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EROICA! ... Kellie Rice

On Feb. 7 and 8 the La Jolla Symphony will present 'Eroica!' This exciting concert includes works by Ravel and Beethoven, and the West Coast premiere of MORTON FELDMAN's *Cello and Orchestra*, featuring soloist, Juilliard graduate, and professor of contemporary music at UCSD CHARLES CURTIS.



Acknowledged internationally as a performer of new and experimental music, Curtis has been closely associated with legendary avant-garde composer LA MONTE YOUNG, premiering more of Young's works than any other musician. After spending some time immersed in New York's free music scene, Curtis travelled internationally to places such as Paris, Amsterdam, and Berlin. Through the years he has evolved into a creative artist, straddling the boundaries between art rock, sound art, and minimalist composition.

Framing this concert are works by composers Ravel and Beethoven. The program opens with *La Valse*, Maurice Ravel's swirling evocation of the Viennese waltz. While this piece speaks to the heart through harmonic richness and iridescent orchestration, it also demonstrates the ways in which the waltz was transforming into a vehicle for biting satire.

Beethoven's *Symphony No. 3, Eroica*, concludes this epic program. Through extremes of exultation and misery, Beethoven breaks from the mold of his day by reflecting the Romanticism he helped usher in. Although the piece was originally titled *Bonaparte Symphony*, it was changed to *Eroica* when, much to Beethoven's extreme disappointment, Napoleon crowned himself emperor.

This program is packed with new and emotional music, and promises to be dramatic and stunning. Concerts are on Sat., Feb. 7 at 8:00 PM, and Sun.,

Feb. 8, at 3:00 PM, in Mandeville Auditorium, with a free lecture before each concert. Call the Box Office at (858) 534-4637, or visit <http://www.lajollasympphony.com> for more information.

Contributors:

Sharon Jones, Ed.

Chuck Carver

Beda Farrell

Jeff Nevin

Thelma Parris

Sean Peisert

Kellie Rice

Harvey Sollberger

Susan Ung

Megan Wolf

New York Flute Club To Honor Maestro Sollberger ...

LJS&CA Music Director HARVEY SOLLBERGER will be "playing hooky" during the last week in February when he attends and participates in a concert being given in his honor (for his 65th birthday) by the New York Flute Club at CAMI HALL on West 57th St. in Manhattan on Feb. 29.

The concert will celebrate his musical contributions over the years as a flutist, teacher of flute, and composer of new music for the flute. Harvey will perform his solo piece, *New Millennium Memo* (commissioned and first performed by CLAIRE CHASE, daughter of Choral Director, DAVID CHASE) as well as several transcriptions he has made of French and Italian music of the 13th and 14th centuries.

Three of his other works will be played by flutist colleagues SUE ANN KAHN (Jubal Trio, Mannes College of Music), PATTI MONSON (Tactus Ensemble, Manhattan School of Music), and PATRICIA SPENCER (Da Capo Chamber Players and Bard College). Rounding out the program will be a flute duet by Harvey's composition teacher, OTTO LUENING, who was himself a student of BUSONI. Also appearing on the concert will be the Da Capo Chamber Players, pianist CHRISTOPHER OLDFATHER, and members of Manhattan School of Music's Tactus ensemble.

Mariachi in the New Year ... Jeff Nevin

Sat., Feb. 21, 7:00 PM, 'Noche de Ronda'

I will be conducting the San Bernardino Symphony and playing trumpet solos in a concert featuring Mexican classical music by AGUSTIN LARA, PABLO MONCAYO, myself, and others, as well as some songs by DANIEL HENDRICK, and a number of opera arias. This is a symphony concert featuring soprano FLORENCIA TINOCO, tenor DANIEL HENDRICK, and members of Mariachi Champaña Nevín singing and performing as soloists. Visit <http://www.sinfoniamexicana.com/> for ticket information, or call 1-866-687-4284 for more information.

