

The Friday Morning MUSIC CLUB



134TH SEASON

FEBRUARY 2020

VOL. 54, NO. 6

From the President

Leslie Luxemburg

We have had a very full fall with concerts galore and I've personally taken the opportunity to attend quite a few of the chamber music offerings. The day after Thanksgiving I went to the Strathmore Mansion for one of our student programs, and in December I went to the Dumbarton House series in Georgetown. I found all the performers to be excellent and the programs to be thoughtful and well balanced. I must give a shout out to Christine Kharazian and Barbara Gholz, the coordinators of these two series, for the obvious care and dedication with which they put them together. It was also a reminder of how privileged we are as FMMC members to be able to perform in these outstanding venues without having to deal with making the arrangements, producing the written programs, and all the other mechanics involved in putting on a concert. When you think about it in those terms, our modest dues seem even more of a great deal.

There were other special concerts in December, including the most varied and entertaining Composers Group Concert at Calvary Baptist Church. I hope you attended the moving memorial concert for Winifred Hyson that her family organized at Maplewood Park Place, her residence until she passed away in early December. That concert featured FMMC performers Rhiannon Vaughn, Lois Jones, and Christine Kharazian, who presented two of Winifred's song cycles. She could not have been remembered more fittingly or warmly. These are only a few examples



among many of our ability to participate in and enrich the musical life of Washington DC as both performers and audience members.

This month we turn to our exciting Cavani Quartet events. First up is the concert at the Corcoran on Saturday February 22 with the participation of JIC winner Sam Rosenthal, followed by the Frances Kaplan Memorial Master Class for young FMMC String Competition winners on Sunday February 23 at the REACH. Please remember to invite friends and musical colleagues to these worthwhile events.

At the very end of the month, on Saturday February 29, we are excited to launch our Legacy Society with an informational gathering at the home of

Judy Shapiro in Kensington at 3:00 PM. If you have thought of leaving even a small amount to FMMC in your will but are not sure of the mechanics, this is definitely the opportunity for you. We will have a legal expert in the field available to give us the basics, lead us through the process, make specific suggestions, and answer any questions that arise. Space is limited for this event so please RSVP to Jennie Weyman at manage@fmmc.org.

We hope to see you often this month!

Leslie

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From the Foundation Director

Frank Conlon

On Friday, December 6th, we lost a treasured member of the Friday Morning Music Club with the passing of Winifred Hyson, distinguished composer, pianist, and pedagogue. Among her many honors in 2017, she was a grantee of the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County and a two-time grantee of Meet the Composer, Inc., and was named a Fellow of the Charles Ives Center for American Music. She had scheduled a concert of her works at her residence in Maplewood Park Place in Bethesda on Saturday, December 21st, which was then presented as a memorial tribute to her. Soprano Rhiannon Vaughn, pianist Lois Jones, and violinist Christine Kharazian were joined in one of her song cycles by percussionists George Huttlin and Faith Stern. Several of her children gave introductions and program notes. The performances were heartfelt and inspired, and Ms. Vaughn lent her beautiful voice and sublime artistry to every work on the program, including opening and closing selections by Dvorak and Malotte. Every seat in the ballroom was taken, and the audience members were treated to Winifred's compelling settings of poetry by Jean Starr Untermeyer and Maxine Kumin, who had been her classmate at Radcliffe College. We are most grateful to Winifred's family for asking that contributions be made to our Foundation in her name. These will help fund our triennial Composition Competition.

On Sunday, December 15th, an audience of about 300 were thrilled by brilliant performances of sonatas by Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms and works by Saint-Saëns and Kreisler by violinist Julian Rhee, the first-prize violin winner of the 2018 Johansen Competition, and pianist Dina Vainshtein at Annunciation Catholic Church in Washington.

We are all looking forward to the February 15th application deadline for our upcoming piano competition and we hope for many submissions. 🎹

Frank



Membership Update

These new members joined after the publication of the 2019-20 Yearbook. To see their contact information, please log in to the FMMC website and go to the member directory.

New Members

Candida Steel, Chorale Alto,
Severna Park, MD 21146

Garth Baxter, Associate Composer,
Westminster, MD 21158

From the Managing Director

Jennie Weyman



Jennie Weyman

I can't believe we're already one month into 2020! This season is flying by.

If you haven't already, please submit your responses for both our Instructor Directory and our House Concert Venue Form. Here are the links:

(<https://fmmc.org/membership/young-musicians/fmmc-instructor-directory/>)

(<https://fmmc.org/performance-opportunities/all-members/meetups/fmmc-in-home-host-and-venue-form/>)

I'm hoping the Instructor Directory can go live by mid-February in time for a few student competitions. While you can be added at any time, it's much easier to get as many folks as possible on the first run.

