

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



127TH SEASON

DECEMBER 2013

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FMMC Piano Associates

The FMMC Associate Pianists Group began in the early 1950s as a rehearsal group for performances at Tuesday Afternoon Teas. By the 1960s it developed into a performance group where pianists who were members of the FMMC could perform for each other in an informal social atmosphere.

Today, we meet on the first Monday of the month, ten months a year, rotating among members' homes for the performance of solos, duets, and two-piano music. Following performances, we join in a very informal luncheon, each of us bringing a sandwich to share, the host and co-host providing a salad, dessert and beverages.

There are currently 17 members in our group spanning the spectrum of interests and abilities. Several pianists have been members for more than 20 years, while a few joined just recently. Many have had careers in music, have sung in choruses, have been accompanists, and have even given solo recitals. As a group, we boast several current and former piano teachers and even a composer. Many of us played as children, but then our practice lapsed as we pursued other careers. Missing the piano, we took it up again as adults.

Since our musical tastes and interests vary, each month there is an intriguing variety of music. Chris Ehemann specializes in music of the 20th century and enjoys discovering pieces by little known or neglected composers. At the same time, many of us stick to the classics. Several members are composers who occasionally perform their own

work. Long-time member Jean Lutterman provided her own left hand-only composition for one member who had temporarily injured her right hand. It was an opportunity for the pianist to keep playing and for the rest of us to experience the delightful piece. There are also plenty of opportunities to play ensemble music. Every month we have at least one team that pairs up to play duets or two-piano music.

One thing we all share is our enthusiasm for the group itself that provides a friendly, supportive opportunity to play for and listen to other amateur pianists on a regular basis. As member Anita Wallgren says, "Knowing that I will perform each month keeps me motivated. Our group is very friendly and helps me enjoy piano more than ever. I often hear pieces and composers that are new



First row from left to right: Jackie Epstein, Susan Roberts, Lois Granick, Jean Lutterman, Nancy Roone. Second row: l to r: Sue Ferrall, Nate Gross, Anita Wallgren, Tom Haug, Raye Haug, Ann Meyer, Ann Hoopes, Richard Sawyer, Chris Ehemann, Carol Fromboluti. Missing: Betsey Fountain and Jim Russ.

to me, or who remind me to dust off some of my repertoire." Betsey Fountain sums up our experiences well when she says, "I tell people that my brother was a concert pianist but that I have the fun."

For information on becoming a playing member of Associate Pianists, please contact Carol Sue Fromboluti, Group Chair, at assocpiano@fmmc.org. 🎹

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President's Message

CAROL WOLFE-RALPH

The holiday season is fast approaching. I'm sure by now you have heard numerous Christmas carols. Where has the year gone? November is a busy month for FMMC. On November 3rd, I attended the memorial concert of an FMMC past President, Helen Byrn May, which was held at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. Jessye Norman was the official hostess for the celebration. The concert was wonderful – a star-studded cast. Although I never had the pleasure of meeting Helen, she obviously cared greatly about people and music, and it was a privilege to be a part of this celebration of her life. We are grateful for her legacy and thankful for her work. Thanks to Mary K. Traver, who made the wheels turn so smoothly! On November 15th, our FMMC orchestra presented its annual Kennedy Center concert, followed by a fundraising reception at the Ancora restaurant across the street. If you missed it but want to make a donation you can find the donation forms on the FMMC Website under “70th Anniversary – Avanti Orchestra,” or you can contact Carol Bartholomew at carbarthol@yahoo.com.



Have a wonderful holiday season, and thanks so much for all you do as members.

Carol Wolfe-Ralph

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

The FMMC Board of Governors met on October 18.

New FMMC website on the horizon. The majority of the meeting was dedicated to a discussion of website development and/or reconstruction. Our web designer attended and presented his ideas and addressed all questions. A formal proposal is being submitted to the Board. 🗣️

Student Activities Recital

CHRISTINE KHARAZIAN

FMMC Student Activities will hold its first student recital of the current season on Friday, November 29, 2013, at 11:00 am at The Mansion at Strathmore. This program will feature winners of the string competition that takes place in November and perhaps some of our other talented, young performers as well. Please let your students know about this program. We can't think of a better way to inspire them than hearing a masterful performance by musicians who are as young as they are. 🗣️

Remembering George Manos

ROBIN FRIEDMAN

The Friday Morning Music Club notes with regret the death of George Manos, 85, on October 28, 2013, in Naples, Florida. A Washington, DC native, Manos became an Honorary Member of the FMMC in 1962.

Manos led an active and eventful musical life. He served as music director for the National Gallery and as conductor of the National Gallery Orchestra for 18 years, from 1985 to 2003. During his tenure, the Gallery presented over 600 Sunday evening concerts, with Manos conducting the Orchestra approximately one-hundred times.

