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2006-2007

Winter Newsletter

St. Lawrence String Quartet
with Heidi Grant Murphy, *soprano*
and Kevin Murphy, *piano*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
Reed College: Kaul Auditorium, 8 pm

2006-2007
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THE NAUTILUS
NEWS & NOTES from CHAMBER MUSIC NORTHWEST

WINTER

37th Season

JANUARY 2007

SNEAK PREVIEW: 2007
SUMMER FESTIVAL



We are delighted to announce that pianist André Watts will return this summer to perform in CMNW's

37th annual festival. For more highlights, see continuation of article inside.

WE DID IT AGAIN!

Chamber Music Northwest has been notified by Charity Navigator, America's premiere independent charity evaluator, that it has been awarded the top rating of four stars for "sound fiscal management," for the third consecutive year! CMNW is the only Oregon arts organization in Charity Navigator's list to receive this coveted ranking. Other 4-star nonprofits in Portland include Mercy Corps, NW Medical Teams, Ecotrust and the Oregon Humane Society. More information is at www.charitynavigator.org.



Soprano Heidi Grant Murphy Debuts at
Chamber Music Northwest on February 7



Heidi Grant Murphy, "...the most angelic singer on the planet" The New York Sun

Chamber Music Northwest's Fall-Winter-Spring concert series continues February 7 with a dynamic and appealing program of vocal chamber music and string quartets. We are pleased to welcome to Portland one of today's most outstanding young singers, Heidi Grant Murphy, who has sung numerous roles at the Metropolitan Opera. In addition to her opera appearances in Paris and Salzburg, she performed last summer

at Tanglewood as soloist in Mahler's Second Symphony. Joining her in the program are her pianist-husband Kevin Murphy, and the Grammy-nominated St. Lawrence String Quartet in their return to the CMNW stage. The concert takes place at 8 p.m. at Reed College in Kaul Auditorium. Shuttle service will be available from the West parking lot from 6:45-7:50 pm and after the concert. Bob Kingston will present a pre-concert talk in the hall from 7-7:30 pm.



St. Lawrence String Quartet

Watch Magic Flute from the Met on OPB



The stunning Chinese soprano Ying Huang, who performed so memorably at CMNW in the 1996 and 1997 festivals with pianist David Golub, makes her Metropolitan Opera debut as Pamina in Mozart's *Magic Flute* in the 100-minute version that was simulcast nationwide on December 30. You can enjoy this special presentation on Wednesday, January 24 at 9 pm, shown in Portland on OPB (Channel 10), when *Great Performances from the Met* broadcasts it over PBS.

TICKET OFFICE INFORMATION — CALL 503-294-6400

Chamber Music Northwest's ticket office is located in downtown Portland at SW Fifth and Washington, in the Yeon Building at 522 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 924. Hours are 10 am – 3 pm, Monday through Thursday. Phone orders and walk-ins are welcome. Orders can also be made by mail or fax (503-294-1690). Tickets will be mailed, time permitting, or held at will-call.

Ticket office: 503-294-6400
Administrative office: 503-223-3202
www.cmnw.org · info@cmnw.org

THE NAUTILUS Linda Magee, Editor · Rebekah Phillips, Graphic Design

36th ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Chamber Music Northwest held its annual meeting on October 26, to celebrate the success of the 36th year and officially open the 37th season. The Board of Directors elected the following officers for the 2006-2007 year: Ann van Bever, president; Pamela Erickson, vice-president; Judith Rees, secretary; Mark Cruzan, treasurer; and Peter Livingston, immediate past president.



Outgoing Board president Peter Livingston congratulates Ann van Bever at the Annual Meeting, with David Shifrin and Linda Magee looking on.

Five new board members were elected: Judy Dauble, William Haden, David McNutt, Kathleen Stephenson-Kuhn, and Harriet Watson. Outgoing board members honored on their retirement were Steve Rapf and Betsy Russell.

There were numerous highlights of CMNW's successful 2005-2006 FY: marking record attendance at both the summer festival and winter series concerts to reach 25,500 and 94% average capacity audiences; ending with a balanced budget for the 27th consecutive year, with \$1,232,000 million in revenue; achieving a 50-50 ratio of earned-contributed income; maintaining a cash reserve fund of 25% of the annual budget; and seeing the Endowment Fund grow to \$3.4 million. Hearty thanks to all of CMNW's generous supporters and fans for helping with these major achievements!

STAFF PROFILE: MARK OWSLEY, PRODUCTION MANAGER TRULY A FAMILY AFFAIR

Guess who spent his wedding night working for Chamber Music Northwest?