In addition, we are in the process of adjusting the application process for the Chamber Program. We know that it can be difficult to participate with the application process taking place only between May and June, so we're working to develop a secondary application that can be completed throughout the year and allow venue chairs to reach out to performers to fill holes that arise throughout the season. There's more to come, so keep an eye on your emails!

Thanks to those of you who made it to our first-ever happy hour at the Hawthorne. If you attended, we'd love to know your thoughts on how it went

and if you have any suggestions for future gatherings. We also want to make sure we have similar events for Virginia and Maryland members as well, so we'd love suggestions on venues in those locations. You can send all comments to me at manage@fmmc.org.

I hope to see you all at the performance of the Cavani Quartet in memory of Irene Wise on February 22nd. It should be a wonderful performance,

and a truly fitting tribute to someone so dedicated to chamber music and the FMMC. Her example served as inspiration for our new Legacy Society, which will have its first information session on February 29th. We hope you will join us to explore the different ways you can impact FMMC and to learn more about those who made a difference over the course of our history.

As always, I'm only an email away! 📧

Jennie



WASHINGTON
PERFORMING ARTS

Special offer for Friday Morning Music Club members

\$45 Prime Orchestra Seats for 2 Sensational Concerts



SAT, FEB 1, 3pm

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER, violin

LAMBERT ORKIS, piano

All-Beethoven program

Longtime collaborators Anne-Sophie Mutter—the “undisputed queen of violin-playing” (*The Times*, London)—and NSO principal keyboardist Lambert Orkis perform an all-Beethoven program including the iconic “Kreutzer” and lyrical “Spring” Sonatas.

Special thanks: Dr. Mark Cinnamon and Ms. Doreen Kelly



FRI, FEB 21, 8pm

The Music Center at Strathmore

BUDAPEST FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA

Iván Fischer, conductor

Gerhild Romberger, contralto

The BFO performs a novel program, pairing mainstays of the Mahler and Dvořák catalogues (the former's *Kindertotenlieder* and the latter's Symphony No. 8) with underexposed works by the same composers.

Special thanks: Betsy and Robert Feinberg, Dr. Gary Mather and Ms. Christina Co Mather, Dallas Morse Coors Foundation

Enjoy \$45 Prime Orchestra seats (a savings of \$25 per ticket) with promo code FMMC when you order.

TICKETS: WashingtonPerformingArts.org
202.785.9727

Promotion applies to selected events and seating sections only. Valid only through Washington Performing Arts Ticket Services. Deadline to order: Thursday, January 30 at 5pm EST for Anne-Sophie Mutter; Thursday, February 20 at 5pm EST for Budapest Festival Orchestra. Discounts may not be applied retroactively to previously purchased tickets. Supplies are limited and offer may be discontinued at any time.

FMMC Concert Calendar

FEBRUARY and EARLY MARCH 2020

Thursday, February 6, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- BARBARA HARBACH: excerpts from *Pioneer Women*. **Angela Winter**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.
- GRIEG: *Peer Gynt Suite*. **Jeongseon Choi** and **Chen-Li Tzeng**, piano four hands.
- SHOSTAKOVICH: Sonata in D Minor, op. 40. **Maxfield Wollam-Fisher** (guest), cello; **Tophier Ruggiero**, piano.

Friday, February 7, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

Beethoven Celebration

- BEETHOVEN: *Andante Favori*, WoO 57. **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.
- BEETHOVEN: Trio in C Minor, op. 9, no. 3. **David Brown**, violin; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Sarah Hover**, cello.
- BEETHOVEN: Trio, op. 11. **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **David Pearl**, cello; **Jung-Yoon Lee**, piano.

Saturday, February 8, 3:00 pm at Jordan Kitt's Music, Rockville

- SMETANA: *The Moldau*, JB 1:112, no. 2. **Sophia Pallas** and **Julian Trail**, piano four hands.
- HEGGIE, DUKE: Selected songs. **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Yuri Chayama**, piano.
- SHOSTAKOVICH: Piano quintet, op. 57. **Carrie Esko Carlson** and **Robyn Tessin**, violins; **Julia Moline**, viola; **Valerie Matthews**, cello; **Simon Finlow**, piano.

