church of The Ascension, 33 Overland Drive, Don Mills. Membership auditions are in May/June each year. The 2007/08 season includes the Choir's annual four-concert series, single performances, run-outs and recording sessions, and features performances of works by composers such as John Rutter, Ruth Watson Henderson, Mendelssohn, Vaughan Williams, Arvo Pärt, Peter Tiefenbach, Imant Raminsh and more.

Judith Young 416-446-0188
amachoir@idirect.com
www.amadeuschoir.com

ANGEL CHOIR OF TORONTO

A children's choir open to ages 8 to 14 within the Chinese community, this is an independent non-profit organization established in March 2006. The choir mainly sings traditional songs with a positive, bright, and benevolent mood. The goal of the choir is to stimulate and enrich the musical culture and to connect various other communities through performances. The Music Director is Maestro Matthew Jaskiewicz, who has extensive experience in choral and orchestra conducting. Rehearsals are Fridays 7-9pm at St. Timothy Catholic School, 25 Rochelle Cres, Scarborough.

choirch@yahoo.ca
www.angelchoir.ca

ANNEX SINGERS OF TORONTO

Annex Singers of Toronto is a vibrant community choir with a growing reputation for performing diverse and exciting music. We present formal concerts in December and early spring, and a light-hearted, themed cabaret at the end of May, as well as community appearances. We welcome new members with a broad range of vocal experience. Rehearsals are held weekly on Mondays at 7:30 pm at St. Thomas' Anglican Church Hall, 383 Huron Street, beginning the second Monday in September. The leadership of Director Maria Case brings a dynamic approach to all of our repertoire.

Richard Partington 416-968-7747
margaret.rice@sympatico.ca

BACH ELGAR CHOIR OF HAMILTON

The Bach Elgar Choir of Hamilton is the leading symphonic choir in the Hamilton/Burlington region and the second-oldest choral organization in Canada. The choir has performed many premieres including Verdi's Requiem, Henry Gorecki's Missere and Ruth Watson Henderson's The Magic of God's World. This season the choir presented the Canadian première of Johann Michael Haydn's Missa in honorem Sanctae Ursulae. Now entering its 103rd year, the Bach Elgar Choir is celebrating a joyful new beginning with its inspiring conductor, Howard Dyck, and looks forward to a fascinating and exciting future. For an audition call 905-527-5995 or send an email.

Robert Wood 905-627-5995
bachelgar@bellnet.ca
www.bachelgar.com

BACH FESTIVAL SINGERS

BFS is a multi-generational ensemble of accomplished musicians dedicated to choral singing as a source of musical inspiration, community-making and social action. With distinctive repertoire conducted by Artistic Director Doreen Rao, the Bach Festival Singers will serve as a chamber choir for the International Bach Festival under Principal Guest Conductor Helmut Rilling, as a symphonic chorus for selected performances with the TSO (including the St. John Passion in fall 2007) and in concert collaborations at the University of Toronto. Membership is awarded by audition. Rehearsals Monday evenings at the Faculty of Music.

Vera Broekhuysen 416-970-0463
choral.music@utoronto.ca

BACH TO BLUES COMPANY

The Bach to Blues Company is a Stouffville-based mixed voice choir dedicated to performing beautiful choral music from a wide range of periods and styles. Proceeds from concerts go to charitable causes that are often locally based. Since 1998, we have raised over $20,000 for charity. We are currently looking for additions to the alto, tenor and bass sections. Practices take place every Tuesday 7:30-9:30pm at the United Church, 34 Church Street in Stouffville.

Ann Gage 905-649-2684
sing@bacthoblues.com
www.bachtoblues.com

BEL'ARTE SINGERS

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2007/08, Bel'Arte was founded in 1988 by Dr. Lee Willingham and a group of enthusiastic colleagues. The season generally consists of three-concert subscription series together with guest appearances with other ensembles. The choir has established itself in all genres of repertoire and styles through concerts, recordings, and broadcasts. The Bel'Arte Singers participate in special benefit concerts as well as donating a portion of concert proceeds to charity. Rehearsals are held Sat-
BURLINGTON CIVIC CHORALE
Founded in 1994, this 25-30 voice SATB community choir presents a wide spectrum of choral music throughout the year, ranging from Renaissance and Baroque to modern, classical and jazz. Under the direction of Dr. Gary Fisher, the choir’s performances are often accompanied by professional soloists and chamber ensembles such as the Talisker Players. There are three main concerts each year. Auditions are held in September and are open to men and women 18 years and over who have some sight-reading ability. Rehearsals take place Tuesdays from 7:15-9:30pm at St. Christopher’s Anglican Church, Guelph Line, Burlington.

Gary Fisher 905-855-2995
gfisher63@interlog.com
burlingtoncivichorale.ca

CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHOIR
The Calvin Presbyterian Church Choir is a four-part choral group with four paid soloists and about 20 volunteers. We perform for all services at Calvin Presbyterian and welcome other offers. We rehearse Thursdays 6:30-8pm, and we are eager for new members! The choir has been steadily growing and would love new members! Our theme is Christian, and we perform a large variety of music including early music, Classical and Romantic, spirituals and contemporary popular styles. No previous experience necessary. Rehearsals are held in the sanctuary of Calvin Church, 26 Delisle Ave, one block north of St. Clair and Yonge.

Sandy Thorburn 416-604-7892 or 416-923-9030
sandythorburn@yahoo.com
calvinchurchtoronto.com

Canadian Children’s Opera Chorus
In its 39th season, the CCOC consists of five choirs for ages 5-20 and is the only permanent children’s opera chorus in Canada to regularly commission and produce operas for children. The programme prepares young people for the vibrant world of opera by offering musical and dramatic training and professional experience. Members regularly perform with the Canadian Opera Company, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and other major professional organizations throughout the GTA. Nominated for a Juno award in 2007. Rehearsals take place weekdays after school in the downtown area. Auditions are held April–June. Artistic Director: Ann Cooper Gay.

Harvey Patterson, Music Director 416-239-5821
thecanadiansingers.ca.inter.net
www.thecanadiansingers.com

CANADIAN ORPHEUS MALE CHOIR
Now in its 30th season, the COMC is a well-balanced auditioned ensemble of 70 singers. Now under the direction of Dr. Gary Fisher, the choir has performed close to 500 concerts in such venues as National Arts Centre in Ottawa, Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and Royal Albert Hall in London. The choir has also toured continental Europe, Ireland, Canada and USA. Each season the choir presents concerts throughout Southern Ontario, supporting charities, and has helped raise more than $700,000. Repertoire consists of classical, sacred, pop, jazz, gospel, and secular music.

Ted van Overdiik 905-659-7046
twavano@hotmail.com
www.comc.ca

Canadian Singers
The Canadian Singers have performed in Roy Thomson Hall, Scarborough Civic Centre, Hart House, Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts and Markham Theatre with Mark DuBois, Peter Appleby, Dave Broadfoot, Lona Boyd and Natalie McMaster. In 2007 the Singers will present their revue Will the Real Canada Please Stand Up? in the Assembly Hall, Etobicoke. They will also be performing three songs at the salute to Johnny Cash in June and have three further concerts scheduled, two in the Scarborough Civic Centre and a Christmas evening at Montgomery’s Inn, Etobicoke.

Harvey Patterson, Music Director 416-239-5821
thecanadiansingers.ca.inter.net
www.thecanadiansingers.com

Brampton Festival Singers
BFS is a mixed voice community choral ensemble, serving Brampton since 1985, striving for excellence in music from classical to pop. We are always looking for new voices, especially tenors and basses, for the 30-person choir. Rehearsals are every Tuesday evening at Grace United Church, 156 Main Street North in Brampton. We perform three concerts a year with often more than one performance per concert. The music director is Robert Henning.

Carol Barber 905-450-5659
info@bramptonfestivalsingersinc.org
www.bramptonfestivalsingersinc.org

CANTABLE CHORALE OF YORK REGION
Cantabile Chorale, a 40-voice mixed adult choir founded in 1973 by Robert Richardson, performs 8-10 times a year, frequently for charity. The choir has a broad repertoire embracing classical and contemporary works, both sacred and secular, and often performs with other musical ensembles and features guest musicians. Membership is by audition and new choristers are always welcome. Applicants should have good sight-reading ability and a commitment to the joy and discipline of choral singing. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings in Thornhill from September to June. The choir holds an annual weekend retreat in September, and occasionally arranges weekend tours.

Robert Richardson 905-731-8318
hello@cantabile.ca
www.cantabile.ca

Cantabile Chorale of Toronto, Inc.
From palm trees to maple trees... from white-sand beaches to snow-filled lanes. This describes the range of music that the Caribbean Chorale of Toronto, Inc. performs. Under the leadership of Music Director, David Murelle, this choir’s wide

CARIBBEAN CHORALE OF TORONTO, INC.

BETH TIKVAH SYNAGOGUE CHORUS
The BT choir sings in synagogue services on Saturday mornings and holidays throughout the year (once a month on average). We also have a concert choir which performs liturgical and non-liturgical Jewish music in concerts. The choir, currently led by Beth Tikvah Music Director Eyal Bitton, was formed 40 years ago and was previously conducted by the late Srul Irving Glick.

Eyal Bitton, Music Director 416-932-5297 eyal7@hotmail.com
www.musicbettehtikvah.com

BRAMPTON FESTIVAL YOUTH CHOIR
BFYC is for singers between the ages of 8 and 15. Our purpose is to offer Brampton youth diverse musical experiences in the context of choral excellence. Rehearsals are 6:45-8pm on Tuesdays, and we perform regularly in Brampton and surrounding areas, singing music in a variety of styles and genres. Choristers will receive instruction in basic music history and theory, vocal technique, and stage deportment. Voice-placement auditions are held on a regular basis enabling us to gauge the ability of the youngster. The choir is funded by the Trillium Foundation and the Brampton Arts Council.

Carol Barber 905-450-5659
info@bramptonfestivalsingersinc.org
www.bramptonfestivalsingersinc.org
repertoire includes classical, gospel, and Caribbean folk music. Members from the Caribbean islands and those who share the spirit of the Caribbean formed the Caribbean Chorale of Toronto Inc. in 1993. This non-profit organization was incorporated in 1995.

Pauline Goodman 416-493-3251
cctmembership@hotmail.com

CELLAR SINGERS
Directed by Albert Greer with Blair Bailey, accompanist, the Cellar Singers are in their 39th year. They present four major concerts each season in the Huronia-Muskoka area. This season the Cellar Singers will also be performing two concerts in the Algonquin Theatre in Huntsville. Performances include complete traditional oratorios, with professional vocal soloists and orchestras, shorter works, and Canadian compositions. The 80-member, auditioned choir rehearses weekly for three hours, has participated in many special performances, and toured internationally. They have two Christmas CDs available through their web site. All choristers volunteer for some organizational duties and participate in fundraising.

Wayne Noble 705-327-8280
www.thecellarsingers.com

CENTENARY UNITED CHURCH CHOIR
This 25-member auditioned choir sings weekly services and presents regular concerts from September to June. The choir has four paid professional leads and four student scholars studying at university and college level. The choir has collaborated in the past with the Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra presenting world premiere works for chorus and orchestra. In 2006 the choir performed the Ontario premiere of Karl Jenkins’ Requiem with the Brott National Academy Orchestra. This fall the choir will be performing Duruflé’s Requiem.

Shawn Grenke 905-522-6843 x26
shawn.grenke@utoronto.ca
www.centenaryunited.com

CHORUS ORONTIO
Choirs Ontario is a not-for-profit arts service organization dedicated to the support and promotion of choral music throughout Ontario. Our members include choirs, conductors, choristers, composers, administrators, educators, and choral music lovers from every corner of the province. We support the growth and raise the profile of Ontario choral music through a variety of programmes including the Ontario Youth Choir, The Ruth Watson Henderson Choral Composition Competition, and the President’s Leadership Award. Benefits of membership include access to our extensive choral library, reduced choir insurance rates, and free concert listings on our website. Connect chorially. Make life sing!

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

CHORUS NIAGARA
Chorus Niagara is Niagara’s premier choral organization, now entering its 45th season. Under the direction of Robert Cooper, we are a 100-voice adult choir. We perform 4 concerts per season, which begins in September until the end of June. We perform mainly classical works. Our performances take place mainly in St. Catharines. We are always looking for new singers. In September we will be starting a Children’s Choir. Please visit our website for details of our upcoming season and how to get tickets.

Johanna Cotte, Administrative Director 905-371-1518
Pam Gilmore, auditions 905-371-1616
www.chorusniagara.ca

CHORES OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE
Our choirs are composed of two separate ensembles: the Ritual Choir, which sings plainchant, and the Gallery Choir, which sings unaccompanied polyphony, and is especially known for its interpretation of the compositions of Dr. Healey Willan. The choir rehearse on Thursday evenings for the hymns, masses and motets sung at the 11am Sunday Mass, and occasional concerts. The choir welcome new members. Please contact director of music Dr. Willis Noble or assistant conductor Judith Young to arrange an audition.

Willie Noble 416-878-3611
Judith Young 416-445-0188
smmembers@hotmail.com
www.stmarymagdalene.ca

CHRIST CHURCH DEER PARK
At this dynamic Anglican parish in mid-town Toronto there are three choirs, all under the direction of Bruce Kirkpatrick Hill. The Senior Choir, led by eight professionals, sings the best of Anglican liturgical music every Sunday morning at 11am, with concerts and other special events, September to June. They rehearse Thursday nights at 7:30pm. A less ambitious adult choir, led by four professional singers, rehearses Thursdays, 6:45-7:15pm and sings twice a month at the 9:15am Sunday service. The Junior Choir learns music theory and the fundamentals of singing; they rehearse Wednesday afternoons 4:00-5:10pm, and sing two Sundays a month.

Bruce K. Hill 416-520-5211 x28
bkhill@christchurchdeerpark.org
www.christchurchdeerpark.org

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

Zoë Cunningham, Chorus Administrator 416-410-5022
info@commonthreadchorus.ca
www.commonthreadchorus.ca

COUNTY TOWN SINGERS
CTS started as a small community choir to celebrate Canada’s centennial year. Under the direction of Barbara Ouellette, we are still “singing for the love of it”, 40 years later. We are a 60-70-voice auditioned choir with a varied repertoire from show tunes to spirituals, and folk to classical. We hold two major concerts per year, December and May, and concerts at smaller venues such as nursing homes or special functions such as the 2005 Kia Cup Curling Championships in Whitby. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:30-10pm at the Whitby Seniors Centre. Auditions are the first three Wednesdays of September and January.

Janice Aucoc 905-728-3386
janay2000@rogers.com
www.countytownsingers.com

DACAPO CHAMBER CHOIR
Founded by director Leonard Enns in 1998, the DaCapo Chamber Choir is dedicated to exploring unaccompanied music, primarily of the 20th century and later. Our performance season consists of three annual concerts in Kitchener-Waterloo, one in the fall around Remembrance Day, a mid-winter, and a spring concert. The choir has been named a semi-finalist (2006) and finalist (2004) in the CBC Choral Competition, has performed with renowned groups such as TACTUS and members of the Penderecki Quartet, and has released a critically acclaimed CD, Still, and has a follow-up CD currently in the planning stages.

Sara Martin, manager 519-725-7549
info@dacapochamberchoir.ca
www.dacapochamberchoir.ca

DARBASI
Darbazi is an eleven-member Toronto-based ensemble that performs the distinctive three-part polyphony from the Black Sea Republic of Georgia. With repertoire ranging from sacred chants to exuberant drinking songs, we seek to broaden awareness of Georgia’s astonishingly varied musical heritage. Cultural exchange with legendary Georgian singers has contributed to Darbazi’s authentic voice. Formed in 1995, we have performed around southern Ontario, and in Montreal and St. John’s. We were most honoured by the enthusiastic response from Georgian audiences to our performances in Tbilisi, Georgia (2002 and 2006), including numerous television appearances. Available for performances.

Ray Kinashiya 416-817-8571
baniquest@sympatico.ca
www.darbazi.com
**East York Choir**

EYC, an auditioned ensemble founded in 1988, performs choral selections from a range of genres, often in collaboration with other artists. The artistic director is Jenny Crober and our accompanist is Elizabeth Acke. Our season consists of two concerts, as well as performances at a variety of community events, including benefit concerts. On Sunday May 27, at 3:00pm, at Eastminster United Church, our Spring Soul concert will feature folk songs, spirituals, and African music with guest percussionists, Fule Badoe and Larry Graves, and storyteller/dancer, Adwoa Badoe. Rehearsals are Monday evenings at Leaside Presbyterian Church, 670 Eglinton Ave. East of Bayview Ave.

Jenny Crober 416-463-8225
eastyorkchoir@sympatico.ca
www.eastyork.org/eychoir.htm

**Echo Women’s Choir**

Echo is a 70-voice community choir open to women from all walks of life. Echo sings each Tuesday night at Holy Trinity (beside the Eaton Centre), performs at city-wide grass-roots events, and holds December and May concerts. Echo, a non-auditioned choir co-led by Becca Whita and Alan Gasser, aims to build a strong, varied and vibrant culture and community through song. Repertoire includes music from village singing traditions around the world and newly-commissioned music. Echo aims to keep membership fees and concert tickets accessible to all. While membership is open, there is sometimes a short waiting list. Spring ’07 concert: **Working in Harmony**, May 6, 3 pm at Holy Trinity.

Becca Whita 416-588-9050 x3
info@echochoir@gmail.com
www.echowomenschoir.ca

**Elmer Iseler Singers**

EIS is a 20-voice professional chamber choir based in Toronto. Founded in 1979 by Dr. Elmer Iseler and now directed by the acclaimed Lydia Adams, the Singers are known for their devoted musical background and interpreters of range and valued for their contributions to masterclasses and workshops by schools and community choirs. In Spring 2007, the Get Music educational outreach initiative will be launched. In salute to the Canadian Composer, EIS has recorded eight CDs in eight years with Lydia Adams! Annual auditions are in May. Weekly rehearsals, a Toronto concert series, touring and recording put the Elmer Iseler Singers among Canada’s illustrious choral ensembles.

Jesse Iseler 416-217-9537
info@elmeriselsingers.com
www.elmeriselsingers.com

**Elora Festival Singers**

EFS is a 24-singer professional choir founded in 1980 by Artistic Director Noel Edison. EFS has been hailed as Canada’s top chamber choir by the Canada Arts Council and by reviewers and patrons alike. For twenty years EFS has been the choir-in-residence at the renowned Elora Festival; from September to May presents a regular concert series in Elora, Guelph and Toronto; and in 1997 became the professional core of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Through their many recordings and touring the Singers continue to reach audiences around the world. Annual auditions are held in January.

Marilyn van Wyk; Robin Vaillancourt
Auditions 519-846-0331
coordinator@info@elorafestival.com
www.elorafestival.com

**Ensemble Tryptych Chamber Choir**

Ensemble Tryptych Chamber Choir (ETCC) is a mixed voice choir of 30 singers under the inspired direction of Lenard Whiting with accompanist Lawrence Green. Four annual concerts present renaissance to contemporary music including oratorio, opera, smaller works, and Canadian compositions. The choir is open to all. New choristers are welcome, especially tenors! Auditions by appointment in September. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays 7:30-9:30pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2737 Bayview Ave. from September to May.