Among his other accomplishments, Manos founded the Killarney Bach Festival in Ireland. He founded and conducted the Washington Oratorio Society and served as pianist for the National Symphony Orchestra under Howard Mitchell. In addition, he was musical director of the National Ballet Orchestra's tour of Mexico, directed the Wilmington School of Music and was an Associate Professor of Music at Catholic University.

Manos studied at the Juilliard School of Music and at Peabody Conservatory. Early in his career, he was a concert pianist for the Marine

Band and performed on many occasions for President Harry Truman who called him "the White House Pianist." Truman particularly enjoyed hearing Manos perform Chopin. In 2008, Manos wrote a book about his musical life that is still in print: "The President's Pianist: My Term with Truman and My Life in Music."

A memorial service was held for George Manos on November 2, 2013, at Glenwood Cemetery, Washington, DC He is survived by his sisters, Bes Zourdos and Helen Santrizos, both of Bethesda. Contributions in Manos' memory may be made to the Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore, MD. 🎵

Books on Music

GAIL MACCOLL

Bernie Krause – The Great Animal Orchestra: Finding the Origins of Music in the World's Wild Places (Little, Brown, 2012)

This book chronicles Krause's fascinating life and the evolution of recording technologies over the past 50 years. The author demonstrates in a lively fashion how recorded "soundscapes" (spectrograms) can inform our understanding of communication among living things, the presumptive role of natural sounds in the origin of music, and the effects of man-made sound on our fellow creatures.

Initially a studio guitarist, Krause experimented with synthesizers in the 1960s, performing pop music and creating sound effects for movies and TV shows. While working on a film score incorporating sounds

in the wild he became hooked on recordings from nature, traveling the world to record and analyze patterns of sounds formed as animals, birds, and insects or underwater creatures communicate with each other. (Along the way, he discovered that corn produces recordable sound as it grows and that it is unwise to record gorillas from a position between the alpha male and his challenger.)

Krause likens the soundscape to an orchestral score, which is also a horizontal and vertical structuring of sound. He notes song-like vocalizations with apparent emotional content among a variety of creatures, suggesting that musical expression

based in natural sounds predates human language.

Throughout the animal kingdom communication with other species-members is essential for survival. Soundscapes demonstrate how each species finds its sonic niche – pitch and call-patterns specifically arranged so that messages can be transmitted. Recordings made before and after human interventions document the damage done to communication within various species by even limited logging, undersea sonic testing, and airplane noise.

The Great Animal Orchestra is available as an e-book and as an ordinary tome in bookstores and libraries. 🎵

FMMC Concert Calendar

DECEMBER 2013 AND EARLY JANUARY 2014

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 11:00 AM The Mansion at Strathmore

- DOPPLER: *Hungarian Pastoral Fantasy*. GRIFFES: *Poem*. **Joan Cobbs**, flute; **Maribeth Gowen**, piano.
- ROSSINI: *Nocturne*. RESPIGHI: *Nocturne*. SOLER: Three sonatas. **Karen Davis**, piano.
- MAKOTA SHINOHARA: *Kasouga*. SOFIA GUBAIDULINA: *Sounds of the Forest*. **Susan Brandt**, flute; **Adelaide Edelson**, piano.
- BARBER: *Dover Beach*. **Charles Kopfstein-Penk**, baritone; **Jean Provine** and **Miriam Goldberg**, violins; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Valerie Matthews**, cello.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 12:00 NOON Calvary Baptist Church

- TCHAIKOVSKY: Suite from *The Nutcracker*. **Barbara Peterson Cackler** and **Rosanne Conway**, piano four hands.
- HUGO WOLF: Selected songs. **Leslie Bennett**, soprano; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- SCOTT PENDER: Woodwind Quintet. *Morpheus Chamber Players*: **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Jeff Kahan**, oboe; **Alisha Coleman** (guest), clarinet; **Eric Hall** (guest), bassoon; **Wendy Chinn**, horn.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 7:00 PM Beth El Hebrew Congregation

Vocal ensembles.
This concert has been cancelled.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 12:00 NOON the Steinway Gallery

- J.S. BACH: Sonata in B Minor, BWV 1014. **Ramona Matthews**, violin; **Judith Duerk**, piano.
- RAVEL: *Don Quichotte à Dulcinée*. CHABRIER: Selected songs. **Daryl Yoder**, bass-baritone; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.
- SCHUBERT: Impromptu in G-flat Major, op. 90, no. 3. Liszt: *Mephisto Waltz*. **San-Qing Lu-Bennaman**, piano.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 7:30 PM Friendship Heights Community Center

FMMC Student members.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 12:00 NOON Calvary Baptist Church