Sunday, February 9, 3:00 pm at The Lyceum, Alexandria

- LOUISE FARRENC: Nonet in E-flat Major, op. 38. **Laura Benning**, flute; **Mark Simon**, clarinet; **Bryan Cook** (guest), oboe; **Jeff Ward** (guest), bassoon; **Wendy Chinn** (guest), horn; **David Brown**, violin; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Joanna Taylor**, cello; **Peter Ostle**, bass.
- ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK: Violin sonata. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

Friday, February 14, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- J. S. BACH: Toccata in G Minor, BWV 915. **Judith Block**, piano.
- JAKE HEGGIE: *Paper Wings*. JOHN DUKE: "I Carry Your Heart", "Loveliest of Trees" and "The Grunchin' Witch." **Liana Valente**, soprano; **Yuri Chayama**, piano.
- WEBER: Grand Duo Concertant. **Tianlai Lu**, clarinet; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.

Saturday, February 22, 1:00 pm at the National Presbyterian Church Student Composition Competition Finals

Thursday, February 20, 12:00 noon at Old Town Hall, City of Fairfax

- SCHUMANN: Sonata in F-sharp Minor, op. 11. **Sasha Beresovsky**, piano.
- WIDOR: Suite for flute and piano, op. 34. **Gwyn Jones**, flute; **Rosanne Conway**, piano.
- JACKSON BERKEY: *Voices from the Earth*. **Angela Winter**, soprano; **Albert Hunt**, clarinet; **Igor Zubkovsky**, cello; **Barbara Peterson Cackler**, piano.

Friday, February 21, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church Composers Concert

- Works by **Paul Leavitt**, **Steven Schwarz**, **Sharon Guertin Shafer**, and **Mark Simon**.

Sunday, March 1, 3:00 pm at the Lyceum, Alexandria

- Gordon Jacob: Trio for clarinet, viola, and piano. **Nancy Genovese**, clarinet; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Amy Rothstein**, piano.
- Songs and arias by Russian composers. **Mark Bublitz**, tenor; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.
- Robert Schumann: *Fantasiestücke*, op. 88. **Eunju Kwak**, violin; **Janet Frank**, cello; **Charles Timbrell**, piano.

Sunday, March 1, 7:30 pm at Riderwood Retirement Community

- Program TBA

Thursday, March 5, 11:00 am in The Mansion at Strathmore

- Selection TBA. **Barbara Peterson Cackler** and **Rosanne Conway**, piano four hands.
- BEETHOVEN: Trio in E-flat Major, op. 70, no. 2. **Michael Casassa**, violin; **Jan Timbers**, cello; **Enoch Gordis**, piano.

Friday, March 6, 12:00 noon at Calvary Baptist Church

- J. S. BACH: Cello Suite No. 6 in D Major, BWV 1012. **Beatrice Chen**, viola.
- DVOŘÁK: Concerto in B Minor, op. 104. **Noah Chen**, cello; **Jeongseon Choi**, piano.
- MOZART: Trio in E-flat Major, K. 498 ("Kegelstatt"). **Nancy Genovese**, clarinet; **Caroline Brethauer**, viola; **Amy Rothstein**, piano.

Saturday, March 7, 9:00 am at Bethesda Presbyterian Church Sue Goetz Ross Memorial Competition for Voice

Venues

Bethesda Presbyterian Church
7611 Clarendon Rd.
Bethesda, MD

Calvary Baptist Church
755 Eighth St. NW
Washington, DC
(Metro: Gallery Place)

Jordan Kitt's Music
11726 Parklawn Dr.
N. Bethesda, MD 20852

The Lyceum
201 S. Washington St.
Alexandria, VA

The Mansion at Strathmore
10701 Rockville Pike
N. Bethesda, MD
(Metro: Grosvenor)

National Presbyterian Church
4101 Nebraska Ave. NW
Washington, DC

Old Town Hall
City of Fairfax
3999 University Dr.
Fairfax, VA
(at Main St. (Rt. 236))

Riderwood Village Chapel
3110 Gracefield Rd.
Silver Spring, MD

News from the Washington International Competition

Janice Rosen

Nathan J. Stumpff (WIC Composition, 2006) has maintained an active career as both a musician and a solar energy professional, currently living and working in Vermont. Nathan holds the degree of Master of Music from The Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with Nils Vigeland and Julia Wolfe.

Since 2008 Nathan has built solar energy and remote power systems across the Mid-Atlantic, Alaska, and now in his native New England. Nathan has embraced a diverse career, discovering the music of manual labor and bringing the mindset of a craftsman to composition. The Icelandic word for composer is *tónsmíður*, or 'sound-builder.' It is from this spirit Nathan's work has evolved.