Lenard Whiting 416-763-5086 x3
etcc@tryptych.org
www.tryptych.org

**Exultate Chamber Singers**

For more than 25 years, Exultate has garnered praise as a precise, passionate ensemble with a wide-ranging repertoire. Established by conductor John Tuttle, Exultate is enriched by the musicianship and varied backgrounds of its 22 members. Exultate launched its fourth CD, *All around the Circle: a collection of Canadian folk songs*, in 2005. Exultate is a 3-time winner of the Healey Willan Prize, awarded by the Canada Council for the Arts. Exultate presents a four-concert subscription series in Toronto and makes guest appearances in various Ontario communities. Auditions are held as required to fill vacancies.

Bill Shuttleworth 905-877-8321
www.georgetownbarchoral.org

**Forte — The Toronto Men’s Choir**

Forte, now in its 10th season, is a non-profit, auditioned group dedicated to highlighting the talents of the gay community and building bridges to other communities through performance of diverse musical and theatrical repertoire. Under the musical direction of Edward Conlin, the 24-member TTBB chorus mounts annual holiday and spring productions and performs at many community events. The season runs from the first week of September until after the annual Toronto Pride Week activities. Auditions are in September and January. Rehearsals are Mondays 6:30-9:30pm at St. Andrew’s United Church, 117 Bloor Street East.

Vincent Caruso, president
416-763-3783
forte-chorus@rogers.com
www.forte-chorus.com

**Georgetown Bach Chorale**

A non-profit chamber choir, GBC has an auditioned membership of 21 voices. Founded in 1999, we specialize in baroque repertoire, the works of J.S. Bach and other composers, often accompanied by musicians on period instruments. Concerts feature a combination of choral and orchestral works, solo and instrumental items. We have six concerts next year, three in Fall and three in Winter/Spring, each of which take place in private homes. The Christmas house concert will feature Charpentier’s *Midnight Mass*. In April, we will perform Mozart’s *Requiem*. Artistic Director Ronald Greidanus has an established career as a concert pianist in Canada and abroad.

Bill Shuttleworth 905-877-8321
www.georgetownbarchoral.org

**George Bay Children’s Choir**

Georgian Bay Children’s Choir is a community treble choir for ages 5-18. Choristers hail from the southern Georgian Bay region and re-
hearse in Owen Sound. Now in our 20th year, the GBCC encompasses three choirs: The Little Jewels, The Middle C’s and the Touring Ensemble. Vocal assessments place choristers appropriately. Concerts are twice a year in December and May, along with numerous engagements in community and regional choral festivals. Every other year, the Touring Ensemble competes or participates in an international festival. Fees vary according to choir level. Choir rehearsals are Mondays, September to May. Director/Conductor: Linda M. Hawkins.

Aly Boltman, General Manager
519-37L-3222 info@gbcc.ca www.gbcc.ca

GRAND RIVER CHOIRS

GRC is a Brampton-based, auditioned, mixed-voice community choir offering four concerts per year. Our ninth season starts with our first ever CD launch concert, *A Grand Christmas* (December 1). Next is our ever-popular sing-along *Messiah* concert (December 22), followed by Haydn’s *Creation* in partnership with the Bradford Symphony Orchestra (April 13), concluding with *Double Choir Splendor* (June 8). Our choir sings the works of the great masters and contemporary composers. We also perform at various community events and at concerts hosted by other organizations. Rehearsals are Monday evenings at 7:30 in the Music Room at Assumption College School.

Richard Cunningham, artistic director
519-841-9708 ector@rogers.com grandriverchorus@rogers.com www.grandriverchorus.com

HARMONY SINGERS OF ETOBICOKE

One of the longest established community choirs in the Etobicoke community making music for over 40 years. Under director Harvey Patterson, the 30-voice, non-audition ladies choir continues the tradition of combining the joy of singing and the pleasure of entertaining in their community. We perform in a lighter vein; repertoire includes popular, folk, show, and semi-classical music. We entertain at community events and seniors’ residences and present two annual concerts. New members are always welcome. Rehearsals are Mondays, 7:30-10 pm at Martin Grove United Church. Join us for our Spring Concert *Swing Time*, on May 25 and 26.

Harvey Patterson 416 230 5821 theharmoysingers@ca.inter.net www.harmony singers.ca

Impulse Choir

Impulse is a newly formed mixed community choir in the St. Catharines region, founded by Artistic Director Rachel Rensink-Hoff, and dedicated to exploring a diverse range of choral repertoire from all genres. Our goal is to enrich and diversify the choral traditions of Niagara, offering amateur singers the opportunity to develop their vocal technique and choral artistry, and we wish to engage in regular collaborations with local artists and community organizations in the Niagara region. Currently looking to expand our membership. Make contact if you are interested in pursuing quality repertoire and vocal excellence (especially tenors and basses). Strong music reading skills are required.

Rachel R. Hoff 905-665-6624 rensink@uw.ca

Hilariter

Hilariter is a 25-voice group of singers and players directed by Andrew Donaldson. We specialize in sacred music from around the globe. Hilariter performs concerts a couple of times a year and is also involved in workshops and worship services. Rehearsals are every second Sunday 7-9:30 pm at Glebe Presbyterian Church.

seraph@pathcom.com www.hilariter.ca

Inter-Mennonite Children’s Choir

The Inter-Mennonite Children’s Choir is a Waterloo Region community choir providing opportunities for musical excellence, and stimulating a life-long appreciation for music and Christian heritage and culture. Averaging 50+ singers, ages 9-15, the choir performs annual Christmas and Spring Concerts, and at various functions, festivals and competitions for service organizations, charities, churches and retirement homes. Singers interested in auditioning must read music and be willing to commit all music to memory.

John (Jack) Packer 905-575-9360 harlequin singers.com

High Park Choruses of Toronto

Wonders happen when children sing hand-in-hand, especially when led by Zimfira Poloz, a voice/choral specialist who loves her choristers and makes their sound shimmer. For our 20th anniversary of magical music-making, we celebrate with a tour, commissioned work by James Rolfe, and gala alumni events. We have five divisions: Early Bird Choir (ages 5-7), Training Choir (6-11), Children’s Choir (9-13), Senior Choir (12 through university) and Senior Chamber Choir. Weekly rehearsals in Bloor West Village (including music theory and ear training), two annual concerts, workshops, community engagements, and an annual Senior Choir tour. Auditions are held April-May and January.

416-762-0657 info@highparkchoral.org www.highparkchoral.org

Harlequin Singers

Founded in 1967 as a support to Hamilton Theatre Inc. and incorporated in the mid-70s as the Harlequin Singers, the choir performs repertoire from Broadway musicals, films, pop charts, jazz, big band. Two major cabaret concerts are mounted at Christmas and in Spring. The 40th Anniversary concert takes place June 1-2 at Drury Lane Theatre, Burlington, featuring the best Broadway show tunes. Christmas cabaret takes place November 29, 30 and December 1. The choir performs at fundraisers and celebrations.
throughout the Region. Singers aged 6-8 are encouraged to join the Training Choir. Current conductors are Judith Bean and Carolyn Neumann. In May 2007, the choir released its sixth recording, Joyful Celebration. Auditions for next season will begin on June 5. Email for more information.

Judith Bean 519-742-7410
singing.diva@sympatico.ca
crneumann@golden.net
www.mennosingers.com/mcc

IRISH CHORAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
ICS is a community adult SATB choir performing sacred, secular and folk works that centre around Irish and other Celtic themes and include genres such as Baroque, Classical and Canadian Folk. The choir performs three times a year, often with special guest artists including Toronto’s finest Irish traditionalists. The choir has had an ever-increasing audience since its inception and is delighted to begin its sixth anniversary season commencing in September 2007. The choir is looking for experienced singers to join the organization in its time of great growth. All voices are needed. Tenors and basses are particularly welcomed!

Karen D’Aoust, director
416-653-9102
info@icscc.ca
www.icscc.ca

ISLINGTON CHURCH CHOIR
The extensive and active music programme at Islington, under the direction of Dr. John Derksen and assisted by many talented and committed musicians, includes the Junior (ages 6-12), Youth, and Senior choirs, along with 4 handbell choirs, chimes, string and brass ensembles, and evening worship band. Supported by a magnificent Schnitzenstein organ and grand piano, music rings through the neo-Gothic sanctuary for two morning services each Sunday, monthly Taizé and evening contemporary services, and numerous special services, events and concerts. The accomplished Senior choir, with 25-35 talented singers enriched by section leads, is attentive to musical detail and expressiveness to enhance worship.

John Derksen 416-239-1131 x26
Ronald Jewell, Music Chair
416-233-0279
john@islingtonunited.org
the_jewells@sympatico.ca

JOHN LAING SINGERS
The John Laing Singers, a Hamilton-based chamber choir renowned for its adventurous programming. Our 40-voice choir performs a three-concert subscription series and several special performances, repertoire ranging from the classics to Broadway, Medieval to the 21st century. We work with some of Canada’s finest established soloists and instrumentalists while also providing opportunities for many up-and-coming talents as guest artists.

KAREN SCHUESSLER SINGERS
Founded in 1993 by musician and conductor, Karen Ann Schuessler, to explore the wealth of choral music, we are one of London’s premier concert choirs, well-known for widely-varied, accessible, and innovative programming.

MARK TOENS, Director of Music
416-489-1551

LYRICA CHOIR OF BARRIE
Lyrica Choir was founded in September 2000 by Natalya Gurin. It draws its members from Barrie and the surrounding area. The mixed SATB chamber choir performs sacred and secular music including Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20th century choral works. Lyrica Choir recently appointed a new conductor, Steve Winfield and accompanist, Brent Mayhew for the 2005/06 season.

Steve Winfield 705-722-0271
steve.winfield@sympatico.ca

MASTERCRAFTS OF OAKVILLE
Choirs and Orchestra
Masterworks of Oakville Chorus and Orchestra is devoted to performing the great choral works. It is unique in that all concerts are accompanied by full orchestra. An outgrowth of St. Andrew’s Concert Series, it performs in Oakville churches. Works performed since February 2006 include Haydn’s Creation, Fauré’s Requiem, Bach’s Cantata #147, Mozart’s Requiem, and Vivaldi’s Gloria. Founded by Artistic Director Charles Demuynck, next year’s season will include Handel’s Messiah. Choir rehearsals are Saturday mornings; Orchestra, Sunday evenings. Each concert program is performed twice. There are vacancies in the tenor, bass, violin and viola sections.

Charles Demuynck
charles@masterworksfoakville.ca
www.masterworksfoakville.ca

MegaCity Chorus
An all-male a cappella group formed in 1997, the chorus has entertained all over southern Ontario, including singing for the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes and for the Toronto Raptors. Other appearances include CityTV, Mix 99.9 and the
nationally broadcast Canada's Walk of Fame. In summer 2008, they will headline the Russian Barbershop Harmony Festival. At international competitions, they've placed as high as 13th in the world. Join us for rehearsals Mondays, 7:30-10pm at Harmony Hall, 2 Gower Street. Potential members don't have to read music but must pass an audition.

Jonathan Foster 416-702-1112 info@megacitychorus.com www.MegaCityChorus.com

Metropolitan United Church Choir and Festival Choir

The auditioned, 32-member Church Choir has eight lead singers, rehearses Thursday evenings, and sings on Sunday mornings and special occasions, September to June. Repertoire is medieval through 21st century. Singers must have some sight-singing ability. A waiting list exists; contact director late spring or early fall. The Festival Choir adds 10-15 singers to the core choir, and rehearses Sunday afternoons for six weeks prior to Good Friday. Past concerts featured Bach, Mozart, Faure, Durufle, Gilles, Schütz, and Distler. The Metropolitan United Sparklers (ages 4-6), Metropolitan Choristers (7-11), CIC Ensemble and Metropolitan Handbells are groups open to all.

Patricia Wright 416-333-0331 x26 patriciaw@metunited.org www.metunited.org

Miles Nadal JCC Youth Choir

The Mnjcc Youth Choir, directed by Samantha Clarke is for singers in grades 2-6. The choir was founded in 2004 with the ideals of diverse music and a fun inclusive atmosphere. There is no audition or experience required for these groups. Our rehearsals prepare for performances throughout the year and raise the musical skills of our singers. We rehearse from September to May on Thursdays from 4:15-5:45. We also offer a mentorship program for our experienced singers.

Samantha Clarke 416-924-6211 x277 samc@mnjcc.org www.mnjcc.org

Milton Choristers

Currently celebrating our 38th year of continuous song, our group is a vital component of the Milton community, providing the Halton Region with excellence in choral music with a minimum three-concert series annually. We also participate regularly in various community events. The repertoire presented varies from classical to contemporary and from the sacred to the secular. We welcome new singers. Rehearsals are Tuesdays 7:30-9:30pm at Knox Presbyterian Church, 170 Main Street, Milton.

Jim Douglas 905-878-1832 info@miltonchoristers.com www.miltonchoristers.org

Mississauga Children's Choir

MCC is a treble voiced choir of 120 children ages 6-17, celebrating over 25 years of choral excellence. Under Music Director Thomas Bell, the MCC includes three ensembles — Training, Intermediate, and Concert, and is dedicated to providing young singers with exceptional musical experiences through performance, education, recording, touring, and community service. The Choir performs at the Living Arts Centre on June 2, then heads to Vancouver for the Coastal Sound International Choral Festival. The MCC hosts Stephen Hatfield and six choirs at its international Mississauga Choral Festival, February 2008. Auditions held April through June for the 2007-08 season.

Kathryn Brisley, Choir Manager 905-624-9704 info@mississaugachildrenchoir.com www.mississaugachildrenchoir.com

Mississauga Choral Society

MCS was founded in 1975 and, since 1995, has been the Resident Choral Ensemble of the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga. Over its history, the organization has been guided by the core values of excellence and access in developing its choirs, commissioning new Canadian works, delivering outstanding performances and enhancing the quality of the audience's experience. Choir membership sits at 80-plus singers who rehearse from September to June at St. Andrew's Memorial Presbyterian Church in Port Credit. MCS presents three major concerts a year and is engaged as guests in various concerts throughout the GTA.

Ruth Laiken 905-278-7059 mcsaudition@yahooogroups.com www.mcs-on.ca

Mississauga Festival Choir

MFC is an 85-voice adult community choir that rehearses and performs a variety of concerts and events each season in the Mississauga area. Founded in 1984, the MFC is dedicated to excellence in choral performance. Our primary concerts in December and May are held at the Living Arts Centre and feature a wide range of musical styles and traditions. Rehearsals take place on Monday nights from September to May at the Cawthra Seniors Centre, 1389 Cawthra Road. New members are always welcome, especially tenors and basses!

Lois Armstrong 905-625-7993 membership@mississaugafestivalchoir.com www.mississaugafestivalchoir.com

Newtonbrook United Church Chancel Choir

NUCC consists of a group of volunteer singers supported by a number of professional section leaders. The choir sings a wide variety of classical and contemporary repertoire and provides strong musical leadership Sunday mornings, twelve months of the year. In addition to full choir anthems, various ensembles and solos are presented by members of the chancel choir. On selected Sundays, the choir presents extra choral music such as traditional carols at Christmas and a large choral work at Easter. Rehearsals are held Sunday mornings before the service and on selected Thursday evenings through the year.

Taylor Sullivan, Music Director 416-222-6417 taylorsullivan@yahoo.com www.newtonbrookunitedchurch.ca

North 44° Ensemble

Founded in 2000, an affiliate of the Toronto Choral Society, the Ensemble consists of 20 auditioned members who are dedicated to excellence and eclecticism in choral music. Performances include an annual fundraising event with proceeds directed to Street Haven Women's Choir as well as special engagements. North 44° rehearse once a week on Wednesday evenings in the Toronto core. Artistic Director, Geoffrey Butler, Accompanist/Assistant Conductor, Jenny Crober.

905-764-5140 n44vocalensemble@hotmail.com www.north44ensemble.org

Oakham House Choir

OHC, a large choral ensemble, performs masterworks such as Mozart's C Minor Mass and Requiem, Handel's Messiah, and Puccini's Messa di Gloria. Affiliated with Ryerson University and founded in 1986, the choir is led by Matthew Jaskiewicz, former director of the Warsaw Chamber Opera. We present two concerts per year, and are one of the few Toronto choirs in which amateur singers perform with a professional orchestra, the Toronto Sinfonia. We welcome anyone who likes to sing, and accept new members in September and January. Rehearsals are Monday evenings at Oakham House at Church and Gould Streets.

416-763-8746 www.ryerson.ca/~oachoir

Oakville Children's Choir

Founded in 1994 by Glenda Crawford, OCC has achieved tremendous success. With the mission of bringing world-class choral and performance training to young people in Halton Region, the OCC offers a comprehensive music education pro-
program for over 120 auditioned choristers ages 7-18. The OCC presents four annual concerts, performs at workshops, appears at community functions, and collaborates with other Ontario artists. With Cherub, Intermediate, Senior, Chamber and Boys Choirs, the choral program includes theory, musicianship, vocal coaching, workshops, competitions, and touring. Auditions for next season can be booked for May 11-12 and June 8-9. 

905-337-7104
info@oakvillechildrenschoir.org
www.oakvillechildrenschoir.org

OAKVILLE CHORAL SOCIETY
The Oakville Choral Society has been an integral part of the Oakville community since 1960. We are a community choir of 80-100 members who love music, possess a true passion for singing and enjoy contributing culturally to the community. There are no auditions required, however, a love of music and a willingness to learn are important. Rehearsals are Tuesdays 7:45-10pm at Sheridan College, Trafalgar Campus, and registration is held in September and January. We hold two performances annually, in early May and early December. Our artistic director is J. Bev Stainton.

Anthony Ward-Smith, President
905-845-6300
www.oakvillechoral.com

ONTARIO YOUTH CHOIR
Each summer, 40 talented young singers come together from across the province to take part in the Ontario Youth Choir’s exciting program of rehearsals, masterclasses, and voice lessons. OYC provides an unforgettable experience: friendship and fun, and extraordinary training with some of Canada’s finest choral leaders. This year, the choir will spend ten memorable days together at the University of Ottawa under the inspired leadership of conductor Robert Cooper. There are now over 1,300 OYC alumni who continue to enrich their communities as choristers, conductors, accompanists, composers, educators and soloists.

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

ORIANA WOMEN’S CHOIR
Founded in 1972, OWC is one of Canada’s finest women’s choirs. This 40-voice auditioned choir is committed to provoking passionate responses to the power, beauty, and joy of song. The choir received Best Performance of a Canadian Work in the 2004 CBC Choral Competition. Final concert of the 2006/07 season takes place May 12 (see website). Subscription concerts are presented each year in November, March, and May. Concerts are held at Grace Church on-the-Hill and Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts. Auditions are June 6 and August 29 for the fall term starting September 12. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 7:30-9:45pm.

Will.i.am Brown 416-923-3123
info@orianachoir.com
www.orianachoir.com

ORPHEUS CHOIR OF TORONTO
Founded in 1964, this 60-member mixed-voice choir aims to offer something different to concert-goers and singers alike. The choir has a four-concert season, plus occasional guest performances, including collaborations outside the Toronto area. Under the energetic leadership of Robert Cooper, repertoire is both sacred and secular, from a cappella to full orchestral accompaniment, and includes many new or less well-known works. The choir also provides opportunities for young singers to gain experience as soloists through its Sidgwick Scholarship positions. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings at Westminster Park Baptist Church near Yonge and St. Clair. Admission is by audition in May/June, and periodically throughout the season.

