

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



128TH SEASON

SEPTEMBER 2014

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The Chorale Director Search is Over!

**PETER BAUM, CHAIR, CHORALE DIRECTOR SEARCH
COMMITTEE**

Over the course of the last nine months, the Chorale Director Search Committee has sponsored a series of four workshops designed to allow candidates for the position of Director for the Chorale to demonstrate their capabilities. All four candidates showed excellent skill at molding the chorus and orchestra within the constraints of the single day workshop format.

With the completion of the fourth workshop in July, the Committee sent its recommendation to the Board of Governors for consideration and approval. At press time, the decision process is still on-going but, pending acceptance of the FMMC's offer to the selected candidate, the club can look forward to seeing the Chorale being reconstituted and back on stage presenting concerts during the 2014-2015 season. 🎵

Secrets of Harmonics Unveiled

GAIL MACCOLL

Beyond the basic octaves, harmonics can be a mystery for string players. "On Violin Harmonics," available online at www.musicalobservations.com/publications/harmonics.html, reveals their secrets. Attached to the essay is a table showing all possible ways to play every note from D (4th line in treble clef) to three octaves above as a harmonic. The number of options for each note – even on the G string – is truly amazing and trying them out is entertaining as well as useful. Violists too can adapt and make use of this essay. The piece and its tables can be downloaded as PDF files.

The MusicalObservations.com site includes other essays on musical matters and links to sites the owner finds "extraordinary." There you can also purchase recordings of rarely heard works. 🎵

OBITUARY

Marilyn Schwaner

ROBIN FRIEDMAN, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

The Friday Morning Music Club mourns the passing of Marilyn P. Schwaner, 83, who died on February 28, 2014, at Goodwin House, Falls Church.

Schwaner was a professional violinist and violist and a long-time member of the Club. She played in the FMMC Orchestra for many years and was beloved by her fellow musicians for her playing and good company. A native of Detroit, Schwaner held a master's degree in music from the Boston Conservatory. She was a former concertmaster of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra and a founding member of the Mount Vernon Chamber Orchestra and the Virginia Chamber Orchestra. Schwaner taught music and directed orchestras for elementary, middle, and high school students in Fairfax and Alexandria and also served as the director of the orchestra of the Levine School of Music in Washington, D.C.

Marilyn Schwaner is survived by Robert Schwaner, her husband of 61 years, three children, a sister, four grandchildren, and a great-great-granddaughter. 🎵



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President's Message

CAROL WOLFE-RALPH

As I start this second year as the President of FMMC, I marvel at how quickly the year flew by. FMMC is now in its 128th season, a fact that is difficult to comprehend. One only has to look at a little history for perspective. When FMMC began, the automobile was still years away from being mass-produced. This longevity is a tribute to those who have worked and continue to work to ensure that we have the funds to promote our mission.

One of the items on last year's agenda was to rework the FMMC Web site to make it more efficient for members and for those seeking information about us. We have made great strides in this endeavor and will shortly launch a greatly improved site of which we can be proud. Another goal was to hire a new director for our chorale. As of this writing, we are 99% certain of our chosen candidate. I am hoping that we will be able to formally introduce our new conductor, together with a bio and photo, in the next Newsletter. Looking ahead, don't forget the concert to be held at the Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. on Friday, October 3rd at noon. In keeping with tradition, it will be followed by the President's Reception. This is a beautiful venue, easily accessible via Metro. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear great music and socialize. I hope you will make time in your schedule to attend. Here's to a great 128th season!