As First Prize winner in the 2006 Washington International Competition for Composers, Nathan's string quartet *The Righteous and the Wicked* was premiered by the Peabody Quartet at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC.

I asked him to comment on his experience with the WIC and how it influenced his career. He responded:

The Washington International Competition was an incredible experience and the performance at the Kennedy Center is easily a highlight of my career. I learned many valuable technical lessons in working with the top-notch musicians on the premiere, and more broadly the energy, excitement, and atmosphere in the concert hall at the performance provided the best confirmation that making new music is valuable and worthwhile.

Since winning the WIC Nathan has continued to be an active musician – composing music for voice, strings, dance, and film. His recent works include three pieces for a cappella chorus: *Under the Holy Bough* (2019), after the poem by Charles MacKay; *The Mahogany Tree* (2019), after the poem by William Makepeace Thackeray; and *Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind* (2019), a scene from William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*.



Nathan Stumpff

He is currently working on a music video called *Milkweed*, inspired by the intricacies of nature and watching a caterpillar interacting with a milkweed plant as part of its journey to become a butterfly. Watching the caterpillar slowly and carefully munching the milkweed leaves to reach its goal of becoming a butterfly reminded him of his philosophy of "possibility without boundary," a philosophy that has been instrumental in shaping his creative energies.

To learn more about his projects, visit his website – <http://lostloonmusic.com>. 🎧

Celebrate Beethoven's Birthday with Avanti Orchestra

Nan Cooper

In March, to celebrate Beethoven's 250th anniversary, Conductor Pablo Saelzer and the Avanti Orchestra are launching a 3-year exploration of the composer's five piano concertos. Pianist Christopher Schmitt—who first collaborated with Avanti last spring in a Mozart concerto—has agreed to partner with Avanti on this journey beginning with an all-Beethoven concert on March 13. Mr. Schmitt will perform the piano concerto in B-flat Major, which was the first to be composed although it was the second one published. In the same program, Avanti will perform Beethoven's second symphony, and will close the concert with the concerto for violin, cello, and piano. Tony Rymer, a returning soloist and 2019 Washington International Competition (WIC) winner, will travel here from Berlin with his cello, then stop in NYC to pick up his violinist friend Kobi Malkin, 2012 WIC semi-finalist, to join his longtime friend Christopher and his Avanti Orchestra friends for the Triple Concerto. 🎧

Concert Details

Friday, March 13, 2020, at 7:30pm

Church of the Epiphany
1317 G St NW, Washington, DC



Friday Morning Music Club
755 8th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Arioso Chorale to Perform Beethoven in April; Looking Forward to Italy in July

Peter Baum

With the Verdi Requiem concerts complete, the Chorale is hard at work preparing for its next concerts on April 16 and 18, 2020. As with most of the musical world, the Chorale will honor the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth with a concert dedicated to his work.

This concert, sponsored by the German-American Heritage Foundation and funded by a grant procured by the Foundation, will feature a mixture of chamber, orchestral and choral music. The American Virtuosi from Baltimore will be the soloists for Beethoven's Trio in C Minor and the Triple Concerto. Choral works on the program will include the Choral Fantasy and the Choral movement of the 9th Symphony. The concert will be held at the Church of the Epiphany, 1317 G Street, NW (near Metro Center). Additional details may be seen on the Chorale Page of the FMMC website.

The Chorale is already in rehearsal for this concert and orchestra rehearsals will commence on March 16. Instrumentalists interested in playing on this concert should contact Peter Baum at Chorale@fmmc.org. We look forward to your participation.

Even as the Chorale is preparing for this concert, plans continue to move forward for the trip to Italy to participate in the Amalfi Festival in July. The Chorale will be augmented by singers from the National Philharmonic Chorale and students from the George Mason University Department of Music who will also be participating in other aspects of the Amalfi Festival. At this point, nearly 80 singers will be making the trip. While arrangements are incomplete, the group will be performing a "Bon Voyage" concert in late June. Look for more information in future newsletters. 🎶

Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion March 21, 2020

Carole Falvo and William Wright

Applications are now being accepted for the 2020 Ross-Roberts High School Competition for Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion. The competition will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020, from 9 AM to 4PM at the University of Maryland, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in College Park Md. The application deadline is February 29, 2020.

For additional information and application forms visit www.fmmc.org or contact highschoolwind@fmmc.org.

Encourage Your Students to Apply!

FMMC members are cordially invited to help as host/usher the day of the competition. Please reply to the chair [contact: highschoolwind@fmmc.org. 🎶]