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

PARKDALE SINGERS
PS is a mixed voice community choir, serving the Parkdale Community in Toronto. We are always looking for new voices, especially tenors and basses, to help this 15-voice choir sing many different kinds of music, from pop to modern contemporary. There are no auditions required, and singers of any age and level of experience are welcome. Rehearsals are every Friday afternoon from 1:30-3:30 at the Parkdale Community Health Centre, 1229 Queen St. We perform at least three concerts per year, often with multiple performances per concert. The music director for this group is Eric Schwindt.

Leslie Parker
Leslie.Parker@pchc.on.ca

PAX CHRISTI CHERALE — TORONTO’S Mennonite Choir
Celebrating its 20th anniversary this season, Pax Christi Chorale is an 80-voice auditioned oratorio choir comprised mostly of local Mennonites, but also includes singers from other faith traditions and cultures. Artistic Director Stephanie Martin is dedicated to performing the great works of choral literature, with a view to achieving musical excellence and sustaining a supportive choir community. The 2007/08 season will include a concert and recording of many of Buxtehude’s works, Handel’s Messiah, and a concert of German and Austrian masterworks, including Bruckner’s Mass in E Minor. Seven choral scholarships are offered each year. Rehearsals are each Monday night.

Laura Adlers 416 467-0634
paxchristichorale@hotmail.com
www.paxchristichorale.org

PENTHELIA SINGERS
A dynamic ensemble of women performing a diverse and musically sophisticated repertoire in several languages, spanning the Renaissance to the 21st century. Noted for its innovative programming, the choir has been a semi-finalist in the CBC Choral Competition and participated in choral festivals throughout Ontario and Quebec. In addition to giving two major concerts, we perform in collaboration with other choirs, at festivals and community events as a part of their concert season. Rehearsals are at Rosedale Presbyterian Church, Wednesdays. Membership in this welcoming group is by audition in August and January.

Mary Legge 416-229-0522
m.legge@rogers.com
www.penthelia.com
Queensmen of Toronto Male Chorus

Performer, conductor and organist Michael Morgan directs the Queensmen. Established for over 50 years, this 30-voice chorus has gained an international reputation for choral excellence and a well-blended sound. The chorus also places much emphasis on community outreach and fellowship. We give 15 performances annually of a broad repertoire of popular, spiritual and sacred song at community events and Big Sings in Ontario and the USA. Registered non-profit organization, we award an annual scholarship to a deserving student. Rehearsals are Tuesday, 7:30pm at Westway United Church, 8 Templar Drive, Etobicoke.

Michael Morgan 416-436-8730
mickeyblue73@yahoo.com

Quodlibet

Quodlibet is a 16-voice semi-professional choir founded in 2001 by Arthur Wenk with the goal of sharing the joy of singing with each other and audiences. The spirit of Quodlibet engenders thematic programming that brings together familiar and lesser-known choral music, the hallmark of our largely a cappella concerts. We seek experienced singers with clear blending voices and superior reading skills. We perform two main concerts a year, December and April, at the Church of St. Leonard (Anglican) at Yonge and Lawrence. Rehearsals and performances are on Friday evenings. Samples can be heard on the website. Auditions are by appointment in September.

Marcus Reinkeluers 416-255-6749
marcus.reinkeluers@rogers.com
www.quodlibet.ca

RCM Chorus

The Royal Conservatory of Music provides an array of opportunities for choristers of all ages. Choose from RCM Children and Youth Choruses (children and teens), World Music Chorus (folk music), Repertory Chorus (classic choral repertoire), Chamber Choir (by audition), Vox Continental (20 voices), Silver Singers (ages 50 and older), Lyric Singers (light repertoire), RCM Jazz Choir (if swing's your thing), Summer Chorale or Women's Chorus (for summer singing). Most choirs do not require an audition, although an initial meeting with the conductor is standard. Weekly rehearsals September-May with regular performances. All singers welcome.

416-408-2825
www.rcmusic.ca/community/school

RCM Repertory Chorus & Chamber Choir

Directed by Dr. Margot Rejskind, these ensembles meet at The Royal Conservatory of Music from September to May. Two performances each year are dedicated to raising money for local charities. The Repertory Chorus is a large vocal ensemble of approximately 80 voices which performs a variety of large-scale choral masterworks. No audition is necessary to join. The Chamber Choir is a smaller group of 30 singers, dedicated to exploring more challenging repertoire. Membership is by audition, and sight-reading skills are required. All singers and voice types are very welcome!

416-408-2825
www.rcmusic.ca/community/school

RCM World Music Chorus

Directed by Alan Gasser, this chorus sings in true village style, learning folk songs from many global cultures, and open-throated folk-singing styles from the Georgian Republic, South Africa, Balkans, and North America. No sight-reading is necessary, as choristers learn all music by ear according to folk-singing traditions. We perform two concerts a year, September and April, at the Church of St. Leonard (Anglican) at Yonge and Lawrence. Rehearsals and performances are on Friday evenings. Samples can be heard on the website. Auditions are by appointment in September.

Marcus Reinkeluers 416-255-6749
marcus.reinkeluers@rogers.com
www.quodlibet.ca

Renaissance Singers

The Renaissance Singers were founded in 1972 by Raymond Danels, and the choir's early reputation was based on its polished performances of Renaissance a cappella literature. Today, the choir sings music from the masters of all centuries, and has commissioned and premiered works by leading Canadian composers. Each year, the Renaissance Singers perform four Saturday and Sunday concerts in the Waterloo Region. They have toured in England four times, and have four CD recordings to their credit.

Katherine Lees, Press and Publicity
519-725-4387

Riverdale Youth Singers

The Riverdale Youth Singers (RYS) prides itself on providing exceptional choral music education while fostering artistic excellence, self-esteem and personal growth for each chorister. Since 1999, RYS has engaged in an active performance calendar, staging popular winter and spring concerts within its home Riverdale Community, and participating in various festivals and concerts throughout the GTA. RYS has two divisions: Youth Singers (ages 10-16) and Young Singers (ages 7-9) as well as a Boys' Choir. Membership is open to all children who love to sing.

Melissa Drinkwater 416-875-1587
administrator@riverdaleyouthsingers.org
www.riverdaleyouthsingers.org

Scarbrough Bel Canto Choir

Scarbrough Bel Canto is a 40-voice, community-based SATB choir, founded in 1993. Repertoire is varied and includes folk, movies, swing, spirituals, Broadway, and classical selections. We welcome new members; candidates are auditioned in September and January to determine voice range and suitabiliy. We perform two concerts per year, in early December and early May, as well as occasionally singing for senior residences and at other special events. Rehearsals are 7:30-10pm, Tuesdays, at St. Nicholas Anglican Church, Birchcliffe (near Warden and Kingston Roads).

Luciano Silva, Musical Director
Faith Joel, President
905-505-1883
sbbcboxoffice@gmail.com
www3.sympatico.ca/laured

Scarbrough Choralaires

The Choralaires were formed in 1993 and are led by Andrew Chung. The choir is a SATB community choir which rehearses on Tuesday evenings at Knox Hill United Church, 23 Gage Avenue, Scarbrough. The choir presents two formal concerts each year, Christmas and spring-time, in addition to performing at seniors' residences and fundraisers for community organizations. Repertoire ranges from light classical to show tunes, and includes spirituals and folk songs. Membership requirements include: a simple audition, sight reading ability, some choral experience, and a desire to spend time with others who enjoy the magic of singing.

Brian R Coker 416-498-8993
brian.coker@sympatico.ca
www.choralaires.ca

Scola Cantorum

The Scola is the Hungarian choir in Toronto, founded by George Zadunaisky, now under the direction of conductor Imre Olah. Knowledge of Hungarian and sight reading are necessary. The 18-voice mixed choir rehearses at St. Elizabeth Church, Bayview and Sheppard on Thursdays 8-10pm, September to June. Scola presents annual spring and Christmas concerts with soloists and instrumentalists; also performs at local Hungarian cultural events throughout the year. Repertoire from Renaissance to Romantic and Hungarian folk songs; a lot of a cappella. Languages: Hungarian, Latin, German, English. Emphasis on style and genre. We are looking for new members. Audition by appointment.

416-971-9754
scolacantorum@yahoo.ca
www.scolacantorum.ca

Serenata Choir

Under conductor Gary Heard, we welcome new members in all sections. The 2007/08 season is a special celebration of the choir's 20th anniversary. We will present Handel's Messiah with full orchestra and, in the Fall, will participate in the Colours of Music Festival with the Elora Festival Singers. We perform all styles of music. Auditions are used to determine in which section a singer should be placed. Rehearsals Monday nights from September to June and performances of two to three concerts a year and at various community events.
Monica Murphy 705 526 9667
Mary Garthside 1-866-461-1830
serenatachoir@yahoo.ca

SERENATA SINGERS
Directed by Audrey McLeod, we are a 65-voice SATB self-sustaining, performing choir of retired men and women. The choir appears at senior’s residences and community events on request. Repertoire includes folk, spirituals, golden oldies, Broadway show tunes, and pop melodies, showcased at two spring concerts. Rehearsals are Wednesday mornings from September to May at Wilmar Heights United Church, 963 Pharmacy Ave, Scarborough. Membership by audition: sight-reading and choral experience are required. The enjoyment of singing and associating with a very friendly group of adults is an added bonus.
Audrey McLeod 416-497-5952
audrey.e.mcleod@sympatico.ca

SHEVCHENKO CHOIR
While originating in the Ukrainian community, our repertoire in the main is Ukrainian and other Slavic songs and includes folk songs of other peoples, operatic choruses, and original Canadian works. Last year the choir advanced to the National Semi-Finals of the CBC Choral Competition. The choir is part of the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble, performing with mandolin orchestra and dancers. The choir is multi-generational as well as multicultural. Performances: two or three concerts per season culminating in an annual showcase of the Shevchenko Ensemble. Rehearsals: Sundays 10:00-12:30pm at Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Ave, West.
Ginger Kauto, office; 416-533-2725
Alex Veprinsky, Conductor
905-763-7516 info@smemusic.com
www.shevchenkomusic.com

STUDIO OF EARLY MUSIC TORONTO (SEMT)
Studio of Early Music Toronto (SEMT), through the work of its three-member ensembles and accreditation program certification (Cert.SEMT), is a platform for performance, teaching and study of vocal and instrumental music composed before 1730. Kevin Komisaruk founded the organization in 2004, and serves as Artistic and Managing Director. SEMT’s three ensembles are: Studio Sixteen, a sixteen-voice choral ensemble specializing in Renaissance sacred music; Alawy, a male quintet specializing in secular music composed from 1350-1650 plus contemporary works inspired by this music; and Kaus Borealis, SEMT’s Baroque instrumental and solo vocal atelier. SEMT auditions annually.
Kevin Komisaruk 416-559-2590
headoffice@semt.org

SINGING OUT!
Toronto’s largest and longest standing LGBT chorus, Singing OUT! focuses on Pride, Music and Belonging, while producing two major concerts and a cabaret show each season filled with very intentional diversity in musical style and presentation. With Artistic Director Patrick Huang, this SATB chorus brings musical excellence to the stage while remaining a community choir, featuring men’s and women’s choral arrangements in addition to the mixed chorus sound. Our holiday CD comes out in Spring 2008, reflecting our commitment to musical variety in style, tradition, and mood. We accept new members into our chorus family each September and January.
info@singingout.com
www.singingout.com

Singing OUT!

St. James' Cathedral
St. James' fine acoustics and flexible seating are ideal for traditional and innovative worship and music making. The Senior Choir (with professional leads) rehearses from September to May. The choir leads the music at the 10:30am Eucharist 'present-day' service, and monthly Choral Evensong. St. James' new pipe organ by D. Leslie Smith will be a highlight of the music program this season. Other commitments include: Advent Poetry, Lessons and Carols, Boar’s Head Festival, Holy Week and volunteer positions administering the church’s concert series. Musicia St. James.
Douglas Brownlee 905-627-1424
dougjames@bellnet.ca
www.stjamescathedralsdudas.ca

St. James’ Anglican CHURCH
Dundas
St. James’ fine acoustics and flexible seating are ideal for traditional and innovative worship and music making. The Senior Choir (with professional leads) rehearses from September to May. The choir leads the music at the 10:30am Eucharist ‘present-day’ service, and monthly Choral Evensong. St. James’ new pipe organ by D. Leslie Smith will be a highlight of the music program this season. Other commitments include: Advent Poetry, Lessons and Carols, Boar’s Head Festival, Holy Week and volunteer positions administering the church’s concert series. Musicia St. James.
Douglas Brownlee 905-627-1424
dougjames@bellnet.ca
www.stjamescathedralsdudas.ca

ST. ANNE’S ANGLICAN CHURCH
 Choir
St. Anne’s offers excellent liturgical music in a superb acoustical space decorated by members of the Group of Seven. The 20-member SATB choir, directed by Nina Wu-Cotton, sings Sunday Eucharist each week at 10am and special services and concerts (September to early June). Repertoire includes English Cathedral music from Byrd to Britten and beyond, as well as Gregorian chant and music by Canadian, French, German, American and Russian composers. Membership is by audition. Rehearsals 7:30-9:30pm Thursdays at 270 Gladstone Ave.
Nina Wu-Cotton 905-881-7062
nwucotton@rogers.com
www.stannes.on.ca

ST. CLEMENT’S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Choirs
The Psallam Spiritu Choir is a treble-voice choir for boys and girls ages 8 to 17 who lead the music at the 9:15 am Sunday liturgy. Vocal training with emphasis on sight-reading is given based on a program developed by The Royal School of Church Music. Rehearsals take place every Thursday afternoon 4:30-5:30pm from September to the end of May. The Senior Choir is a 25-voice auditioned mixed-voice choir that sings a wide range of sacred repertoire from plainsong to music of the 21st century. The choir sings at the 11am Sunday liturgy and the occasional Choral Evensongs. Thomas Fitches is the organist and director of music.
Thomas Fitches 416-483-6664
tfitches@stclements-church.org
www.stclements-church.org

ST. MICHAEL’S CHOIR SCHOOL
The treasury of Roman Catholic sacred music can be heard every week at St. Michael’s Cathedral where a fine choral tradition has been maintained since 1937 when St. Michael’s Choir School was founded. Three treble and SATB boys’ choirs sing at the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses, at the solemn liturgies of the Christmas and Easter seasons, and at important archdiocesan and civic events. The choir school provides an enriched learning environment for boys in grades 3-12, with daily choral rehearsals, and individual instruction in piano, organ, voice, strings and guitar.
Fr. J. M. Missio 416-393-5518
Mr. D. Melino 416-393-5518
johnmark.missio@lccsb.org
www.smcs.on.ca

TAFELMUSIK CHAMBER CHOIR
The Tafelmusik Chamber Choir, a group of talented singers specializing in baroque performance practice and vocal technique, is led by Choir Director Ivars Taurins. Formed in 1981, the Choir joins the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra for a number of concerts every season and is praised for its clarity, nuance and brilliance. The Choir performs and rehearses out of Trinity-St. Paul’s Centre, 427 Bloor St. West, as well as the George Weston Recital Hall. Chamber Choir auditions are normally held between July and September for the upcoming season. If you are interested in auditioning please visit our website.
Joanna Jurychuk, Production Manager
416-964-9562 x226
jurychuk@tafelmusik.org
www.tafelmusik.org

TALLIS CHORI
The Tallis Choir, under Peter Mashon, enters its 30th year in 2007/08. This semi-professional group specializing in Renaissance chamber music begins the new season with Glories of The German Renaissance in October, followed by High Mass For Christmas Day, a reconstruction of December 25 in papal Rome,

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accompained by period brass and organ. In March, the choir will perform the Rachmaninov Vespers, and in May another reconstruction, Music of The Chapel Royal, with evensong for Charles I, accompanied by organ and a consort of viols. Rehearsals are at Trinity College, UofT, Wednesday evenings. 416-286-9798 www.tallischoir.com

TAPESTRY CHAMBER CHOIR
Celebrating 20 years in 2008, we offer varied choral repertoire in our three-concert season in the Newmarket-Aurora area. Under the direction of Andrew Slonetsky B.Mus. B.Ed. ARCT, Tapestry aspires to create “weavings of song” with rich colours and textures, while remaining free to explore the artistry of any composer of any period. Although most of the repertoire is a cappella, Tapestry welcomes opportunities to perform with instrumentalists. Concerts and rehearsals are held in St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Newmarket. To become one of the threads in our choral tapestry, please contact us.
905-836-8589 tapestrychoir@sympatico.ca www.tapestrychoir.ca

TORONTO CHAMBER CHOIR
We are a 40-voice early-music choir rehearsing in St. Patrick’s church hall at Dundas and McCaul Streets on Monday evenings 7:30-10pm. Our subscription season features four concerts of Baroque, Renaissance and medieval music. Our Music Director is David Fallis, an expert in early music. In August 2016 it will lead the choir into its 30th season. Comprised of the Main Choir and five Training choirs, TCC presents an annual subscription series in addition to guest performances and international tours. It has produced more than a dozen recordings. A west-end Training Choir is offered for children in Grades 3-6. To arrange an audition, please contact us.
Carol Stairs 416-932-888 x231 info@tccom www.torontochildrenschorus.com

TORONTO CHILDREN’S CHOIRS
Founded by Jean Ashworth Bartle, stepping down at the end of June, the TCC is recognized as one of the world’s leading choirs offering unique musical, educational and social experiences for children aged 7-15. Newly-appointed Artistic Director, Elise Bradley (effective August 16th) will lead the choir into its 30th season. Comprised of the Main Choir and five Training choirs, TCC presents an annual subscription series in addition to guest performances and international tours. It has produced more than a dozen recordings. A west-end Training Choir is offered for children in Grades 3-6. To arrange an audition, please contact us.