Carol



FMMC Concert Calendar

SEPTEMBER AND EARLY OCTOBER 2014

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 7:00 PM Greenspring

- Selected solos. **Charles Mokotoff**, guitar.
- HAYDN: String Quartet in C Major, op.33, no. 3 ("The Bird"). **Sheyna Burt** and **David Brown**, violins; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Joanna Taylor**, cello.
- POULENC: Sonata for clarinet and bassoon.
- BEETHOVEN: Duo WoO 27, No. 1. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Eric Hall**, bassoon.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 7:30 PM Dumbarton House

- SILVIUS LEOPOLD WEISS: Sonata in D Minor.
- FERNANDO SOR: Grand Solo, op. 14. **Charles Mokotoff**, guitar.
- J.S. BACH: Partita No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1004. **Destiny Ann Mermagin**, violin.
- BEETHOVEN: Trio in G Major, op. 9, no. 1. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Christine Hood**, viola; **Sarah Hover**, cello.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 7:30 PM Westminster at Lake Ridge

- Selection TBA. **Joe Brooms**, euphonium; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

- RODRIGO: *Quatro Madrigales Amatorios*, **Debora Madsen**, soprano; **Patricia Parker**, piano.
- SCHUMANN: *Fantasiestücke*, op. 73. **Tian Lu**, clarinet; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 8:00 PM Church of the Epiphany

Avanti - the orchestra of the Friday Morning Music Club, Pablo Saelzer, conductor.

- DVOŘÁK: *Three Legends*, op. 59.
- MOZART: Bassoon Concerto in B-flat Major, K.191/186e. **Jeff Ward**, bassoon.
- DVOŘÁK: Slavonic Dance No. 10 in E Minor, op. 72, no. 2.
- KODÁLY: *Dances of Galánta*.

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

- BEETHOVEN: Trio in C Minor, op. 1 no. 3. **Karen Davis**, piano; **Kunie Devorkin** (guest), violin; **Jan Timbers**, cello.
- ORNSTEIN: *Prelude and Minuet in Antique Style*.
- SAINT-SAËNS: *Tarantella*. **Yvonne Kocur**, flute, **Geoff Flolo** (guest), clarinet, **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

Membership Dues

Don't forget your membership dues! (For details, see "Membership & Dues" in the Yearbook). The required membership form can be found on-line at fmmc.org. Click on "get involved" and then on "how to join." At the bottom of the page there will be a link to the membership form. Send it together with your payment to Susanne Stevenson (7222 Parsons Ct., Alexandria, VA 22306; office@fmmc.org) or Jo-Ann Royer (4342 Loyola Ave., Alexandria, VA, 22304-1034; jroyer@aol.com). As always, donations are greatly appreciated. 🎶

From the Foundation Director

LESLIE LUXEMBURG

What an exciting grand finale we had at the Washington International Competition for piano on June 7th and 8th! The caliber of the 16 semifinalists who played for the judges was so impressive that the panel opted for eight finalists instead of the usual six. Competition chair Bonnie Kellert and her stalwart committee did some quick scrambling and fortunately all eight were able to showcase their skills without compromising the length of the program. So strong were the finalists that any of them could have taken the top awards!

The judges chose Somang Jeagal from North Korea as the winner. Hyun



Ji You, also from North Korea, took second place, and Joshua

Wright from the US took both the third and the extremely coveted audience award. Those who missed the concert in June will have a chance to hear Somang play with our Avanti Orchestra on Wednesday, November 5th and Josh in solo recital on Thursday, October 16th. Both events will take place at the Terrace Theater of the Kennedy Center.

As always, we are supremely grateful to Viola Musher for funding the audience prize. This year we also want to recognize FMMC member Genevieve Mason, who as a member of the audience at the finals, stepped forward to completely fund one of the two additional finalist awards. The cost of the other additional prize was covered by a longterm, devoted FMMC member who chose to remain anonymous. She has our gratitude as well.

Suzanne Richardson, chair of the 2015 Washington International Competition for Strings, has done a tremendous amount of preparation for next year's WIC and has already lined up all of the outstanding judges. Composition Chair Mark Simon is also well on the way to organizing his competition. The Johansen International Competition takes place in 2015 as well. Complete information on the JIC will be found in next month's Newsletter.