Composers Concert

- SCOTT PENDER: *Toccata*. **Scott Pender**, piano.
- SHARON GUERTIN SHAFER: *Butterflies and Bumblebees*. **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, soprano and piano.
- MARK SIMON: Clarinet piece. **Mark Simon**, clarinet.
- LESLIE BENNETT: selections from *Flowers of Evil* (poems of Charles Baudelaire). **Derrick Spellar**, baritone; **Patricia Parker**, piano.
- RON DICUS: English Horn Quintet.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 12:00 NOON Dumbarton House

- ALBRECHTSBERGER: Divertimento for viola, cello, and bass. **Marion Richter**, viola; **Valerie Matthews**, violoncello; **Cyndy Elliott**, bass.
- MOZART: "Al mio ben mi veggio avanti" (*Ascanio in Alba*); "Venga pur, minacci e frema" (*Mitridate, Re di Ponto*). **Karen Mercedes**, contralto; **Barbara Gholz** and **Miriam Goldberg**, violins; **Helen Fall**, viola; **Jan Timbers**, violoncello; **Sharon Ollison**, keyboard; **Jeff Kahan** and **Rachel Bredefeld**, oboes; **Wendy Chinn** and **Nicholas Lee**, horns.
- HAYDN: String Quartet in D Major, op. 76, no. 5. **Cecilie Jones** and **Joyce Rizzolo**, violins; **Robert Huesmann**, viola; **Jan Timbers**, violoncello.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 11:00 AM The Mansion at Strathmore

- DEBUSSY: *Suite Bergamasque*. **Carlos Fagundo**, piano.
- POULENC: *Fiançailles pour rire*. WEILL: Selected songs. **Anissa Hartline**, soprano; **Sarah Strauss Himmelfarb**, piano.
- ERWIN SCHULHOFF: Sonata for flute and piano. **Susan Hayes**, flute; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 12:00 NOON
Calvary Baptist Church

- MOZART, MENOTTI: Selected arias.
Heather Brown, soprano; **David Chapman**, piano.
- WEBER: Seven Variations on a theme from *Silvana*, op. 33. **Tianlai Lu**, clarinet; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.
- LISZT: *Spanish Rhapsody*. **Richard Shin**, piano.

VENUES
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

755 Eighth Street NW, Washington, DC
 (Metro: Gallery Place).

DUMBARTON HOUSE

2715 Q Street NW, Washington, DC.

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CTR.

4433 S. Park Ave., Chevy Chase, MD
 (Metro: Friendship Heights).

THE MANSION AT STRATHMORE

10701 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda, MD
 (Metro: Grosvenor).

STEINWAY GALLERY

11611 Old Georgetown Rd., N. Bethesda, MD.
 (Metro: White Flint).

ATTENTION: YOUNG PIANISTS!
THE FRIDAY MORNING MUSIC CLUB

ANNOUNCES ITS
Competition
 FOR
HIGH SCHOOL PIANISTS

APRIL 12, 2014

Eligibility. The competition is open to piano students who are currently enrolled in grades 9 through 12, living within a 50-mile radius of Washington, DC. *First place winners from previous years are ineligible.*

Location. National Presbyterian Church
 4101 Nebraska Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20016

The application form is available at www.fmmc.org under "local student competition" *The application must be postmarked no later than Saturday, March 28, 2014. There is a \$30 application fee.*

Prizes. At the discretion of the judges, the following prizes will be awarded:

First Prize \$1000, Second Prize \$700, Third Prize \$500

All winners, including those with Honorable Mentions, will be awarded a one-year membership in the FMMC. This includes eligibility to perform in FMMC Student Concerts.

Repertoire. Contestants must be prepared to play four works – one in each of the following categories:

1. A prelude *and* fugue from either volume of *The Well-Tempered Clavier* by J. S. Bach or two other comparable pieces from the Baroque period.
2. The first movement of a sonata by Beethoven (excluding Op. 49), Mozart (excluding K 545), Haydn (excluding early Divertimenti), or Schubert.
3. A substantial work from the Romantic Period.
4. An impressionist work or a work from the 20th or 21st century.

For information contact Competition Chair, Chen-Li Tzeng (email: highschoolpiano@fmmc.org).

Where Are They Now?

Johansen International String Competition Update

FELICE KORBERG

Joel Link (FMMC prize winner in 2003) graduated from the Curtis Institute in 2011 after studying with Joseph Silverstein and Pamela Frank. He is now a member of the Dover Quartet, an ensemble that has been coached by such renowned chamber musicians as Shmuel Ashkenasi, Arnold Steinhardt, Joseph Silverstein, and Peter Wiley. The group has been named the first Quartet-in-Residence at the Curtis Institute of Music as well as the Ernst Stiefel String Quartet-In-Residence at the Caramoor Festival for the 2013-14 Season. It was previously the Quartet-in-Residence at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music.