TOPOCHORISTERS
Bruce Snell directs this large, non-auditioned 108-voice choir which is now completing its 15th successful season. The choir consists mostly but not entirely of retired teachers from Boards of Education in the Toronto area. Community applicants are welcome. Repertoire is varied, from classical to pop to modern. Rehearsals are on Thursday afternoons October through May. Because the choir is so large, women wishing to join may be placed on a waiting list, but men will be accepted immediately. This year’s spring concert is on Saturday, May 23rd, 7:30pm, at Sir John A. Macdonald Collegiate, Pharmacy Ave., Scarborough.
Bruce Snell 416-487-2742 brucenesl@rogers.com

TORONTO CHAMBER CHOIR
The Juno Award winning Toronto Mass Choir is a not-for-profit organization of 35 singers and a five-piece band established in 1988. The group has since taken its music ministry of praise and worship, Caribbean folk, reggae, jazz and traditional Gospel around the world with performances throughout Canada, the United States, the Caribbean and Europe. TMC’s songs contain a lyrical theme of praise, hope and encouragement that is simple yet profound. Their clear message through dynamic delivery makes TMC’s music compelling. Members belong to various church denominations in the Greater Toronto Area. Auditions take place as required to fill vacancies in the group.
Karen Burke 905-794-1139 info@tmc.ca www.tmc.ca

TORONTO MENDELSSOHN CHOIR
The TMC family is made up of the 160-voice Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, the 70-voice Mendelssohn Singers, and the 30-voice Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir. For 113 years, the TMC has been performing Renaissance repertoire as well as newly commissioned works and large scale symphonic choral works. The TMC performs 30 concerts annually, including with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The Conductor is Noel Edison, whose Elora Festival Singers form the TMC’s professional core. Highlights of the 2007/08 season include Orl’s Carmina Burana, Rachmaninoff’s Vespers, Bach’s Mass in B Minor and Messiah, and Haydn’s Creation. Rehearsals are on Mondays from 7:15-9:30pm at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church (Yonge at St. Clair). Auditions are held in June and September.
Kimber Jonah 416-638-0422 x24 admin@tmchoir.org www.tmchoir.org

May 2007
UNIVOX
A warm welcome from host choirs and audiences on a tour of Wales. Auditions will be held alongside our regular Wednesday practices in June. All are welcome!
416-410-2254
www.twmvc.com

University Settlement Music and Arts School Choirs
The 25-member adult mixed-voice choir, in its ninth successful year, performs a variety of repertoire from madrigals to show tunes. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings. The children’s choir is now in its fourth year and meets on Thursdays. The children’s choir for ages 8-13 (unchanged voices) sings songs from a wide variety of musical styles. Part of the Music and Arts School which, after 86 years, is one of the oldest community music schools in North America. Choirs are non-auditioned and no experience is necessary. Performances at University Settlement, 23 Grange Rd.
Anne Yardley 416-598-3444 x243
Anne.Yardley@usrc.ca
www.usrc.ca

Torbay Swedish Singers
Performs in Swedish and English under new director Brigitte Bogar. The choir presents annual spring and Christmas concerts, performs at local Swedish cultural events and serves as the choir for the Swedish Lutheran Church in Toronto at major church celebrations. Short tours are also arranged periodically. Familiarity with the Swedish language, interest in Swedish culture and ability to read music are desirable. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings on Wednesday evenings from September to June at Agnica Lutheran Church, Yonge and York Mills. Members also have the opportunity to learn and perform Swedish folk dancing.
Solvig Lalla 416-483-3921
solian_46@hotmail.com
www.tsf.ca

University of Toronto Gospel Choir
Founded in February 1995 (Black History Month), UTGC weekly rehearsals became a meeting place for students interested in singing praises to the Lord, and for those looking for an empowering environment. UTGC sang in a Barbados Gospel Festival, in Stockholm, and four concerts in Japan. For seven years, the choir has been featured in The Colours of Christmas as guest of international artists such as Paul Blyson, Roberta Flack and Jon Secada. Never forgetting their purpose, the choir still sings at churches, corporate and campus events. Lisa Toussaint directs a repertoire of contemporary, traditional gospel, praise and worship, and spirituals.
416-614-4872
info@utgc.org
www.utgc.org

Torrance Welsh Male Voice Choir / Cor Meibion Cymru
TWMVC is a 50-member chorus established by a group of individuals of Welsh heritage living in Toronto. The choir draws on the great Welsh tradition of singing hymns and songs born of the mountains and valleys of Wales, but its repertoire also includes spirituals, opera, contemporary songs, and Canadian and U.S. traditional melodies. The choir has toured Ontario, New York State, the Maritimes and in 2002,

Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir
Since 1977, the Youth Choir has been providing performance and training opportunities to singers 15-23. Led by Lynn Janes, a singer and educator inspiring young people for over 20 years, we perform three yearly concerts. Highlights from the 2006/07 season included Mozart’s Mass in C Major, and a celebration of African music, drumming and dance. In 2007/08 we will perform international Christmas carols, collaborate with the Toronto Mass Choir, and celebrate our 30th anniversary. Choristers also participate in retreats, festivals, artistic collaborations, and performances with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings at Church on the Deer Park. Auditions are in June and September.
Jennifer Collins 416-598-0422 x27
tmvc@tmchoir.org
www.tmchoir.org

Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir / Cor Meibion Cymru
TWMVC is a 50-member chorus established by a group of individuals of Welsh heritage living in Toronto. The choir draws on the great Welsh tradition of singing hymns and songs born of the mountains and valleys of Wales, but its repertoire also includes spirituals, opera, contemporary songs, and Canadian and U.S. traditional melodies. The choir has toured Ontario, New York State, the Maritimes and in 2002,

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20th and 21st centuries. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:30 in downtown Toronto. We will be auditioning for the fall season September 5th, 2007. For more info please visit our website.

Sarah John 647-267-0750 sarah@vesperaensemble.com www.vesperaensemble.com

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

Dr. Jerry Cichocki 416-761-7776 info@victoriascholars.ca www.victoriascholars.ca

Village Voices
VC is a mixed-voice community choir of 60+ members, now in its 18th season, and continuing to grow both artistically and physically. Under the direction of Joan Andrews, the choir performs two major public concerts per year as well as at seniors’ residences, group homes and community events. Our programs offer a wide variety of repertoire, frequently including instrumental accompaniment and guest soloists. We have taken part in several music festivals and enjoy performing as guest artists with other choirs and community orchestras. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings in Unionville. New members are always welcome.

Margaret Bagnall 905-861-0769 info@villagevoices.ca www.villagevoices.ca

VIVA! Youth Singers of Toronto
A leading innovator in choral education, VIVA! Youth Singers of Toronto is a vibrant choral organization for children and youth aged 4-25. 2007/08 marks VIVA!’s seventh season as an Annex-based non-profit group of choirs whose mission is to provide children and youth with artistically excellent musical opportunities in a supportive, inclusive environment. Founded by Carol Woodward Ratzlaff and co-directed by Brad Ratzlaff, VIVA!’s diverse programming features fun, age-appropriate choral training through weekly instruction in vocal technique, regular private vocal instruction, and comprehensive theory. Our unique Mentorship Program provides opportunities for young singers to learn from university and high school students.

416-788-8482 info@vivayouthsingers.com www.vivayouthsingers.com

Vocalpoint Chamber Choir
2007 marks VocalPoint’s 10th anniversary. Founded by its musical director Ian Grundy, VocalPoint quickly established itself as one of the country’s finest chamber choirs, reaching the semi-finals in the CBC Choral Competition on four consecutive occasions. The choir performs an annual series of concerts in the superb acoustics of Grace Church-on-the-Hill focusing on works from the 16th, 17th and 20th centuries. Members are auditioned and must have a strong church choir background; new singers are welcome. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings starting in September. Auditions for our 2007/08 season will be in late August – please contact us to arrange an appointment.

Hugh Tracy 416-464-0185 vocalpointchoir@lycos.com vocalpointchoir.tripod.com

Vox Finlandiae
The Toronto Finnish Chamber Choir, Vox Finlandiae, founded in January 1993, appeals to both Finnish and non-Finnish audiences, with music ranging from traditional Finnish folk tunes and popular songs to sacred and secular works by the Finnish masters and Canadian and international composers. Vox appears regularly at Agincourt Church, at Suzuki-Koti, and at Finnish cultural events and diplomatic functions both in Toronto and further afield. Joint concerts with other choirs have helped Vox expand both repertoire and audience. Rehearsals are Monday evenings at Agincourt Lutheran Church, 25 Old York Mills Rd. Contact us if you are interested in Finnish choral music.

Paul Hietala 416-222-2972 phietala@rogers.com www.voxfinlandiae.ca

Voxworks
Founded in 2005 by artistic director James Wells, voxworks explores less familiar, rarely performed vocal music, and offers an insightful approach to literature firmly established in the canon. Core repertoire is secular and 20th century, complemented by other styles and periods. Although some programs are entirely choral, many include solo music and ensemble repertoire wherein the composer stipulates one singer per part. To meet the demands of such broad repertoire, the singers must be accomplished solo performers who have an affinity for and a commitment to ensemble work. Experienced solo/choral singers with good sight-reading skills are welcome to audition at any time.

Nancy Reynolds 416-769-0111 x3 voxworks@voxworks.ca www.voxworks.ca

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

Wayne Gilpin 1-800-657-3281 mail@gilpin.ca

Windsor Classic Chorale
Founded in 1977 by Professor Richard Householder, Director, Choral Activities at the University of Windsor, and currently directed by Tim Shantz, we are an auditioned mixed choir. Over 50 years, we have appeared on nationally televised programs including a performance of Messiah, and were selected to perform in both the 1989 and 1993 Toronto International Choral Festivals. Repertoire includes Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass, Brahms' Neue Liebeslieder Waltzer and Pinkham's Christmas Cantata. We perform two series concerts per year in November and May with smaller events during the year. Rehearsals are Monday evenings, September to May.

Patricia McLaughlin, President 519-736-5761 mclaughlinp@cogeco.ca www.windsorclassic.org

York Region Children's Chorus
YRCC is an auditioned treble choir open to 10-17 year olds. In its 23rd season, this 70-voice choir is a high-profile representative of the region, performing in many parts of Canada, USA and Europe. In 2004, the choir sang in Paris, Milan, Venice, and in the Salzburg International Choir and Orchestra Festival. In 2005, the choir represented Ontario in the Unisong Festival for Canada Day in the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. In 2007, the choir performed in Chicago. Auditions for 2007/08 are on June 6 and 13 at 6pm. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 6:15-8:30pm at Aurora High School, September to June.

Tere Fowler Ciezkowski, Artistic Director 905-727-0022 x2977 www.yrcc.ca

York University Music Department
Home to ten choral ensembles, all open by audition to the wider York community (including faculty, staff and alumni). Lisette Canton directs Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Male Chorus and Women’s Chorus, performing western classical repertoire. There are four Jazz Choirs directed by Bob Hamper and Mim Adams. Karen Burke directs the Gospel Choir. There is also a World Music Chorus. Each ensemble gives public concerts during the season. Auditions are held the first week of September. Participants who are not registered students pay an audit fee. 416-736-5242 musicprov@yorku.ca www.yorku.ca/finearts/music

May 2007
YORKMINSTRELS SHOW CHOIR
The YSC is a mixed-voice community choir specializing in Broadway music, founded in 1974 as a spin-off of the Yorkminstrels Musical Theatre Company. With its costumes and choreography, the choir has evolved into a unique group, performing at 15-20 private, corporate and community events per year. We rehearse Wednesdays, 7:30-10:30pm at Cummer Lodge, North York, September through June. Our director is Cathy Whiteside. We do simple choreography and there is a simple audition to join the group. We have openings available in our tenor and bass/baritone sections. If you love to sing, come sing with us!

Wendy Fraser 416-225-5810
dfraser@rogers.com
www.yorkminstrels.com

WholeNote Canary Pages 2007

• WholeNote Canary Pages choral directory is published annually as a special feature with the May issue of WholeNote Magazine.
• Our online version of the Canary Pages, www.thewholenote.com, offers live links to choir websites.
• It’s never too late. If your choir missed our deadline for the print version of the Canary Pages 2007, you can always join the online version.
• Keep us in the loop! Changes to your online profile can be made at any time during the lifespan of the Canary Pages, May 2007 to April 2008.
• WholeNote Magazine promotes choral pursuits in every issue - through our “Choral Scene” article, concert/event listings, choral CD reviews, want ads and display advertising.

Contact us at WholeNote! 416-323-2232

WholeNote Directories

WholeNote Magazine stimulates important community connections among the musically motivated – across the complete continuum from music creators to music consumers – in our indispensable annual directory features, in print and online.

JUNE 1 TO JULY 7
Summer Music Festivals Directory

SEPTEMBER 1 TO OCTOBER 7
Orchestras and Bands Directory

OCTOBER 1 TO NOVEMBER 7
WholeNote Member Directory
Presenters, Performers, Venues

MARCH 1 TO DECEMBER 7
Summer Music Education Directory

To be included in any of these directories, and for information about directory sponsorship opportunities, contact us at 416-323-2232.
Ten. Rory McGlynn
Sop. Valentina Cadin
May 20th, 7pm, Trinity St. Paul’s United Church


8:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School. Student Recital. Darren Hicks, tenor, Concert Hall, 60 St. Ct. 416-408-2824 x322. Free.


Wednesday May 23


5:00: Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School. Student Recital, Patricia Ahn, violin. Concert Hall, 60 St. Ct. 416-408-2824 x322. Free.

6:00: ORGANISH 07. Piano & Organ. Saint-Saëns, Fantasie; Cimarosa, Concerto for harpsichord & orchestra by Handel, variations by Osvaldo. 7:00: Hugh’s Room. 2261 Dundas St. W. 416-531-6604. $20; $10 (adv).


Saturday May 26


Canadian Children's Opera Chorus
Artistic Director Ann Cooper Gay
Be a Part of the Magic!
Applications available online
or call today
2007/08 AUDITIONS ON NOW
CALL 416-927-9800 for info and reservations.

Marvelous Enterprises
Prepares the
Toronto Opera Ensemble
Performing Operatic Excerpts
featuring the
New School Chorale
with
William Shookhoff & Sabatino Vacca
Thurs., May 24, 2007 - 8PM
Heliconian Hall
35 Hazelton Ave & Sat., May 26, 2007 - 8PM
Glen Gould Studio
250 Front Street West
General Admission
Heliconian Hall $20
Glen Gould Studio $30

Concert, Curator’s Talk and Gallery Visit
BATA SHOE MUSEUM

In the Shoes of an Elizabethan Lady: The Passions and Scandals of Frances Walsingham
Frances, the daughter of the first Queen Elizabeth’s spymaster, led an intriguing life which could only have been conducted in spectacular costume and to the tune of evocative, passionate music. To get to know her with a curator’s talk, period music from The Musicians In Ordinary, and a treasured pair of her shoes. Friday May 25, 7:30-9:30 pm Doors open 7 pm Free for Bata Shoe Museum members; $10 seniors and students; $15 adults Pre-registration required: Call 416-979-7799 x242
Song Journey
Jean Edwards, soprano
Brahm Goldhamer, piano
May 25, 8:00 pm
Heliconian Hall
35 Hazelton Ave.
416-486-4172
$20.
Repeat concert June 2, 8 pm
St. Luke’s Church, Creemore


Saturday May 26

— 1:00: Metropolitan United Church. Doors Open Toronto & Toronto Organ Day. Metropolitan Street Band, Frank Harvey, conductor. Mattheau Coons, organ. 56 Queen St. East. 416-363-0331 x26. Donations accepted.
— 1:30 & 2:30: Common Thread Community Choruses of Toronto: Planning the Seed, Folk & world music. Guest: Eve Goldberg, folk singer. Walmer Centre, 168 Lount Ave. 416-410-5022. $10; $15 (sr/st); $15 (adv sr/st); PWYC.
— 2:00: Soundstreams Canada. Cool Drumnings International Percussion Festival: Percussion Theatre. Schafer: Tantrika (choreography: David Earle); Aphelions: La Corps a Corps; Ambiances: Workers United; works by Tremblay, Cherny

NUVO II

New Choral Voices
A foray into new choral music: fresh, innovative and inspired! Experience the varied colours of the human voice in works by Richard Dubra, Stephen Paulus, René Esquerré, Frank Ticheli and many more.

Edward Moroney, accompanist
Robert Cooper, conductor
Saturday May 26, 7:30 p.m.
Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd

Tickets: $30 / $25 Senior / $10 Student at the door or in advance.
Concert Sponsored by

Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra

Pops Fundraising Gala

Perennial favourites by:
Bizet
Gershwin
Offenbach
Elgar
Strauss
Lehár and
Dvořák

Expect Something Different

Robert Cooper C.M., Artistic Director
Edward Moroney, Accompanist

RACHMANINOV’S VESPERSS

Saturday May 26, 2007, 8 p.m.
Greek Orthodox Church of St. George
115 Bond Street (near Dundas Square)

Tickets: $15 advance, $20 door
www.counterpointchorale.com

The Orpheus Choir of Toronto
416.530.4428
orpheuschoir@sympatico.ca
www.orpheuschoirToronto.com
...CONCERTS: Toronto and GTA

(premiered) Ayjan Huang, Ryan Scott; percussion
McGill Percussion Ensemble: Eleanor James, singer; Robert Cran, host. See Announcements for related conference events. MacMillan Theatre, 80 Queen's Park, 416-366-7723, 800-708-6764 x30; $15 (artsworker); $10 (stat)

- 7:00: Canadian Children's Opera Chorus. Carmen With a Twist. Excerpts from Carmen & The Merry Widow. Canadian Youth Opera Chorus, with Principal Chorus & Boys Chorus of the COC. Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street, 416-366-0467, 255 $15 (adult), 10 (student).
- 7:00: Rainbow Voices of Toronto Choir. String Concert. Including songs from musicals

TALLIS CHOIR

Directed by Peter Mahon

-Six Bach Motets-

with guest artist: Kate Bennett Haynes, cello

The crown of the choral repertoire.
Six masterpieces from the Leipzig master.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 7:30 PM
Church of the Holy Rosary, 354 St. Clair Ave. W.

Tickets: $25, $20 seniors, $10 students with ID
Info: 416.286.9798

ORDER ONLINE AT www.tallischoir.com

Preview our spectacular 2007-08 season and more on our website!

North York Concert Band
Conductor John Edward Liddle

HEROIC TALES

An evening of dramatic musical stories, old favourites, music from the movies, and light classics.

Saturday, May 26, 2007 – 7:30 p.m.
Al Green Theatre, Miles Nadal JCC 750 Spadina Ave. (corner of Bloor and Spadina)

Tickets: $15
416-470-0272

www.northyorkconcertband.ca

RENT. Bloor Street United Church, 300 Bloor St. West. 416-925-9872 x2166, $15.
- 7:30: Bremton Folk Club. Annual Showcase Concert: Back to Our Roots. Tom Louis, Brown Ale, performers. Sanderson Hall, St. Paul's United Church, 30 Main St. South, Brantford, 947-233-8653, $12, $10 (student).
- 7:30: First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Organ Party: Works by Bontschuh, Bach, Beethoven, others. Andre Rakus, organ; Sarah Reid, trumpeter. 116 Bond St. 416-977-4786, $10.


- 8:00: Counterpoint Chorale, Anchoservio's Vespers (All Night Vigil). William Wolochuk, director, St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, 115 Bond St., 416-253-4674, $20, $15 (senior).


- 8:00: Tapestry New Opera Works. J. Diva. Cabaret of favourite songs and newly commissioned works. Patricia O'Callaghan, Jean Stithilia, Lelia Zave, performers. Ernest Balmer Studio, 55 Mill Street, Building 5B, Distillery Historic District, 416-537-6006x2271, $25, $20 (student).


Sunday, May 27

- 11:00am & 2:00 Canadian Opera Company/Zellars Ensemble School. The Magic Flute. 45 minute version of Mozart's opera, for ages 4 to 11. Four Seasons Centre, 145 Queen St. West, 416-363-8231. First, adults must be accompanying a child.

- 2:00: Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Haydn: Symphony #104 (“London”). BACHMS Piano Concerto #1

Pre-concert talk at 2:15 pm by Catherine Manoukian

Tickets: Adults $30, Sr/Std $25 at the TCA Box Office or TicketMaster
Special Rates: Children/Youth up to 18 years $10 and groups of 10 or more $20. Call Orchestra Toronto office at 416 467-7142 for information.

Afternoon at the Symphony

Neda Navaee piano

HAYDN Symphony #104 (“London”)
BRAHMS Piano Concerto #1

Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St.

ERICA STEFANOU, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR Catherine Manoukian, Artist-In-Residence

ORDHERSTO

ERROL GAY, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

Catherine Manoukian, Artist-In-Residence

ORDHERSTO

ORDHERSTO

ORDHERSTO
Concerto #1. Neda Navaee, pianist; Emil Gey, conductor. 2:15: Pre-concert talk by Catherine Manuelian. Artist-in-Residence, George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111. $30; $25 (std); $10 (undr.).


4:30: Christ Church Deer Park. Jazz Vespers. The Brandi Dister Quartet. Brandi Dister, keyboardist; bassist; Chris Gale, tenor sax; Darry Orr, alto sax; Steve Juhos, drummers. 1570 Yonge St. 416-920-2511. Free, donations welcome.