We hope you will come out in force this fall to hear our two amazing pianists as well as Abigail Mitchell, one of our 2013 vocal winners, who will sing the role of Galatea in Handel's *Acis and Galatea* with the New Dominion Chorale on Sunday, October 26th. 🎶

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 12 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

Season opening concert, president's reception to follow.

- Selections TBA. **Dorotea Racz**, cello;
- Dmitry Samogray**, piano.
- BRAHMS: selected songs. **Daryl Yoder**, bass-baritone; **Jung-Yoon Lee** (guest), piano.
- MADELEINE DRING: Trio. **Susan Brandt**, flute; **Eliana Schenk** (guest), oboe; **Adelaide Edelson**, piano.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2014, 12 NOON

Steinway Gallery

- ARCHER: Selected songs. **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Yuri Chayama**, piano.
- BACH-LISZT: Prelude and Fugue in A Minor, BWV543. DEBUSSY: L'Isle Joyeuse. BACH-BUSONI: Choral Prelude "Wachet Auf." **Enoch Gordis**, piano.
- MENDELSSOHN: Sonata in F Minor, op.4. **Eunju Kwak**, violin, **Gina Nam** (guest), piano.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 12 NOON

Calvary Baptist Church

- LOUISE FARRENC: Trio No. 3, op. 44. **Nancy Genovese**, clarinet; **Barbara Wing**, piano; **Brigitta Czernik Gruenther**, cello.
- BRAHMS, WOLF, SCHUBERT: selected lieder. **Leslie Bennett**, soprano; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- SHINUH LEE: selections from *Choral Fantasy*. **Hyojung Huh**, piano.

VENUES

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

1317 G Street NW, Washington, DC (Metro: Metro Center).

DUMBARTON HOUSE

2715 Q Street NW, Washington, DC.

GREENSPRING

7410 Spring Village Drive, Springfield, VA.

THE MANSION AT STRATHMORE

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

STEINWAY GALLERY

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



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The Exchange

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

FROM THE COMPOSERS GROUP: The FMMC Composers Group is made up of amateur composers, although some of our members are retired professionals. Some actually have music degrees in performance and/or composition. We enjoy creating new musical pieces for voice and various instrumental ensembles. Naturally, we would like to have our pieces performed, and for that purpose we sponsor four concerts a year, usually at Calvary Baptist Church in the District, Strathmore

Mansion in Rockville, or Old Town Hall in Fairfax.

We invite you to become part of the process by performing in our concerts. You need not be an FMMC soloist to perform. You will have the opportunity to work with the composer, perhaps even suggesting changes to make a piece more playable. What is more, you can perform a composer’s piece in one of your own concerts. (It always sounds impressive to announce that yours is a premiere performance).

If you would like to work with us, why not indicate your interest? You will be under no obligation. You can have manuscripts sent to you and you can pick something you like. If interested, please contact composers@fmmc.org indicating your interest, your instrument, and any comment or preference you might have.

Thanks,
Ron Dicus

A Note from the Program Director

JEONGSEON CHOI

I hope everyone has had a great summer. I am very excited about our upcoming 2014-15 season. We have added a couple of new venues such as the Friendship Heights Community Center in Chevy Chase, MD and Westminster at Lake Ridge in VA.

A sneak preview of the new season includes the Dumbarton House Concert Series beginning on September 16 at 7:30 PM, the first concert at Westminster on September 18 at 7:30 PM, and the Strathmore Concert Series beginning on October 2 at 11:00 AM. The concert and President’s Reception at the Calvary Baptist Church will take place on October 3 at noon. It will feature a cello/piano duet by Dorotea Racz, cello, and Dmitry Samogray, piano; a solo by Daryl Yoder, baritone; and a trio featuring Susan Brandt, flute, Addie Edelson, piano, and Eliana Schenk, oboe.

Those who have not had a chance to fill out performance applications may contact Jeongseon Choi at js.choi@verizon.net. Some openings may be available later in the season.

Looking forward to the FMMC 2014-15 season! 🎧