In 2013, the Quartet swept the Banff International String Quartet Competition, winning the Grand Prize as well as all three Special Prizes: the R.S. Williams & Sons Haydn Prize for the best performance of Haydn, the Székely Prize for the best performance of Schubert, and the Canadian Commission Prize for the best performance of a newly commissioned work.

During the summer of 2013 it performed at the Bard Festival, Chamber Music Northwest, and Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. Recent performances include the Washington Performing Arts Society, the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Peoples' Symphony, Schneider Concerts, Kneisel Hall, and the Houston

Friends of Chamber Music Festival. In 2010, the Quartet won the Grand Prize and was the String Division Gold Medal Winner of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. It was also a prizewinner in the 2009 Young Concert Artists International Auditions and the recipient of the Curtis Institute's Milka String Quartet Award.

The Dover Quartet is an active member of Music for Food, an initiative by musicians to help fight hunger in their communities.



The Dover Quartet (Joel Link on the far left).

Washington International Competition Update

JUDITH S. SILVERMAN

Violinist **Ying Fu** (prize winner in the 2009 Washington International Competition sponsored by the FMMC, was appointed associate concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra at the start of the 2013-2014 season. Originally from Shanghai, China, Mr. Fu has won many other competitions including first prize the 31st Rodolfo Lipizer International Violin Competition in Italy (2012) where he won four special prizes as well. Mr. Fu's other wins include the 2011 Schmidbauer International Competition, the 2011 Texas Artists Music Competition, the 2008 HAMS Violin Competition in Chicago, the Golden Bell Violin Competition in China and the Ruth Burr Awards Instrumental Competition in Houston. Mr. Fu came to the Philadelphia Orchestra from the Cleveland Orchestra where he served as a first violinist 2011-2012.

Ying Fu has also participated in many renowned chamber music festivals including the Marlboro Music Festival, the Cascade Head Music Festival in Oregon, the Taos Chamber Music festival where he has worked with many fine musicians including Richard Good, Peter Wiley, Kim Kashkashian, Soovin Kim, Samuel Rhodes and Michael Tree as well as with the Borromeo, St. Lawrence, and Brentano String Quartets.

After his early studies at the Shanghai Conservatory, Mr. Fu earned his Master of Music degree from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, studying with Sergiu Luca. In his Doctor of Musical Arts program at the same University, Mr. Fu also worked with Cho-Liang Lin. 🎻

From the Foundation Director

LESLIE LUXEMBURG

Even though the seventh triennial Johansen International Competition for Young String Players (JIC) will not take place until March 19-21 2015, ongoing efforts by our JIC committee ensure that everything will run smoothly. The committee is delighted to announce that it has secured the services of an outstanding group of judges. Violinist Glen Dicterow was concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic for thirty years before retiring at the end of this season. He now serves as the first recipient of the Robert Mann chair in strings and chamber music at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. Victoria Chiang, violist, is an artist faculty member at the Peabody Conservatory and chair of the Viola Department there. Marcy Rosen, cellist, is a founding member of the Mendelssohn

String Quartet, Co-Artistic Director of the Eastern shore Chamber Music Festival, a member of the Mannes faculty, and is active in the Marlboro Music Festival and the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College. Returning as collaborating pianists are Akira Eguchi and Eri Kang.

Our Washington International Competition (WIC) for pianists will begin accepting applicants on January 1, 2014 on the DecisionDesk.com site where our banner can already be seen. The WIC judges are truly an illustrious, international group, consisting of Jerome Rose, Ilana Vered and Ralph Votapek. Esteemed local judges for the preliminary round will include Li-Ly Chang, Frank Conlon, Grace McFarland and Junko Takahashi.

I am also pleased to announce that a special benefit recital for the WIC will take place on Sunday, March 2nd



at 3:00 pm at the Steinway Piano Gallery in North Bethesda. Ching-Yun Hu, a new member of the FMMC and a recent winner of the Concert Artist Guild International Competition and the Rubenstein Piano Competition in Israel, will present a delightful program in support of the 2014 piano competition. 🎹

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

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*“As long as I am singing...
it’s as if I’m inhabiting
another reality. I become
temporarily suspended in a
world where everything bad
is bearable, and everything
good feels possible.”*

– STACY HORN,
*Imperfect Harmony:
Finding Happiness
Singing with Others*





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The Exchange

Last month, the FMMC is initiating a new service for members called “The Exchange.” This will be a section of the Newsletter where members (and members only) can place announcements for music and/or instruments they want to buy, sell or give away, or for musicians they need for ensembles or specific performances. Announcements must be as brief as possible. Here is this month’s announcement:

- **1929 Steinway (M, 5’,7”) piano for sale.** Constantly maintained and twice restored. Excellent sound. Call Natalia Raigorodsky Parris at 570-482-2909 for information.

Because space is limited, the Exchange will operate on a “first come, first served” basis. Send submissions to newsletter@fmnc.org. 📧