8:30: The Music Gallery. Foca Loca: One & a number divided by two. Palmer: Wi is for... (Canadian premiere); Ross New St.)


Tuesday May 28


7:30pm: The Flying Bulgars. An intimate Public Performance. Early traditional Klezmer music. Dave Wall, vocals; David Buchbinder, trumpet; Peter Lukis, clarinet; Tania Gill, piano; Victor Bateman, bass; Frank Botos, drums. The TRANCZ, 282 Brunswick Ave. 416-923-8137. PWYC.


8:30: Talisker Players Chamber Music. Tyger, Tyger. Vaughan Williams: Ten Bloks Songs for voice & organ; Arnold: Five Blok Songs, for voice & string quartet; Jacob: Songs of Innocence, for voice & string trio; Etc. Tchaikowsky: Tans of Gold, for. voice, cella & harpsichord; Ridiuot: Seasons, for voice, string quartet & piano; Nonnie Burgess, mezzo-soprano; Colin Aitkenworth, tenor; Peter Langworth, pianist. Trinity St. Paul’s Centre, 427 Bloor St. West. 416-466-1800. $25; $20 (std); $10 (std).
...CONCERTS: Toronto and GTA

Choir School; Rachel Leurin, organ; Jerry Cichocki, conductor. St. James' Cathedral, 65 Church St. 416-241-9785.

- 8:00: CHIBI Duet Music Foundation.
  George Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge St. 416-872-1111, 866-577-4277. $25.

- 8:00: Luminato/ Harbourfront Centre New World Stage.

- 8:00: Luminato/ Harbourfront Centre New World Stage.

- 8:00: Luminato/ Harbourfront Centre New World Stage.

- 8:00: Luminato/ Harbourfront Centre New World Stage.

Saturday June 02

- 11:00am: Luminato/Art of Jazz Spring Celebration. Jazzrhythms for Juniors.

- 1:30: Luminato/Art of Jazz Spring Celebration.

- 7:00: Opera America presents.
  Opera America presents, with the American Opera Society.

- 9:00pm: Association of Improvising
  Musicians Toronto/Arraymusic.
  Performance with cellists Thomas Charnine.
  Arraymusic Studio, Suite 218, 60 Atlantic Ave. 416-539-6752.

May 1 - June 7, 2007
**The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir**

*Alexander Vepinsky, Conductor
Lina Zemelman, Piano*

**81st Spring Concert**

Special guests

*Marilyn Lerner, piano &
David Wall, tenor*

75th anniversary salute to composer Milton Barnes; Canadian premiere of the gheto cantata *Di Leteris Mire* (Mira the Teacher); Yiddish, Hebrew and other favourites.

Sunday, June 3, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

Leah Posnans Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St.

Tickets: $23 (seniors/students $19; children 12 & under free)

416-665-7766 (day), 416-636-0936 (evening/weekend)

www.winchestervillagecentre.org/institutions/choir.html
email: tjkosher@sympatico.ca

torontocartoouncil
CONCERT LISTINGS

Beyond the GTA

In this issue: Ancaster, Aurora, Bancroft, Barrie, Belleville, Bolton, Brantford, Burlington, Caledon East, Cambridge, Campbellford, Cobourg, Creemore, Drayton, Dundas, Elora, Georgetown, Gravenhurst, Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, Lindsay, London, Marmora, Midland, Milton, New Hamburg, Newmarket, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Orangeville, Orléans, Oshawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Port Dover, Port Hope, Sharon, St. Catharines, Stratford, Uxbridge, Waterloo

Concerts: Toronto & GTA

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Music Theatre/Opera/Dance

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Announcements/Lectures/Etcetera

Page 52

Performers and repertoire change
Events are sometimes postponed or cancelled
Call ahead to confirm details with presenters.

Beyond GTA - Tuesday May 01

7:00: Peterborough Children's Chorus. Voices of Spring. Minahla: Child of the World (premiere); Siret: Though We Be But Children (premiere); Hatfield: One for Frosty, Two for Fred; Ain't That News; The Lion Sleeps Tonight; other works. Junior, Concert, Youth Choruses. Maureen Harris Lewis, director. George Street United Church, 20 George St., Peterborough. 705-740-8110, 112; Hillside #3: family 2 adults + 2 stitich.


8:00: Guelph Jazz Festival. Three Tuesdays of Jazz Festivals. Jemše Stone Quartet. Wider sound, steeped in tradition, technique, lore of old-time & bluegrass banjo music. The Bookshop's Bier, 41 Queen St., Guelph. 519-763-6952, 115; (concert).

Beyond GTA - Wednesday May 02

12:15: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Larry Moore, chanter, Ron Dyakowicz, viola, & Peter Zeld, pianist, 54 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-576-4430, Free.

2:00: Shaw Festival. Mecum and Mabel. By Jerry Herman & Michael Stewart. Benedict Campbell, Glynn Renney, Gabrielle Jones & others; players: Paul Spertiel, musical director; Molly Smith, director. Festival Theatre, 10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake. 800-511-7429. Call for ticket prices. For complete run see music theatre listings.


Beyond GTA - Thursday May 03


8:00: Drury Lane Theatrical Productions. The Boys from Syracuse. Musical comedy.

Beyond GTA - Saturday May 05


7:00: Lindsay Concert Foundation. Penderecki: String Quartet. Glen Erving Concert Hall, Fleming College, 200 Albert St., South Lindsay. 705-678-5625, 10; (youth).

7:00: Grand Philharmonicon Chilren's Choir. Spring Concert. Carol Giesbrecht, conductor. Darwin Street Church, 50 Benton St., Kitchener. 519-576-1570, 800-265-0777, 117; 113/stq; $10/grade B; 15 (youth).

7:30: Lynxes Choir of Barrie. Fauré's Requiem. Chamber orchestra; Jennifer Griffith, soprano; Dan Hamilton, tenor; Bryan Mayhew, accompanist; St. Wilfrid, director/conductor. Barton United Church, 27 Barton Ave., Barrie. 705-737-0872, 115; (concert).


8:00: Stratford Festival. Beyond GTA: Wednesday May 03

7:30: Canadian Orphan's Male Choir. Hamilton Children's Choir. Fundraising Concert. Heather Flewes, soprano; Margaret Blount, mezzo-soprano; Jessica Filip, baritone; Chris Christ's Church Cathedral, 252 James St. North, Hamilton. 519-525-7737. 2:00. Proceeds to the David Denis Memorial Fund.


7:30: Georgetown Bach Gala. Gala Concert; Bach: Concerto for Two Harpsichords; Concerto D; choruses from Cantatas. Performed by Handel. Pulcro. Hanno Manke. Mario Manke. harpsichordist; Georgetown Bach Chorale and Chamber Orchestra: Roland Guidoriz. artistic director. Knox Church, 118 Main St. South, Georgetown. 506-877-8321, 925.

8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra. Heavenly Hands. Excerpts from Handel: Alexander, Brookes Passion, Giulio Ciarni, Hercules and other works. Fabiana Katz, mezzo-soprano; The Renaissance Singers; Graham Colas, conductor; Maureen Forrester Recital Hall, Wilfrid Laurier University, 75 University Ave. West, Waterloo. 519-744-3616, 112; (concert).

8:00: Niagara Symphony. A Night at the Proms...and More! Pentafrance, conductor; John Willard. Wellington, 115 Main St. South, St. Catharines. 905-937-7492, 5; (concert).

Beyond GTA - Sunday May 07

8:00: Drayton Entertainment. Cash on Demand. By George Abrahams. Alan Murschall, director. Drayton Festival Theatre, 33 Wellington St., South, St. Catharines. 888-444-4465, 128. For complete run see music theatre listings.

8:00: Brad Hall. Words and Music: Songs of Stephen Sondheim. Selections from West Side Story, Gypsy, Follies, Company, Sweeney Todd, Into the Woods, & others. Amanda Vanderbank, Laura Haps, vocals; Brad Hall, piano/vocals. Concert Hall, Victoria Hall, 65 King St. West, Cobourg. 905-372-2210, 888-862-
Beyond GTA: Monday May 9

12:15: St. Andrew's Church, Stephen Zarembinski, guitar, 84 Queen St. South, Kitchener, 519-578-4430, Free.
2:00: Sandersen Centre for the Performing Arts, Taste of Nova Scotia, Music of Don Messer, Anne Murray, Catherine McKenzie, Natalie McMaster, The Rankin Family, Rita McNeil and others, Tom Leadbeater, tenor; Mark Sullivan, Kids, 68 Dalhousie St., Brantford. 519-758-8800, $22.50.

7:30: Guelph Male Choir, Spring Concert, Nancy Fischer, accompanist; Ron Kowsky, guitar. Sets: Nancy Fischer, accompanist; Roger Trester, tenor; Mark Lipton, conductor. Centre In The Square, 101 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-886-1673, $18; $15(st). See music theatre listings.
8:00: Kitchener Waterlooo Opera, Tosca. By Puccini. Frances Cotten, Geeta Lapparam, Teresa DiPaola, Daniel Lipton, conductor, Centre In The Square, 101 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-578-1570, 800-265-8977, $32-70. For complete run see music theatre listings.
8:00: Orangefield Concert Association, Bersie Sirensky & The Moe Keefman Tribute Band. Bersie Sirensky, keyboard; Bill McGinie, flute; Kirk Macdonald, altsaxophone/tenor sax; Reg Schotter, guitar; Kieran O'Very, bass; Terry Clarke, drums. Orangeville Town Hall Opera House, 67 Broadway Ave. 519-842-3423, 800-424-1265, $25; $10(st).

Beyond GTA: Saturday May 12
2:00: Stratford Festival, My One and Only, By George & Ira Gershwin, Cynthia Dale, Laind Musicians, David W. McCol, Dyanne Tettenson, performers; Bertold Carriere, musical director. Avon Theatre, 99 Downie St., Stratford. 519-537-3200, 800-265-8977. Call for ticket prices. For complete run see music theatre listings.
5:30: Niagara Symphony & Carousel Players, Jeunesses Musicales: All for One and One for All, Grammy Concert for families. Sullivan Mahoney Courthouse Theatre, 101 King St. St. Catharines. 905-852-6328, $10. See music theatre listings.
7:30: Grand Philharmonic Youth Choir, Spring Concert. William: Gloria Deo Por Immensa Solace Female Cantique de Jean Racine; Scherli: Euphath for Moonlight; Shaw Simpkin, accompa· nist; Nancy Tanguay, conductor. St. Peter's Church, 49 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-578-1570, 800-265-8977, $22; $13(st); $10(che) to grade 8, $5(eyeGO).

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~ Women of Music ~

May 27 - 2:30 pm at Centre In The Square in Kitchener

Simon Stratfeild, conductor - Tom Allen, host
Anita Walsh, violin - Roxolana Toews, violin
Vicky Dvorak, violin - Sophie Drouin, violin

~ Signature Series ~

Simon Stratfeild, conductor - Thomas Wiebe, cello - Ian Sadler, organ
May 25 & 26 at 8:00 pm, Centre In The Square

~ Pops the Fieder Way ~

Brian Jackson, conductor
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STUDENT $20

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Beyond GTA: Sunday May 13

Beyond GTA: Monday May 14

Beyond GTA: Tuesday May 17

Beyond GTA: Friday May 25

-- 8:00: Guelph Musicfest. Theresa Thibeudeau: A Family Affair. Solos, duets, from operatic aria to Broadway, Theresa Thibeudeau, soprano; John Medica, Adrian Kramer, baritones. Recital Hall, Guelph Youth Music Centre, 75 Cardigan St., 519-993-7591, 430; $25(st); $25(adult); $22(st/ad). Proceeds in benefit of GYMFC.

-- 8:00: Northumberland Orchestra & Choir. Inspired by Tango. Latin American & Spanish dance music influenced by rhythms of tango & flamenco. G. Kawczik, guitar; Matthew Jaskiewicz, conductor/music director. Capital Arts Centre, 20 Queen St., Port Hope, 905-885-1071, 800-434-5062; $22; $20(ad); $18(st/ad). Proceeds to benefit OSMO.

-- 8:00: Nota Bene Period Orchestra. Road to Brandenburg. Bach: Brandenburg Concertos #4 & #5; & other works. Boys Medlicott, artistic director. Linda Meistad, music director. Parkminster Church, 275 Erb St. East, Waterloo, 519-884-8793; 15; $22(st); $20(ad); $18(st/ad). Proceeds to benefit NBPO.

-- 8:00: One Voice Choir. Blue Skies: 10th Anniversary Spring Concert. Favourite repertoire from programs past. Debra Thompson, accompanist; Angela Wakeford, director. Trinity United Church, 20 First Ave., Uxbridge, 905-952-0384; 10; (free/12).

Beyond GTA: Saturday May 12

Beyond GTA: Monday May 14

Beyond GTA: Thursday May 17

Beyond GTA: Friday May 25


Beyond GTA: Saturday May 19

Beyond GTA: Sunday May 20

-- 8:00: Shaw Festival. Sunday Coffee Concert. Shaw Festival company actors and musicians; Shaw Festival in Residence. Llobely, Festival Theatre, 10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 500-511-7428. Free.

Beyond GTA: Wednesday May 23

-- 12:15: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Sarah Cardwell, cello, & Anne Marie MacDairmid, piano. 54 Queen St., North, Kitchener, 519-576-4430. Free.

Beyond GTA: Monday May 14

Beyond GTA: Thursday May 17

Beyond GTA: Friday May 25


Beyond GTA: Monday May 14

Beyond GTA: Thursday May 17

Beyond GTA: Friday May 25


Beyond GTA: Saturday May 19

Beyond GTA: Sunday May 20

-- 8:00: Shaw Festival. Sunday Coffee Concert. Shaw Festival company actors and musicians; Shaw Festival in Residence. Llobely, Festival Theatre, 10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake, 500-511-7428. Free.
Palestrina
JUN E
M A Y 1 -
life:
Daniel Lichti, baritone; Westben Festival Bennett, soprano; Kim Dafoe, mezzo-soprano; Church
- 8:00:
Kitchener. 519-745-0675. $20; $15(sr/st);
Mozart: Coronation Mass; works by King John of
pany, 354
er.
- 8:00: The
Denise Djokic,
Cello
Concert. 519-780-6972. $20; $15; $5(12 & under).
- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Electric Thursdays. Centre In The Square, Kitchener.
See May 30.

Bye-bye Friday 01
- 8:00: Harlequin Singers. Broadway’s Best: 40th Anniversary Concert. Dury Lane Theatre, Burlington. See Jun 1.

- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Signature Series. Centre In The Square, Kitchener. See May 25.
- 8:00: WaterloolWellington Rainbow Chorus. Shakeragapan Rainbows. Harcourt United Church, 87 Deer Ave., Guelph. 519-780-5448. 120; 115(st); 8(see email 12).
- 8:00: Westben Concerts at The Barn. To Little Fiddler to Fiddler. Fiddler: Requiem; Hicknic & Beck: favourites from Fiddler on the Roof. Denna Bennett, soprano; Kim Dafou, mezzo-soprano; Daniel Lichti, baritone; Westben Festival Chorus, Brian Friesen, director. 201 Church St., Belfountain. 705-853-5508, 877-8357; $25; 15(st).

Bye-GTA: Sunday May 27
- 2:00: Amabile Youth Singers. Bon Voyage and a Farewell. Guests: Amabile Alumini, Allison SkuseIne-Eagles, accompanied by John Barnes, Brenda Zadorians, conductors. First St. Andrew’s Church, 350 Queen Ave., London. 519-433-2848. 115; 12(st); $10(st).
- 2:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Musically Speaking: Series Salute to the Women of Music: Yorke: Triangular March from Alida; Mozart: Overture to Cosi Fan Tutte; Chopin: Les Sylva
dicis; Violin Concerto for 4 violins & more. Anita Walsh, soprano; Patrick Bailey, tenor; Simon Streatfield, conductor. Centre In The Square, 1 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-579-1570. 25$; 20(st); $12(st) under; rush all students: $5.67 GO.
- 3:00: Westben Concerts at The Barn. To Little Fiddler to Fiddler. See May 26. Marmora Town Hall, 12 Burshtail St. 705-853-5508; 877-883-7777. 25$; 10(st).
- 3:00: Gerald Fegan Singers. On Wings of Song. Gerald Fegan, conductor. Chapel of Mount St. James, 1448 Richmond St. North. 519-433-9593. 99; 24/7; 25$; 20(st); $15(st).
- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. QuartetFest 07 #1: Edward Menuhin with Gottlieb Wallisch, violin; Andrew Elder, viola; James Nettleton, cello. The Barn. See May 29.
- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Electric Thursdays. Centre In The Square, Kitchener. See May 30.

Bye-GTA: Monday May 20
- 12:00: St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church. The Licorice Afters Windup Ensemb
e. 54 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-576-4340. Free.
- 2:00: Sandorson Centre for the Performing Arts. Rosemary, Pati, Doris Day and Friends. Music of Patti Page, Rosemary Clooney, Doris Day, Jo Stafford, Peggy Lee and others. Marie ange, singer. 26 Dalhouse St., Brant
tford. 519-786-8960. $32.50.

Bye-GTA: Thursday May 31
- 10:30am & 1:30: Brantford Symphony Orchestra. Young Persons’ Concert. One-hour narrated symphony performance. Sanderson Cen
tre for the Performing Arts, 66 Dalhousie St., Brantford. 519-758-9000. 14.

Bye-GTA: Saturday June 2
- 7:30: Georgian Bay Concert Choir. The Long Journey. Guests: Georgian Bay Children’s Choir, members of the Georgian Bay Symphony Orchestra; Hornerre-Bom, conductor. St. An
drew’s Church, 985 2nd Ave. West, Owen Sound. 519-371-2836. 20.
- 8:00: Harlequin Singers. Broadway’s Best: 40th Anniversary Concert. Dury Lane Theatre, Burlington. See Jun 1.
- 8:30: Jean Edwards. Song Journey. Jean Edwards, soprano; Brahman Gehmaner, piano; Luke’s Church, 23 Carleton St. West, Crea
mores. 416-480-4172. 20.
- 8:00: Karen Schuessler Singers. Strawb
erry Fields. The Beatles, Patiala Clark, Sir Elton John, Eric Clapton, Devon. Sharen Beeler, Jason Hakim, soloists; Stephen Holzwarth, piano; KSS Unio, Jack Barnet; Karen Ann Schuessler, conduc
tor. Wesley-Knox Church, 01 Ashk Ln., 519-438-4460. 220; 117(st); 118(st); 119(ad); 15(st). adv free(6-12).
- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Mu
- 8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. PopSingles. Pops the Fiddler Way. Brian Jack
c, conductor. Centre In The Square, Owen Sound. 519-578-1570, 905-285-6877. 45-399.

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Sunday May 27
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Admission $30.00
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May 1 - June 7 2007

Tickets at Twelfth Night Music in Waterloo, and Etcetera and Kelly Greens Flowers in Cambridge, at the door or call 745-0675
CONCERTS: Beyond the GTA


Beyond GTA: Sunday June 03


8:00: Guelph Jazz Festival. Three Tuesdays of Jazz Fundraiser: Tofteiny, Kwon Brie, multi-instrumentalist; Matt Brubec, cellist; Jesse Stewart, percussion. The Bookshelf's, 41 Guelph St., Guelph. 519-763-4952. 519-763-5452. 519-763-5452.