Mark and Linda Owsley were married on June 20, 1987. Believe it or not, they came to work that evening for the opening concert in CMNW's 27th summer festival, Linda still wearing her wedding dress! Mark jokes that it took nearly 20 years for them to take their honeymoon, not ever having a summer off from CMNW. Mark has served as production manager since 1985, overseeing all the technical aspects of the concerts – lighting, sound, instrument moving and supervising the stage crew. Over these 23 years he and CMNW have enjoyed a real family affair: Linda has served as the festival's concessions manager all this time as well, and their daughter Katie started helping her out as soon as she was old enough. Sons Shaun and Justin have both been stage managers, too.



Mark and Linda Owsley on their long-awaited honeymoon, in Rome last March, with Justin (left) and Katie (right).

What means the most to Mark is the strong personal connection he has made with all the CMNW artists and staff. David Shifrin gave Katie a few clarinet lessons when she showed promise on the instrument, and she became a babysitter for several CMNW artists' children, out of which the Owsleys have developed a special relationship with violist Paul Neubauer and his family.

Mark lives in Vancouver, Washington, and his year-round position is with Clark College, where he serves as theater manager, stage manager and stage designer for all college events. "My entire adult life has been spent with Chamber Music Northwest," says Mark, "and it's been just a wonderful experience for me. I especially love the continuity among the family of musicians and staff over the years." Obviously, the feeling is mutual!

FOUR DYNAMIC WORKS TO BE HEARD ON FEB. 7 (continued from cover story)

The Northwest première of acclaimed Puerto Rican composer Roberto Sierra's "Songs from the Diaspora" is the centerpiece of CMNW's February 7 concert. A compelling new song cycle written in 2005 for Ms. Grant Murphy, "Songs from the Diaspora" is inspired by the traditional songs of the Spanish-Jewish Diaspora in late 15th century Spain. Scored for soprano, piano and string quartet, Sierra's music evokes European folk music from Medieval times.

In addition, the program includes two masterful string quartets by Haydn and Ravel to feature the St. Lawrence Quartet, and the hauntingly beautiful *Chanson Perpetuelle* ("Song without end") for soprano and piano, written by French 19th century composer Ernest Chausson.

WINDSCAPE REACHES PORTLANDERS IN NOVEMBER RESIDENCY



In November, Chamber Music Northwest held a two-day outreach Residency, placing the New York-based quintet Windscape into a variety of educational settings for musicians and audiences of all ages. Ensemble-in-Residence at the Manhattan School of Music, Windscape performed to an enthusiastic audience at Terwilliger Plaza, and presented two assemblies at Beaumont Middle School in Northeast Portland. As specialists in new music, Windscape was the focus of a composition seminar at Portland State University, in which they performed and critiqued wind quintets by students of composition professor Bonnie Miksch. In spite of the short stay, Windscape was also able to coach three young chamber ensembles from PYP, and worked extensively with the Alder Street Sextet, an ensemble comprised of Portland-based freelance musicians.

SUMMER FESTIVAL SNEAK PREVIEW (continued from cover)



Emerson String Quartet returns this summer, along with Leila Josefowicz (below left) and Edgar Meyer (below right).

Emerson String Quartet returns to complete the cycle of all 15 quartets of Shostakovich that they began last July. Complete festival information will be available in mid-March, through the season brochure mailing and on the website, www.cmnw.org.



Artistic director David Shifrin has also announced the return of violinist Leila Josefowicz this summer, and the world première of an intriguing new piece by Edgar Meyer for string bass and wind octet.

Among many other musical highlights, the

2006-2007 CONCERT SERIES

Coming up:

FEBRUARY 7, 2007

Reed College: Kaul Auditorium, 8 pm

St. Lawrence String Quartet
Heidi Grant Murphy, *soprano*
Kevin Murphy, *piano*
(See story on front page.)

MARCH 31, 2007

Reed College: Kaul Auditorium, 8 pm

Wosner Shifrin Turkovic Trio
David Shifrin joins two friends, Milan Turkovic and Shai Wosner, for an evening of trios for clarinet, bassoon and piano.

APRIL 19, 2007

Reed College: Kaul Auditorium, 8 pm

Wu Man, pipa
Daedalus String Quartet
An "East Meets West" program featuring the celebrated pipa player Wu Man and the superb young Daedalus String Quartet.

MAY 22, 2007

Reed College: Kaul Auditorium, 8 pm

Leila Josefowicz, violin,
John Novacek, piano
A memorable evening showcasing the outstanding violinist's dynamic virtuosity.

Tickets now on sale!
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COMING THIS SUMMER

37th Annual
SUMMER FESTIVAL

June 25 – July 29, 2007

Be among the first to learn details about what's going to be performed at this summer's festival by signing up for *Insider Notes*, CMNW's e-newsletter. Sign up online at www.cmnw.org/insider.html.