Beyond GTA: Tuesday June 05


12:15: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Choral Extravaganza. Friedel. Variations libres et finale for flute, string trio & harp; Badac: Dense for string trio; bacterial: Improvisation for cello and organ; Debussy: Sonata for flute, viola and harp; Wids: Trio for violin, viola, harp; Francais: CIN-CIN Quintet for flute, string trio & harp; Jacques Isserlis-itch and friends. Pamela: St Kitts, piano. 54 Queen St. North, Kitchener. 519-767-4400. Free.

Beyond GTA: Thursday June 07

8:00: Kitchener-Waterloo Music Society, Quartet Fest Participants Ensembles #1. KW Kunst Music Room, 57 Young St. West, Waterloo. 519-886-1873. $10; $6(st). 519-886-1873.

R. George, based on the book by Roald Dahl; Charlie has a specialty cooked day at the mysterious chocolate factory. May 11-13: 7:30; May 13: 8:00, 11:30, 12:00. Pimennier Theatre, Tuxedo Park, 67 Petterd Rd. 905-887-2008. 7:30.


E-GNTY. Mirvish Productional Theatre. Gargantua. Multi-media, multi-disciplinary production integrating text, movement, original music, interactive projections & live online chat, looking at the ways human interaction has changed since we've merged onto the information highway. - May 1-6. 7:30; May 7: 12:30; May 8: 12:30. 416-212-9122. 416-401-3333. 416-401-3333.


Oklahoma! Stratford Festival. Love triangle in turn-of-the-century Oklahoma territory; music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II; based on the play Green Grow the Lilacs by Lines. original dance by Annes de Mille. Kyle Elizir, Dan Chameroy, David W.


Rialto (Practical), Homes, Coming, & Parasitati (Primalurial Energy). Harbourfront Centre NextSteps/Menaka Takkhar Dance Company. Classical Bharathnatyam movements with modern twist, Natashah Belch, dancer/ choreographer; love story based on Sangey poetry in classic Bharathnatyam, & contemporary dancer/couple dance about creation, sustenance, destruction & re-birth. Menaka Takkhar, choreographer. May 25-26: 8:00; May 27: 2:00. CentreStage, 207 Queens Quay West. 416-973-4000. $30, $22.50 ($20 students), $90 ($60 seniors).


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by the 20th of the month before

CONTINUES ON PAGE 60

Cover: Mondays, pay what you can. Tuesdays-Thursdays, $5; Fridays/Saturdays $10.
Menu: A wide range of cocktails, martinis, and a broad enough menu to suit most tastes.

Atmosphere: Varies from night to night. The bar attracts jazz fans, as well as theatre goers and Bay Street types looking for a place to unwind. Expect it to be noisy on a Friday or Saturday. Note that this venue is 19+

3. Dominion on Queen, 500 Queen St. E.
Located on Queen East near Parliament, Dominion on Queen is a comfortable, local venue with fiercely loyal regulars. Live jazz is presented six (and occasionally

When the concert's done ... East of Yonge, all that jazz
by Sophia Perlman

As Jim Galloway mentions in his column on page 23, the part of the city around Massey Hall has a rich jazz history. But while there has been much mourning the demise of venues like the Top O' the Senator and the Montreal Bistro in recent years, there is still a wealth of places to hear live jazz. This month, we're taking a look at some of the venues that are within close range of this wonderful, historic concert venue.

1. Pantages Martini Bar and Lounge, 200 Victoria St.
www.pantageshotel.com
Perhaps the closest venue to Massey Hall, the Martini Bar in the upscale Pantages Hotel presents live jazz booked by local jazz personality Jaymz Bee on Fridays and Saturdays.

What Will I Hear? Friday nights feature the trumpet and piano duo of John Simoes and Aaron Peixoto - both graduates of the Humber College Music program. Saturday night features a rotating roster of talented local pianists. Last month, the list included Robert Scott, David Restivo and Ashley Wey.

Cover: None, and the bar offers one hour complimentary parking on jazz nights.
Menu: Upscale martinis, and light appetizers.

Atmosphere: Recently re-styled by the designers behind HGTV’s "The Designer Guys" the bar features two separate areas - the bar itself and a separate seating room known as the library with couches and chairs for quiet conversation.

2. Reservoir Lounge, 52 Wellington St. E.
www.reservoirlounge.com
Located right across from the Flatron building, and steps from both the St. Lawrence Centre and the Hummingbird, this below-street level venue offers live music 6 nights a week.

What will I hear? There is a roster of musicians (including yours truly) who play weekly. The music tends to lean towards swing jazz, jump, and blues. Video clips are available on their website.

Cover: Mondays, pay what you can. Tuesdays-Thursdays, $5; Fridays/Saturdays $10.
Menu: A wide range of cocktails, martinis, and a broad enough menu to suit most tastes.

Atmosphere: Varies from night to night. The bar attracts jazz fans, as well as theatre goers and Bay Street types looking for a place to unwind. Expect it to be noisy on a Friday or Saturday. Note that this venue is 19+

4. Live@Courthouse
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**


CONTINUES ON PAGE 54
MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Etobicoke Centennial Choir, a 50-voice auditioned community choir in its 40th season, seeks a Music Director with creative vision and a collaborative leadership style, commencing September 2008. The choir performs a wide range of repertoire presented in three concerts during a 10 month season. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 - 10:00 pm at Islington United Church.

The successful candidate will have experience conducting adult choirs; a background in voice production; post-secondary education in vocal performance/choral conducting or equivalent; a thorough knowledge of choral repertoire; experience in motivating and inspiring amateur choristers; and the ability to work effectively with a volunteer Board of Directors.

Preference will be given to applicants who reside in the GTA.

Qualified applicants should submit a resumé with covering letter to ecc@etobicokesings.com or to Etobicoke Centennial Choir Search Committee, c/o Islington United Church, 25 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke, ON M9A 1G9 by June 29, 2007

For further information, visit www.etobicokesings.com

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"May 26 2:00: Church of the Redeemer, Toronto Organ Day. Organ demonstration. 152 Ebor St. West. 416 822-4668. Free.

"May 26 2:00: St. Clement's Church, Toronto Organ Day. Organ demonstration. 59 Briar Hill Ave. 416 483-8864. Free.

"May 26 3:00: St. Thomas' Church, Toronto Organ Day. John Tuttle demonstrates St. Thomas' organ. 383 Harbord St. 416 679-2323. Free.


"May 27 1:30pm: Metropolitan United Church. Carillon demonstrations at 1pm, 2pm & 3pm; organ demonstration at 3:30pm. Patricia Wright and Matthew Coons, organists; Gerald Martin, carillonneur; 56 Queen St. East. 416-363-0321 29¢. Free; donations accepted.


"May 31 12 noon-midnight. RCM Community School, Baystayck. Featuring soul, pop & rock bands made up of members of the Baystayck financial community. The Round House, Steam Whistle Brewery, 205 Bremner Blvd. 416 699-2550, Fundraiser for RCM Outreach, Sick Kids Foundation, and Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. $50 includes BBQ dinner & libations.

LECTURES/SYMPHOSIA

"May 5 8:00am-1pm: Canadian Opera Company. Electro: Heroine or Hysteric? Symposium on the opera. Presenters include: John Noyes, Marja Euchner, Jill Scott, Linda Hutcheon and Michael Hutchison, Sherry Lee. 12 noon: Panel discussion with members of the CCO's creative team. Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles St. West. 416 393-6671. $15, $10 (CCO faculty), $5 (st). Free; donations accepted.

"May 7 8:00: Toronto Wagner Society, An Evening with soprano Susan Bullock. Arts & Letters Club, 14 Elm St. www.richard_wagner.tripod.com


"June 3 8:00: St. Clement's Church. Adolf De Santis will present in February two: La Bohème (Puccini), A Masked Ball (Verdi). The Tales of Hoffmann (Offenbach). Auditions on Friday, June 1st from 2pm to 6pm for an Appointment: call 416-698-3287 OR auditions@toronto-opera.com.

WANTED: MUSIC TEAM LEADER
Belfair/Kew Beach United Church
Located in the heart of the Toronto Beaches, these two churches recently amalgamated and are now looking for a dynamic part time Music Team Leader to inspire and direct the music program for this newly formed congregation. With the assistance of volunteers, the music leader will direct and often accompany the adult, youth, junior & bell choirs, worship band and support other community based music initiatives. ARCT or equivalent is essential. Starting Date: July 1, 2007. For further information and submission of your resume, contact Pat O'Connor at paotconnor_1@sympatico.ca.
**May 6 1:30-4pm: Toronto Early Music Players Organization Workshop for vocals & voices led by Betsy MacMillan. Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Ave. 416-778-7777. $20, members free.**

**May 7 3:00-5:00: CMC/Esprit Orchestra, CMC Professional Reading. Open rehearsal & performance of R.A. Baker's Wings and Engines; Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, and K. Kim’s Symphony 02. Alex Park, conductor. Part of the Nov Wave Composers’ Festival. Walter Carson Centre, 470 Queens Quay West. 416-815-7887. Free.**

**May 11 7:30-10pm: Recorder Players’ Society. Opportunity for recorder and/or other early instrument players to play Renaissance & Baroque music in uncoached groups. Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. East. 416-894-9266. $10 (CMMAC members), $12 (non-members).**

**May 16 7:30: Toronto Shapenote Singing from Sacred Harp. Beginners welcome. St. Stephen-in-the-Fields. 103 Bellevue Ave. 416-922-7997 or pleasurescarfrov@gmail.com $6**

**May 26: Southern Ontario Chapter of the Hymn Society. Workshop for Hymn Writers and Auditors. Led by Dr. Mary Louise Bringle, Royal York Road United Church, 851 Royal York Rd. 416-722-1618. lydiamcpherson@hotmail.com $30.**

**May 27 2:00: CAMMAC, Musical Reading. Workshop on Haydn’s Creation for singers & instrumentalists, led by David Bowers. Elliott Hall, Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. 416-421-0799, www.cammac.ca $6, $10 (non-members).**


**May 29 8:00: Toronto Folk Singers’ Club. An informal group that meets for the purpose of performance & exchange of songs. Transac Club, 282 Brunswick Ave. 416-532-0000.**

**June 1 7:30-10pm: Recorder Players’ Society. Opportunity for recorder and/or other early instrument players to play Renaissance & Baroque music in uncoached groups. Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. East. 416-894-9266. $10 (CMMAC members), $12 (non-members).**

**June 3 1:30-4pm: Toronto Early Music Players Organization. Workshop for recorder orchestra led by Arvay Macken. Music to be supplied in advance. Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Ave. 416-778-7777. $20, members free.**

**June 6, 7, 8 7:30: Tapestry New Opera Works. Westplay. Festival of short operas and oratorios. Featuring the short operas of Open to Go 2008, & readings from several full length works in development. Ernest Balmer Studio, Distillery Historic District, Bldg. 5B, Studio 315, 55 Mill St. 416-537-6006 x221, $10, 95ct.**

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(Prandini and Decle)
Four jazz/music bedroom was already secretly gorging herself. 

**MUSICAL LIFE**

Willing Slaves Raise the Roof at Singsations Saturday  
by mj buell

Saturday morning, late in April: Cameron Hall at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church is bursting at the seams with an array of ordinary-looking people of all ages, stretching, buzzing their lips, singing warm-up exercises with a conductor.

There’s coffee and tea brewing, fruit and cookies on side tables, piles of scores circulating, people scrambling for chairs, shuffling pages.

Just another choir practice? Not at all. There’s a rare buzz in the air, and a hungry look in the eyes of the assembly.

After a brief review of Italian phonics, the pianist begins to strum the introduction. One by one people transform as they start to sing. Eyes brighten, chins lift, chests swell, spirits soar, and the sound is astonishing: a potent reminder that opera choruses, often people who’d like to be opera singers, often do not sound at all like slaves, or servants, or soldiers, or village people. Maybe they should.

“Va, pensiero, sull’ali dorate; va, ti posa sui clivi, sui colli ove ozezzano tepide e molli  l’aure dolci delle suoni natali!...”

The beloved, familiar Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves from Giuseppe Verdi’s opera Nabucco is well served by people bound by a common passion, seeking freedom: in this case the passion is singing and the emotional freedom enabled by singing. The event is called **Singsation Saturdays**, a programme of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir.

Engagingly directed by Ann Cooper Gay, whose years of experience in both open and choral conducting made her an ideal candidate for the job, they sing real choruses from Carmen, Merry Widow, Fledermaus, La Traviata. The result is powerfully heartfelt, and remarkably accomplished. They were also treated to an impromptu, high-spirited performance by members of the Canadian Children’s Opera Chorus (Ann Cooper Gay is their regular conductor).

The TMC began these volunteer-run public workshops (a brainchild of Noel Edison’s) in 1999 as an outreach initiative. People come to sing major repertoire with a guest conductor and members of the TMC. Guest conductors share insights into the music, the composer, and the historic context of the composition.

These days, including TMC members, regulars and newcomers, it attracts upwards of 75 singers per session. The programme has evolved over the years to include having a Canadian composer/conductor lead one of the now five yearly sessions, and a Gospel workshop, usually during Black History month.

**Singensation Saturdays** workshops: 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; $10 per person per session, scores available to borrow for the day. There’s a social break with refreshments; a chance to meet the conductor and visit with other singers. Participants are encouraged to either call the TMC office at (416) 595-0422 ext. 24 or e-mail Kimber Jonah admin@tmchoir.org to register.

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**APRIL’S CHILDREN**

Russell and Adi Braun

spent their childhood and teen years in Frankfurt and Bavaria, the children of Canadian baritone Victor Braun and German mezzo-soprano Eraine Schwing-Braun.

The breathtaking success of Adi’s lateral move seven years ago from classical music to jazz, and Russell’s ascending stardom as one of the most sought-after lyric baritones on the international stage, are fine histories in the making. They came to Canada as young people with their families, bringing with them musical talent and drive and childhood experiences. Nurtured by family, partners, mentors and their music communities, they are realizing their dreams, and contributing back.

Ask either of these two articulate and emotionally intelligent singers how music figured in their childhoods and they will draw breath to reply, and then there will be a long pause, followed by a sigh. It’s at once an expression of pleasure and of not knowing where to begin.

Well now... they both say... music was just... everywhere.

One parent or the other was always vocalising. Their childhood homes rang with powerful voices: operatic music, lieder, the music theatre favourites of their parents’ North American friends.

There was the classical repertoire common to all young people who have piano lessons. Both speak of a visionary young piano teacher whose lessons sometimes consisted of “just listening to great music, and talking about it”, despite a (sometimes) authoritarian father who demanded to know why they were not practising more scales.

More fundamentally, they were exposed to the richness of the folk and popular music traditions from their mother’s German family - including a grandmother who spent 14 years farming in South Africa - and the complex of music that came from their father’s upbringing as a Memonite in North America: *Here comes Peter Cottontail* meets *Satie Marais...* in Europe.

Russell’s earliest memories include lying under the piano during musical parties, and watching mom exercise to Harry Belafonte records. Adi’s vivid memories of singing in the car mirror her brother’s: “You are my Sunshine” and “Sometimes I feel like a Motherless Child” in four-part harmony, from Munich to Frankfurt.

There was room in their lives, as individualising teens, for shared fascination with Manhattan Transfer, and Abba. Adi, in her basement bedroom was already secretly gorging herself on Barbara Streisand and Judy Garland, and playing her bongo drums to Santana recordings. At 19 she presented her parents with a fair accomplish demo recording - four jazz music theatre songs. Her parents were proud and admiring, but their father in particular asserted that classical music was a better career choice.

By the time of moving to Canada (Adi was 20, Russell was 17) both were already serious music students - Adi as a classical singer, and Russell as a pianist. His move to singing began with a teacher, also an accompanist, who increasingly had Russell “just sing this”, and offered a little coaching.

“Music was always for sharing...they both say this, too.

Through his teens, Russell would play for his mother while she sang Schumann’s *Frauenliebe und Leben*, much in the same way that people might share a favourite book or watch a movie together. Recalling his parents’ tolerance of his teenage appetite for *Queen*, Russell comments that his own child right now is asking for an I-Pod or similar device. Russell’s reluctance is only partly out of concern for Benjamin’s undamaged hearing. Russell says he’d rather the music was cranked up on speakers where they can both hear it: “I want his music to be something we can share.”

And he’ll tell you for sure how much he loves to hear his sister sing: admiring the courage and honesty it took to step away from the music she was groomed to perform, to share without apology the music that is colourfully hers.

Adi will tell you that it was her partner, Linda Ippolito, who entered her in a talent contest where she would finally perform the music she hungered for, and her close friend soprano Adrienne Pieczonka who affirmed over and over again “I want his music to be something we can share.”

And he’ll tell you for sure how much he loves to hear his sister sing: admiring the courage and honesty it took to step away from the music she was groomed to perform, to share without apology the music that is colourfully hers.

They both say that it’s still SO easy to find their mother in any audience: how she sings, and plays keyboards: admiring the courage and honesty it took to step away from the music she was groomed to perform, to share without apology the music that is colourfully hers.

Russell: “I hesitate to say this, because it might sound a little peculiar, but I believe that music is one of the most fundamental ways in which...not in any weird kind of way... people...consume...their relationships with each other. “

Lucky people.

mj buell
AUDIENCE WANTED:
Young Canadian Pianists
Compete for Incredible Prizes
by ml Buell

Twenty five years ago the Toronto Symphony Volunteer Committee launched a competition to encourage and foster talented young local pianists. By 1994 it was a national competition, the winner performing in the TSO's Light Classic Series. From 2001 to 2005 this biennial competition was sponsored by TD. Today it is the Bosendorfer National Piano Concerto Competition, expanded from two days to three to accommodate an increasing number of participants.

The Bosendorfer connection is new this year, raising the bar in terms of extraordinary prizes and opportunities for the winners. Spearheaded by Robert Lowrey, this giant step forward arose though Lowrey's association with the TSO (the Mozart Festival, the New Creations Festival), and Maestro Peter Oundjian's appreciation for the Schimmel and Bosendorfer pianos which are the basis of Lowrey's business (Robert Lowrey's Piano Experts).

TSO Vice President of Marketing & Business Development Mike Forrester mentioned that the Concerto Competition was without a sponsor, and Lowrey found himself thinking that as a higher-profile event, it could be more profoundly effective in assisting young musicians. And at the end of a year of Mozart, how fitting it would be that Austrian-based Bosendorfer could be involved.

It's a good fit: what better way for Bosendorfer (who produce only about 500 of their handmade instruments per year), to secure their own future than by embracing one young ardent musician at a time.

The first prize winner gets a Bosendorfer practice instrument for a full year, Bosendorfer instruments for public performances, and a performance in the Bosendorfer hall in Vienna, $4000 Roy Thomson Hall cash prize, and an autumn performance with the TSO in the Light Classics series. That's just the first prize.

Second prize: $3000 from the Toronto Symphony Volunteer Committee, and a performance with Mooredale Concerts, particularly auspicious this year because of the death of Kristine Bogyo, and (her husband) pianist Anton Kuerti's commitment.

CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

ORIANA Women's Choir is a well-established classical treble-voice choir in Toronto.

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Young Canadian Pianists Compete
continued from previous page

May 11 and 12, the first round: public recitals for each of 29 pianists between the ages of 16 and 23, at the Edward Johnson Building. Eighteen are Canadians from outside of Ontario, from 38 applicants who submitted audition tapes. Each will play a varied 30-minute recital, including a Canadian composition.

Recitals are free of charge. The public is encouraged to attend to provide audiences for these astounding young pianists and to catch a glimpse of the next great Canadian pianists.

The jury (Patricia Parr, Gary Kulesha, Isabel Rolston and Ronald Turini), will choose finalists for the second round Concerto Competition which begins at noon on Sunday May 12. Each finalist will play a complete concerto with piano accompaniment.

Recitals begin at 9:30am on May 11, and 10am on May 12, Edward Johnson Building, University of Toronto Faculty of Music. The public is welcome.

Info: 416-593-7769 or bosendorferpianocompetition@rogers.com

TMA MEMBERS DOMINATE JUNO
AND NATIONAL JAZZ AWARDS
TMA member Phil Nimmons won two awards at the National Jazz Awards (Clarinetist of the Year, Outside of the Year). The awards were dominated by Toronto players including Don Thompson (Musician of the Year, Instrumentalist of the Year), Terry Clarke (Drummer of the Year), Robi Botos (Keyboardist of the Year), George Koller (Bassist of the Year), Guido Basso (Trumpet Player of the Year), Reg Schwager (Guitarist of the Year), Mike Murley (Saxophonist of the Year, Acoustic Group of the Year - Murley/Braid Quartet), Anne Lindsay (Violinist of the Year), Roberto Occhipinti (Jazz Producer of the Year), Nick Ali's Electryc Trio (Electric Group of the Year) and TMA prez Russ Little (Trombonist of the Year). Diana Krall, a long-standing TMA member (even though she doesn't live here) won International Musician of the Year, Jazz Album of the Year, and Female Vocalist of the Year.

At the Juno Awards, this year's TMA Musician of the Year Nelly Furtado was the big winner and hosted the event as well. Other TMA members who brought home a Juno were Jim Cuddy (Adult Alternative Album of the Year), Jack Grunsky (Children's Album of the Year) and Diana Krall (Vocal Jazz Album of the Year). Toronto groups fared well, too. Sisters Euclid, featuring last year's TMA Musician of The Year, Kevin Breit won Instrumental Album of the Year and Jacksoul brought home the R&B Soul/Recording of the Year. Congratulations to all the TMA members that play in some of the winning groups and orchestras including the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra who won Classical Album of the Year, Vocal or Choral Performance.
Johnny Cowell Tribute: The Encore Symphonic Concert Band, a band affiliated with the Toronto Musicians’ Association, is presenting its fourth Tribute to Toronto’s leading musicians. This fourth in the series is to honour Johnny Cowell formerly of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Hannaford Street Silver Band. The first three were to Eddie Graf, Bobby Herriot and Howard Cable. The show will take place on Saturday June 9 at 8:00PM in the Crescendo School auditorium, 2365 Bayview Avenue. Tickets are $20.00 each and can be ordered through trumpeters@rogers.com

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When the concert’s done … head east of Yonge for jazz
continued from page 51

seven) nights a week. What will I hear? A range of local musicians, ranging from traditional jazz, to big band to contemporary. Wednesday nights feature Lisa Particelli’s Girls’ Night Out – a jam session geared specifically to be vocalist friendly, and Sundays feature a broader jam session hosted by Norm Marshall Villeneuve.

**Cover:** Varies from show to show. Check website for details.

**Menu:** Great food, reasonably priced. This writer recommends that whatever you have, you have it with the sweet potato fries. There is an almost mystifying number of beers to choose from, but Dominion makes it easy by offering a Tap Sampler special.

**Atmosphere:** Very relaxed. Adjoining rooms to the main bar have pool tables and big screen TVs. On any night you are likely to find a mix of jazz fans, and neighborhood people looking for a beer and a good meal.

4. **Courthouse Chamber Lounge**, 57 Adelaide St. E.
   www.liveatcourthouse.com
   Conceived by Patrick Taylor and Nick di Donato, the Courthouse is the newest addition to Toronto’s jazz club scene.

**What Will I Hear?** A huge range of local and out of town guests, playing a range of jazz including bebop, swing, fusion, latin and blues.

**Cover:** Varies from show to show. Check website for details.

**Menu:** Executive chef Jason Rosso has put together two menus – one for dinner and one for brunch. Dinner entrees range from $26-$36 and offer a range of dishes in the vein of wild mushroom and roasted eggplant cannelloni or northern venison. The brunch menu has something to suit just about anyone.

**Atmosphere:** While you can hear the band throughout the restaurant, you should specify if you want to be able to see, given the size of the room. High ceilings and wood paneling give the room a classy feel.

Finally... A couple of other venues to visit in the neighbourhood include C’est What (67 Front St. E. www.cestwhat.com) and the Hot House Café (located in Market Square), both of which also offer live music!

Next month we’ll broaden our sweep to the horse-shoe around the downtown core.

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**Book Shelf**

by Pamela Margles

**Diagnosing Genius: The Life and Death of Beethoven**
by François Martin Mai
Foreword by Anton Kuerti
McGill-Queen’s University Press 288 pages, photos and tables; $34.95

How could Beethoven compose such sublime, serene, and meaningful music when ‘his body was wracked with illness’? In Diagnosing Genius, Canadian psychiatrist François Martin Mai explores the effects of Beethoven’s hearing loss. ‘With the courage of genius,’ writes Mai, ‘he turned his crisis into an opportunity and a challenge.’

But it wasn’t just his hearing. Mai looks at the surprisingly copious material evidence available, including doctors’ records and analyses of Beethoven’s hair, to examine Beethoven’s various health problems. On top of – or because of – his serious physical ailments, he suffered from depression, anxiety, anger and insomnia. Mai concludes that he probably had bipolar disorder.

‘I was on the point of putting an end to my life – The only thing that held me back was my art.’

So wrote Beethoven in the shattering Heiligenstadt Testament, which Mai rightly treats as central to his study. If Beethoven’s ‘prodigious energy’, ‘sorcery spirit’, and ability to internalize his music helped him deal with his deafness, the inner peace he was able to find in his music helped him overcome the difficulties of his various other diseases.

By delving so deeply into Beethoven’s physical state, and its relationship to his psychological state, Mai, who is also a pianist, is able to offer fresh insights into the music. In the process, he provides a fascinating glimpse into the complex relationship between illness and creativity.

**Lorenzo Da Ponte: The Adventures of Mozart’s Librettist in the Old and New Worlds**
by Rodney Bolt
Bloomsbury

The thought that the librettist of The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni and Così fan Tutte ended up running a grocery store in New York City seems like fiction. In fact Lorenzo Da Ponte’s entire life, in Rodney Bolt’s lively narrative, could be read as novel if it weren’t for the detailed notes, bibliography and index at the end.

There actually exists plenty of documentary evidence on Da Ponte’s life, including his own memoirs, although Bolt takes pains to show how unreliable and self-serving they are.

Da Ponte lived a very long life – he died in 1838 at age eighty-nine. Throughout, he showed a singular ability to ‘turn gold to dust’. Bolt blames this on his obsessive self-absorption. He spent his life getting in and out of trouble over women, money or politics. ‘There was something preternatural about Da Ponte’s charm,’ writes Bolt. ‘No matter the scurrilities of which he might be suspect, in spite of his impetuousness, petty arrogance and at times infuriating manner, person after person melted to his allure.’

He was born Jewish, but converted to Christianity as a boy. Although he was ordained as a priest, he had many affairs, and even married. But he followed his own principles no matter what the consequences. His librettos for Mozart are, in fact, remarkable for their profound humanity.

Bolt quotes an early draft of the memoirs, where Da Ponte wrote, ‘I think that poetry is the door to music.’ If only there were more evidence about how Da Ponte and Mozart worked with each other and ‘delicately stitched the comic and serious together’ to produce those three masterpieces.
Brass Scholarship in Review: Proceedings of the Historic Brass Society Conference edited by Stewart Carter Pendragon Press 316 pages, illustrated; $70.00

In 1999, musicologists, performers, museum curators, even an orthodontist and a mathematician got together in Paris to explore various aspects of historical brass instruments and their players. This collection of papers documents that meeting.

The title may be unprepossessing, but the contents are thoroughly engaging. There's a report on a presentation by British conductor Andrew Parrott, who is in Toronto this month to conduct Opera Atelier’s production of Gluck’s Orpheus and Eurydice. He discusses how recordings provide a ‘catalyst for new ideas’ and allow lesser-known repertoire and performers to be heard around the world.

John Rockwell holds a singular position among music critics. As one who aims to ‘blur the divisions’ between different art forms, he gets accused of being too egalitarian. Yet he also gets called an elitist. In any case, this selection from his critical writings on classical music, pop, rock, dance, theatre, art, film, books and ‘all manner of indefinable cross-genre performance’ makes it clear that he is neither.

Rockwell wrote appreciatively about John Adams, Philip Glass, Peter Sellars, Mark Morris, and Robert Wilson long before they became icons. He saw the vital importance of Shostakovich to 20th century music before it became generally accepted. At the same time he was praising Linda Ronstadt, Meredith Monk and Andrew Lloyd Webber. He treats rock music as a profoundly significant art form.

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to these exceptional works I was left hoping that Esprit Orchestra and the TSO might respectively give our local journeyman lowriders Scott Irvine (tuba) and Fraser Jackson (contrabassoon) the opportunity to rattle our sphincters. I know that Scott has recently acquired (for the COC’s Ring Cycle performances) just the right instrument for the task, but theremin notes tell us that the contrabassoon concerto requires a very recently designed instrument that I’m not sure even exists in Canada yet. It would be worth while to beg, borrow or steal one to hear this piece live!

On a slightly different scale, but still not in the same league as the majors like Sony/BMG or Universal Music, Supraphon (distributed by Gillmore Music in Canada) is the only former Eastern Bloc music publisher to have maintained a number one position in its domestic market since the Fall of the Wall, and has continued to measure up successfully in the ever more competitive international environment. Interestingly, former CBC Records executive Jana Gonda now heads this national label in her native Czech Republic, which she had originally fled after the Soviet invasion in 1968. Supraphon’s extensive catalogue includes a wealth of archival material, but also features many new recordings by outstanding Czech artists, such as the Panocha Quartet. Founded in 1968, the ensemble came to international attention as the laureates of the 1975 Prague Spring International String Quartet Competition. Since that time they have been frequent visitors to Canada and the USA and have performed extensively throughout Europe and the Middle East. Their discography for Supraphon comprises eight CDs which include the complete chamber works of Dvorak, works by Smetana, Fibich and Schubert, and most recently, string quartets by Josef Suk and Maurice Ravel (SU-3955-2).

The lesser-known work by Suk holds its own in the illustrious company of Ravel’s gem and is given a loving performance by the Panocha. Composed a few years before the Ravel in 1896, Suk’s quartet shows some of the same sensibilities – late Romantic bordering on Impressionism – while acknowledging the influence of mentors Dvorak (his father-in-law) and Brahms. The disc offers the option of selecting an alternate finale movement composed in 1915, and the Meditation on an Old Czech Hymn “St. Wenceslas”. For me the Ravel is always like visiting an old friend and the Panocha give us as fine a performance as we would hope for. Of particular note is the sprightly tempo in the Asses vif second movement and the emotional tension of the Très lent third. All in all this is a welcome addition to the catalogue. Concert note: The Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society presents Quebec City’s Cartier Quartet performing the Ravel as part of QuartetFest on June 4.

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

David Olds
Editor, DISCOVERies
discoveries@thewholenote.com

VOCAL AND OPERA

Handel – Tobit
Various Soloists; Junge Kantorei; Frankfurt Baroque Orchestra; Joachim Carlos Martini
Naxos 8.570112-14

The art of pasticcio, a sophisticated form of compiling music, reached its peak in the eighteenth century. That is why we can enjoy this oratorio, created probably in 1764, even though Handel himself died in 1759... This recording features exquisite playing and uniformly good singing, with a special mention to Stephan MacLeod as Raguel and Toronto’s own Barbara Hannigan as Azarias (the archangel Raphael in disguise). Yet another superb recording from Naxos and a most welcome change after a season filled with multiple performances of Messiah. Tobit probably won’t replace it in the public’s affections, but it deserves a good – and repeated – listening...

Robert Tomas

Concert note: Tafelmusik performs Handel’s oratorio Solomon May 10-13 with Michael Chance and Karina Gauvin.

Verdi - Otello
Gran Teatre del Liceu; Antoni Ros-Marba; Willy Decker
Opera Arte OA 0963D

Because of Wagner’s increasing influence and popularity, in 1871 Verdi, at the pinnacle of his career, lost his self-confidence, regarded his own operas of melodic set pieces outdated and stopped writing any new work for 15 years. During this time, however he subconsciously absorbed some of the essence of Wagnerian music drama and with an enormous amount of will power he produced Otello, perhaps his finest work. What is so great about Otello, is how Verdi succeeded in infusing Italian melody into the turbulence of music drama, forming a unique and original masterpiece...

Janos Gardonyi

Concert note: The Canadian Opera Company presents Verdi’s Luisa Miller May 3, 5, 9, 11 and La Traviata May 4 - 26.

Menotti - Help, Help, the Globolinks!
Hamburg Philharmonic State Orchestra; Matthias Kuntzsch; Gian Carlo Menotti
ArtHaus Musik 101 281

Help, help, I may never ever watch another opera film in the same way again! Faceless tube-like space aliens named Globolinks, accompanied by an unearthly electroacoustic soundtrack, primitive lighting and mirrored sets, arrive to conquer the world, yet disappear upon hearing human music! A school dean learns to sing! A frustrated music teacher gets
to, sort of, run the show and save the world (with a little help from her fellow teachers and students)! The formidable electroacoustic, instrumental and vocal score, libretto and direction of Gian Carlo Menotti! Yes, this is outrageous, but it is opera after all...

Tilina Kilk

Extase
Measha Brueggergosman; Orchestre symphonique de Quebec; Yoav Talmi
CBC Records SMCD 5236

If you want to hear why Measha Brueggergosman has quickly become one of Canada's most exciting singers, look no further than this recording of works of Berlioz and Massenet. Recorded in 2004 but only recently released, it finds the soprano in superb voice, singing repertoire which suits her perfectly. Berlioz's song cycle Les Nuits d'été lies somewhere between the soprano and mezzo range, and Brueggergosman's voluptuous middle range is heard to excellent effect here. She carefully balances the exuberance of the first and last movements with the introspective, yearning qualities of the inner ones. Yet she always pays careful attention to diction and the text. Many singers have recorded these songs, and in a crowded field, Brueggergosman's sensitive readings stand up against the best...

Seth Estrin

The Berlin Concert - Live from the "Waldbuhne"
Placido Domingo; Anna Netrebko; Rolando Villazon
Orchestra of the Deutschen Oper, Berlin; Marco Armiliato
Deutsche Grammophon DVD 073 4302

...Perhaps hoping to replicate the Three Tenors phenomenon, Deutsche Grammophon has issued an exceptional concert recorded live at the Berlin Waldbuhne on July 7, 2006 and I must say that this is the most outstanding event of its kind ever made available on DVD. The concert consists of songs, arias, duets, and trios of solidly popular repertoire. Sometimes a soloist, or two or three, goes 'over the top' but who would not be swept along by the sense of occasion...

Bruce Surtees

Carmen Unzipped
Jean Stilwell; Patti Loach
Independent

Canada's most beloved and sexiest "Carmen" has just released an album that, while including the most famous aria from Bizet's opera (Habenera), focuses on non-operatic fare which nonetheless retains a sense of that character's unbridled "liberté." For this album, following on the heels of sold-out "Unzipped" cabaret performances for Tapestry New Opera Works at the Distillery District, the gypsy/mezzo Jean Stilwell and pianist and famous Beaches 'bluestocking' Patti Loach provide a travel map of adventure and misadventure in love...

Dianne Wells

Concert note: Jean Stilwell is featured along with Patricia O'Callaghan and Theresa Tova in Tapestry's "3 Divas" at the Distillery May 26-27.

EARLY MUSIC AND PERIOD PERFORMANCE

Rise, O My Soul - English Anthems
Studio de musique ancienne de Montreal; Consort des Voix humaines; Christopher Jackson
ATMA ACD2 2506

An anthem, at its most basic definition, is a composition to an English non-liturgical religious text sung in the context of an Anglican service. Christopher Jackson's new album, "Rise, O my soul" restricts itself to verse anthems of the Elizabethan period, composed between 1600 and 1640. Jackson's three-decade reign as a leading force in early Baroque choral/organ music has culminated in a seamlessly curated anthology. The music is peerlessly performed by the 16-voice Studio de Musique Ancienne de Montreal (SMAM) accompanied deftly by the Consort Des Voix Humaines—a highly respected 5 viols and organ ensemble in its own right...

Heldi McKenzie

Music & Sweet Poetry Agree
Matthew White
Analekta AN 2 9918

The smooth liquid sound of Matthew White brings a repertoire of 16th and 17th century English music by, among others, Dowland, Campion, Morley, Wilbye, Byrd, Locke and Purcell. While much of this music is similar in quality, the singing is sweet, sensitive, beautifully in tune, and born of innate musicality. Equally charming are the various combinations of recorders, viols, cornetti and sackbuts, accompanying and providing tonal variety. The brass are particularly articulate and stylish, especially in Matthew Locke's Suite in D minor...

Frank Nakashima

Mondoville - Pieces de Clavecin avec voix ou violon, Op.5
Luc Beauséjour; Shannon Mercer;
Hélène Plouffe
Analekta AN 2 9920

This disc of sacred psalm texts and violin sonatas combines three of Quebec's biggest claims to fame - Shannon Mercer, soprano; Luc Beauséjour, harpsichord and Hélène Plouffe, violin. The three of them seem to work together with ease and companionship, which makes the recording a pleasure to hear. Mondoville's sacred works are markedly exquisite and they paint a picture of the French Baroque that is not soon to be forgotten. Beauséjour plays with his usual confidence and assurance of style, which lends a feeling of accomplishment to every work...

Gabrielle McLaughlin

CLASSICAL AND BEYOND

Offenbach - Romantique
Jerome Perno; Les Musiciens du Louvre; Marc Minkowski
Archiv Produktion 4476403

This recording should perhaps be renamed "The forgotten Offenbach" or even "Offenbach rediscovered"! Anyone expecting delicious tidbits from Offenbach's famous operettas will be disappointed. Esteemed French conductor Marc Minkowski, who formed his Les Musiciens du Louvre period instrument ensemble in 1982 to perform Baroque and Classical repertoire, has branched out to embrace the Romantic era and one of his favourite composers, Offenbach... The centerpiece is the premiere recording of the composer's recently unearthed Cello Concerto "Militaire", which took painstaking detective work to assemble by music historian Jean-Christophe Keck...

Janos Gardonyi

Prokofiev - Debussy - Wagner
Marina Piccinini; Adreas Haefliger
Avie AV 2087

Opera Fantasie
Leslie Newman; John Lenehan
Independent F-LN0601
These two CDs, have much in common, both featuring accomplished Canadian women flutists, and both making welcome contributions to the flute discography: Leslie Newman’s gives us faultless, perhaps even definitive, readings of repertoire from the “golden age of the flute”, in which the technical and expressive possibilities of the then new Boehm flute were being explored and defined; Marina Piccinini’s gives us brilliant renderings of two masterpieces of the flute repertoire, the Prokofiev Flute Sonata and Debussy’s Syrinx, and a transcription of a violin masterpiece, César Franck’s A-Minor Sonata...

**Allan Parker**

**Solo**

Angèle Dubeau  
**Analekta AN 2 8741-2**

This is an entire album of solo works as the cover title implies; Ms. Dubeau’s personal tribute to her instrument, the violin. Recorded during the summer of 2006 in the late 19th century Church of the Annunciation in Oka, Quebec, the reverberant acoustic provides Dubeau’s “Des Rosiers” Stradivarius violin (1733) with a sonoric partner supporting her well-spoken musical statements...

**Frank Nakashima**

**Boris Zarankin; Gilles Tomkins**  
**DOREMI DDR-71151**

Pianist Boris Zarankin is a regular performer on the Toronto music scene, including appearances with the TSO as guest soloist. He is also well known to music lovers who frequent our smaller sized venues. These are the denizens of the Glenn Gould Studio and the St Lawrence Hall and even more intimate rooms where various committed entrepreneurial groups present salon-sized recitals and events. Zarankin must also be a most inspiring teacher because this recording is the direct result his playing before a gathering in his home of the Ajax-Pickering Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teacher’s Association. So impressed were these professionals that they wanted to make a recording to share their enthusiasm...

**Bruce Surtees**

**Brahms**  
**Roberto Plano**  
**Arktos 200691 CD**

Schubert; Godowsky  
**Xiang Zou**  
**Arktos 200692 CD**

Last October, I had the pleasure of serving on the jury for the Fifth Honens International Piano Competition. Founded in Calgary in 1991, the Honens is one of the world’s great music competitions. Every three years pianists from all parts of the globe compete for cash prizes and an even more lucrative Artistic and Career Development Program to launch and sustain their careers. Honens seeks to discover “Complete Artists – musicians who add knowledge, audacity, risk, individuality and the widest perspective to all they create or perform”. In addition to generous cash awards, the Honens Foundation manages the careers of the top three Laureats of each competition for three years, and produces CD recordings for these emerging artists on the Arktos label. Roberto Plano and Xiang Zou were two of the laureats of the Fourth Honens Competition in 2003...

**Jamie Parker**

Editor’s Note: You can read about the third 2003 Honens Laureate Winston Choi’s Arktos CD in the Editor’s Corner of our October 2006 issue, available on-line at www.thewholenote.com.

**Concert note:** Reviewer Jamie Parker joins the Tokyo String Quartet in Schumann’s Piano Quintet in Music Toronto on May 10.

**Mozart - Cosi (un opera mutet)**  
**Pentaèdre**  
**ATMA ACD22545**

The idea of recording an opera without any words might at first seem to be a contradiction in terms, but this disc by Pentaèdre, one of Canada’s finest and long-lived woodwind quintets, proves that the drama of Mozart’s music transcends any constraints of language or instrumentation. This project is the audible half of a collaboration between Pentaèdre and a mime troupe called Omnibus. The dramatic framework of *Cosi fan tutte* is maintained by the actions and expressions of the mimes, who are joined on stage by the musicians (liberated from the orchestra pit), and the whole becomes a new kind of theatrical experience...

**Colin Savage**

**Schumann - Symphonies 2 & 4**  
**Gewandhaus Orchester; Ricardo Chailly**  
**Decca 475 8352**

Robert Schumann occupies a special place in German music that continues to resonate to this day as evidenced by the frequent allusions to his music in contemporary compositions by Kurtag, Widmann, Lachenmann and Holliger. Gustav Mahler was also among the composers’ great admirers and often performed his symphonies in the later stages of his conducting career. To this purpose he prepared special editions for his personal use. This recording is based on these editions...

**Daniel Foley**

**Schumann - The Sonatas for Violin and Piano**  
**Jennifer Koh; Reiko Uchida**  
**Cedille CDR 90000 095**

The American violinist Jennifer Koh won the 1994 Tchaikovsky Competition, and now has an impressive list of eight intelligently-programmed CDs to her credit, this being her fourth for the Chicago-based independent label Cedille Records. If you know the Schumann violin sonatas at all, chances are you’re more familiar with the A minor Op.105 than the D minor Op.121. The little-known and seldom-played third sonata in A minor, WoO.27, however, is in some respects the most interesting...

**Terry Robbins**

**Concertos for 1 and 2 Harps**  
**Emmanuel Ceysson; Xavier de Maistre**  
**Claves 50-2607**

Is it owing to the harp’s delicate sound that composers have tended to shy away from producing concertos for this “instrument of kings”? In any event, among those who did rise to the challenge were Carl Reinecke, Albert Zabel, and Elias Parish-Alvars, three 19th-century composers featured on this Claves recording with French harpists Emmanuel Ceysson and Xavier de Maistre along with the Rheinland-Pfalz State Philharmonic under the direction of Hannu Lintu. Both soloists studied in France (Ceysson at the prestigious Paris Conservatoire) and both have been recent prize winners in international competitions...

**Richard Haskell**

Please note: If you are interested in this, and many other articles that appeared in The WholeNote.com, you can download it in PDF format by purchasing the digital magazine from The WholeNote.com. You can also read about the third 2003 Honens Laureate Winston Choi’s Arktos CD in the Editor’s Corner of our October 2006 issue, available on-line at www.thewholenote.com.
Over his career, Claudio Parodi played everything from piano, clarinet, electronics and tape. Through the years, he played, collaborated and recorded with everyone from Giuseppe Ielasi, Carla Bozulich, Barre Phillips, Le Quan Ninh to Nels Cline...

**Daniel Foley**

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**Hammer & Wind - Chamber Music of Leonard Enns**

Various Artists

Independent MMCD 0701 (www.lenns.ca)

...Enns is a prolific composer, collaborator and supporter of musicians in South-western Ontario. The featured performers - pianist Catherine Roberson, soprano Stephanie Kramer, tenor saxophonist Willem Mooleebreek and string bassist Christos Hatzis - Dancing in the Light Rivka Golani; Beverly Johnston; Suzanne Lemieux; Symphony Nova Scotia; Bernhard Gueller

CBC Records SMCD 5243

Since hearing *Eroticos Logos* by Hatzis in the mid-90's, I have fallen in love with this composer's ability to blend the traditional and the modern, the harmonic and the discordant, the melodic and the atonal. In fact, I consider him one of the most melodic of modern composers. And it's not because melodies dominate his music - even though *Love Among the Ruins*, his response to 9/11, features some neo-romantic flourishes à la Rachmaninoff. It is more because melody appears in his scores, even amid cacophony, like a flower blooming through a crack in concrete. In Hatzis' music, the instruments sing, even when the song is a cry of anguish...

**Robert Tomas**

**Collage**

Peabody Conservatory Wind Ensemble

Naxos 8570403

"The President's Own" United States Marine Band, is the oldest, finest and most prestigious band in America. It was founded by decree in Congress in 1798 and counts among its past directors the great John Philip Sousa. Naxos, as part of its new series of Wind Band Classics, has culled only the finest, studio quality recordings from the USMB's extensive public archives, making this music globally available outside the federally mandated confines of American nursing homes and elementary schools... The young musicians of the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore are featured in the aptly-named "Collage", a hodgepodge of wildly uneven pieces from the weedier patches of the wind band garden...

**Ted O'Reilly**

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**Kansas City Sounds**

Bob Brookmeyer Septet & Octet

Fresh Sound FSRCD430

Lucky Thompson meets Oscar Pettiford with Hank Jones; Jimmy Cleveland

Fresh Sound FSRCD424

Four classic 1950s albums make a welcome re-appearance here. Kansas City Sounds has both of Bob Brookmeyer's joyous 1958 United Artists LPs, "Kansas City Revisited" and "Stretching Out", while "Lucky Thompson Meets Oscar Pettiford" collates all the music originally issued on a pair of LPs by ABC-Paramount in
1956. The Brookmeyer dates reflect the valve trombonist’s Kansas City heritage- he grew up with the musical legacy of the great K.C. jazzmen ringing in his ears. The Thompson-Pettiford is a desert island disc that should never be out of the catalogue. The music captured at these sessions displays jazz at its peak. Tenor saxophonist Lucky Thompson and virtuosic bassist Oscar Pettiford were probably never heard to better advantage than here...

Don Brown

Cocktails For Two
Joe Temperley; Harry Allen
Sackville SKCD2-3071

...Recorded at a specially organized bonus event during Sunnie Sutton’s Rocky Mountain Jazz Party in Denver, “Cocktails For Two” presents the soulful baritone sax of Joe Temperley (he turned 77 a week before the session) and the singular tenor of 40 year old Harry Allen, with a wonderfully supportive rhythm section of the elegant pianist John Bunch, solid Greg Cohen on bass and the irrepressible Jake Hanna on drums. These great players often cross paths at similar jazz party events, and that comfort level allows them to pick up their horns and cruise through a session of standards like this one. While mostly the full quintet, they mix it up a bit with a trio feature for Bunch/Cohen/Hanna, the gently swinging My Romance; Allen’s ballad feature Everything Happens To Me; and a pretty one for Temperley, Polka Dots and Moonbeams...

Ted O'Reilly

Stengam
Cor Fuhler
Potlatch P206 (www.vergemusic.com)

Best described as a reductionist nocturne, “Stengam”, a solo piano outing, is more hypnotic than harmonic. Featuring one continuous 20-minute performance, plus two shorter introductory tracks, the CD highlights the talents of Dutch keyboardist Cor Fuhler who uses such stimulators as e-bows and magnets to transform the sound of an acoustic grand piano as if electronic add-ons are altering its function. Without over dubbing, yet in full control of the instrument’s keyboard, strings and soundboard, Fuhler’s internal action include buzzy scratches with affiliated resonations so that each string’s overtone reflects back on the externally sounded note...

Ken Waxman

Concert note: Cor Fuhler’s Conkstera is featured in the Jazz Avant series presented by the Music Gallery and Rough Idea on May 15.

POT POURRI

Clara Rockmore’s Lost Theremin Album
Clara Rockmore: Nadia Reisenberg
Bridge Records BRIDGE 9208

If you were to walk into a room with this CD playing, not knowing what it was, you might do an auditory double take - is that a human voice, or a violin or cello with very extended range, you might wonder? You’d be wrong on all counts. One of the earliest electronic instruments, the Theremin, operating on the principle of valve oscillations and other waves, is essentially a wooden box with a number of knobs, and two antennas to control pitch and volume by waving ones hands around them. Clara Rockmore (born Clara Reisenberg in 1911 in Vilnius, Lithuania), was America’s greatest virtuoso on the instrument, and even helped in its development, with inventor Leon Theremin. She in fact credits Mr. Theremin with saving her “musical sanity”, as she had been an accomplished violinist before having to give it up due to physical problems...

Karen Ages
Selections from the 2006 National Tour National Youth Orchestra of Canada; Jacques LacombeIndependent NYOC2 (www.nyoc.org)

I will try to avoid every cliché about the NYOC here: this orchestra holds its own alongside major professional orchestras, and will be judged by that standard. The new CD is an ambitious double-disc release, containing something over 115 minutes of excellent performances.

Leading off with Shostakovich’s 1st is a bold stroke, and it certainly pays off: the orchestra’s dynamic range is immense (careful, headphone users!) and the players truly are in top form. Debussy’s La Mer then follows, with such accuracy and a real sense of the 1905 period, that I’m afraid that I’ll be ignoring my favorite Simon Rattle for some time to come. Who can best the NYOC’s rendition of Chant de Rossignol by Stravinsky? This 1914 tone poem is challenging enough for big European orchestras, yet these musicians make it sound totally effortless. And they give us a finish of excellence performances.

Conductor Jacques Lacombe deserves accolades for his work on this CD.

The tracks were recorded over two days in July 2006 in McGill’s legendary Pollack Hall. Engineer Kevin Tighe and Producers Julian Mondonville and Georges-Etienne D’Entremont have worked miracles with their microphones and recorders. The photographers have even included some monochrome action shots, but the players are in their best duds, and so, presumably, not captured during these sessions.

Unreservedly recommended.

John S. Gray

Ten Planets
Richard Sacks
Artifact Music ART-037

This remarkable CD is quite simply a tour de force of musical creativity, with a brilliantly paced program of Canadian masterpieces played by the gifted percussionist-composer Richard Sacks.

The disc opens and closes with Michael J. Baker’s The Waldo, an extraordinary work for marimba performed in its fraternal-twin incarnations as both an acoustic and acoustic/electronic piece. Baker’s grace of musical gesture and sense of spaciousness and humour are all beautifully in evidence here.

Rodney Sharman’s Apollo’s Torch for vibraphone is exquisitely expressive, as are Barbara Monk Feldman’s Verses for Vibraphone and Glockenspiel, the latter of which in particular has a pungent yet reflective ‘Zen’ flavour. The richly varied sound worlds of James Tenney’s Maxmusic, and Sacks’s own Ten Planets with its rich multiplicity of textures and rhythms, make for the more high-octane expressions on this disc. And every piece receives a remarkable performance from Sacks, who plays with great musical insight and sensitivity.

Sacks suggests listening to his disc in one sitting – surprising, perhaps, in this world of i-Pod snippet taking – but he rewards you richly for so doing. Besides the virtuosity and expressiveness, there’s a subtle yet distinctively reflective quality to this disc which I very much appreciated. Try it, you’ll like it.

Alison Melville

Concert Note: Rick Sacks is a long-time member of Arraymusic whose “Array Legacy” concert features music of Michael J. Baker and other past Arraymusic directors at York University’s Accolade Centre on May 19th.

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DISCS OF THE MONTH

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Shannon Mercer / soprano
Hélène Plouffe / violin
Luc Beausejour / harpsichord

SOLO
Angèle Dubéau

“Dubéau’s tone throughout is expressive and the recording is excellent. *** [Four Stars]”
The Gazette

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$19.98
For many, Bernard Haitink’s Concertgebouw (1962-1971) cycle of the Mahler symphonies was their introduction to these incomparable works. In the early nineties when Philips let loose most of their prized artists and orchestras, they were past the half-way mark in a new Mahler/Haitink cycle with the post-Karajan Berlin Philharmonic released on laser disc during 1992-1994. Philips returned them to us on three DVDs with 1 & 2 together on 074 3131; 3 on 074 3132; and 4 & 7 on 074 3133. A 5th from the same series has never made it to video. How different these performances are from the Bernstein/Vienna complete cycle as seen on the complete cycle from DG. The patrician Haitink is no lesser a Mahler interpreter than the flamboyant Bernstein who unashamedly wears his heart on his sleeve. Both men are intensely committed and get exactly what they want from the players. Whereas Bernstein really gets wrapped up in the scores and their implications, Haitink is nowhere near as subjective which enables him to live not for the moment but keep some objectivity. I don’t believe that one is better than the other but, in their way I find them equally convincing. The video aspect is 4:3 on both but the sound is better on the Haitink which postdates the Bernstein by up to 20 years.

RCA has issued five more SACD versions from their Living Stereo editions. Welcome are two more from Fritz Reiner conducting the Chicago Symphony; Don Quixote (Antonio Janigro, cello) and Don Juan (88697-04604-2), and “Spain” which comprises suites from Falla’s El Amor Brujo (Leontyne Price), The Three-Cornered Hat and La vida breve, plus works by Albéniz and Granados (88697-04607-2). Julian Bream plays “Popular Classics for Spanish Guitar” recorded in 1962 (88697-04606-2). Charles Munch and The Boston Symphphony add Schubert’s 8th and 9th symphonies to their catalogue of SACDs (88697-04603-2) and finally Heifetz in an album of Double Concertos including Bach’s BWV1043 for two violins (Erick Friedman), Mozart’s Sinfonia Concertante K.364 (William Primrose, viola) and Brahms Double (Piatigorsky with Wallenstein conducting) (88697-04605-2). Although each one is well worth having, I was disappointed in the brilliant but detached playing in the Brahms, demonstrating that technique isn’t everything.

Possibly no recorded performance has attracted more international attention and seen so many re-issues as Glenn Gould’s 1955 Goldberg Variations. Here is one with a difference... a very big difference! On May 29th, Sony will issue a 2006 “re-performance of the 1955 Goldberg Variations played by Glenn Gould” (SACD hybrid 88697-03350-2). Zenph Studios, a music-technology company in Raleigh, North Carolina has developed a “ground breaking” process. “Their process analyses a recorded piano performance and separates its musical attributes (pitch and duration of notes, velocity of key strikes, key releases, and so on) from the surrounding noise, then encodes those attributes digitally to allow the performance to be replayed on a high-resolution computer-controlled piano like the Pro.” The Pro being “a nine-foot Yamaha Disklavier Pro grand piano, drawing on high-definition MIDI files, that can reproduce a digitally encoded performance with eight times the precision of the ordinary Disklavier marketed for home use.” So now you know that a re-performance is “not a re-mastering or restoration of a recording, but a re-creation of the original performance behind the recording.” This particular “performance” took place, very appropriately, in the CBC’s Glenn Gould Studio last September. Needless to say, the sound on this new disc is vastly superior and very much more comfortable upon the ear than the 1955 mono recording. A not-for-sale demonstration disc includes two different samples for comparison with the original in the right channel and the Zenph recording in the left. A few of us listening critically were able to detect no significant difference in any aspect between the old and the new. So, on May 29th you might just hustle into your local record store and be the first one on your street to own the Glenn Gould 1955 performance in SACD surround sound. Oh yes, there is a second version on the disc in binaural stereo. I understand that Sony has undertaken to issue more “re-performances” of different artists. I wonder what Zenph can do with that famous cylinder of Johannes Brahms playing.

Bruce Surtees

Editor’s note: Although Mr. Surtees was hesitant to “state the obvious” regarding Glenn Gould’s notorious vocalizations, at my request he provided the following addendum: Here is the way Gould heard Bach in 1955 now without his vocal embellishments. Presumably spontaneous, he may have needed them to maintain coherence and line to his instrument. Does it add to or detract from the instrument? If one feels it to be an integral ingredient then this “re-performance” can only be, at best, a suggestion of the original. Personally, I find it quite illuminating.

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On truncated reviews and downtown biases

I really don’t think the publishers have given any thought to the readers. Whether the record companies buy ads or not, I believe most readers still expect to find reviews of the latest releases in the magazine. I know that’s my main reason for going out of my way to pick up a copy. At the beginning of every month I grab the new issue at the World’s Biggest Bookstore, scan the reviews to find out what’s new, then head over to HMV to see if they’re in stock. The idea of having to go on line to read the reviews is simply absurd!

Len

Some friends and I were discussing it the other day and we all felt that fewer reviews (even slightly longer) but complete reviews is much better than the current idea of many “snippets” (especially if they are only printed in part).

Annette

And a second bugey (Toronto-centrism) reared its hoary head, but this time from a source far less remote than usual:

I am writing to express my profound displeasure with comments about York University in the opening paragraphs of your Quod Libet column in the March issue. You mention there are many interesting recitals taking place at York — and then in the next breath, you actively dissuade people from attending. This is an astonishing approach for a publication that purports to support and reflect the live music scene. If WholeNote’s mission is to promote music events in the GTA and beyond, you have done not only those audiences, our location is far more convenient than Roy Thomson Hall, Walter Hall, Harbourfront or the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

Parking charges are of course a favourite complaint of all Torontonians, including myself. However, having attended a meeting at the University of Toronto this week, I can confirm that York’s parking fees are in fact a little lower than U of T’s (and our parking is much easier to find).

But the main and most worrisome point is why you would use either of these issues to discourage music lovers from coming out to enjoy our concerts. We offered more than three dozen events to your readership last month. It is incomprehensible to me why you would want to undermine the value of your own publication and the efforts we at York are making to build and support musical culture and community.

Phillip Silver
Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, York

Have your say by e-mailing backbeat@thewholenote.com
or by mail to WholeNote Back Beat, 503-720 Bathurst Street, Toronto ON M5S 2R4
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