Fri. and Sat., Feb. 27, 28, 8:00 PM, 'Fiesta Mariachi'

This program features the San Diego Symphony with the full Mariachi Champaña Nevín, joined by FLORENCIA TINOCO, performing traditional mariachi favorites, our best classical music transcriptions, and JOSE HERNANDEZ's and my *Concerto for Mariachi and Orchestra Pasion Mexicana*. This will be the first complete performance of the piece in about 4 years, so don't miss it! Honestly, "PR hyperbole" aside, many people consider this to be an historically significant piece of music, presenting mariachi music and the mariachi ensemble in a setting unlike anything any other mariachi has done.

This is the only piece of "serious" classical music I know that presents mariachi in such a traditional and faithful manner: far from pop or folk songs with simple orchestration, classical musicians and audiences consider this to be REAL classical music, while mariachis consider it REAL mariachi. Every mariachi aficionado should hear this. Visit <http://www.sandiegosymphony.org> for tickets and info.

Looking ahead ... I'll be lecturing on mariachi trumpet style and technique at the most prestigious gathering of trumpet players in the world this summer, the International Trumpet Guild's 2004 Conference. The conference will run June 15-19 at the University of Denver. Also appearing will be BOBBY SHEW, JENS LINDEMANN, JON FADIS, ALLEN VIZZUTTI, VINCE DIMARTINO, RONALD ROMM, FRED MILLS, MICHAEL SACHS, and othersYIKES! :-). Let's see how the best classical and jazz trumpet players in the world respond to "el alma del mariachi..."

Music on UCSD-TV ...

Summerfest 2003: *Ghost Opera*, Feb. 6, 8:30 PM

TAN DUN has made an indelible mark on the world's music scene, with a creative repertoire that spans the boundaries of classical, multimedia, Eastern, and Western musical styles. His celebrated work, *Ghost Opera*, uses ordinary substances as percussion, along with traditional Chinese and Western instruments, in a theatrical fusion of the ancient and the avant-garde.

San Diego Opera Spotlight: *The Pearl Fishers*, Feb. 13, 9:00 PM

In this special expanded edition of San Diego Opera Spotlight, viewers are given a backstage tour of a new production of *The Pearl Fishers*, featuring sets and costumes designed by renowned fashion maven ZANDRA RHODES.

In the UCSD Dept. of Music: 'An Evening of Mozart Opera' ... Megan Wolf

Come and enjoy an 'Evening of Mozart Opera' on Feb. 19-21. Students of Professor CAROL PLANTAMURA will be performing various pieces by Mozart, including scenes from *Cosí Fan Tutte* and the *Magic Flute*; as well as Mozart's short opera, *The Impresario*, in its entirety. Professor HARVEY SOLBERGER will be conducting the LJS.

UCSD undergraduate student TED McCOMBS brings a twist to the evening with his narration between scenes. McCombs playfully explains the events that lead up to the scene for the audience to clearly understand each performance.

The program will open with a scene from *The Magic Flute*. While the piece is complex in its many characters and multi-level plot, even the novice opera-lover will enjoy the infamous Mozart tunes and mystical element.



Did you know that we now have recording samples of the LJS&C on the web site?

Check them out at...

<http://www.lajollasympony.com/concerts/recordings/>

The program continues into a full production of *The Impresario*. Due to its broad musical and dramatic demands, it is a rare occasion that the talent required to perform it falls into the lap of the presenter. When Plantamura realized she had the cast of *The Impresario*, she leapt at the chance to put the singers together into this production.

A scene from *Cosí Fan Tutte* opens the second portion of the program. In the piece, two young women have vowed to stay true to their future husbands as the men are called to duty. Don Alfonso, a friend of the men, proposes a wager that the women will prove to be fickle, as they believe all women to be. The story takes a twist when the men disguise themselves and pursue the women as foreign visitors. The performance will feature the scene from Act One, where the two women are leaving their sweethearts.

While each opera tells its own story, the common thread between them is Mozart's playful, inviting and at times mystical music.

Each performance takes place in Mandeville Center, Room B-210, Feb. 19, 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM; Feb. 20, 8:00 PM; and Feb. 21, 5:00 PM.

Young Artist Competition Winners ... Thelma Parris

A very high level of talent and musicality was displayed at the LJS&CA's 45th YAC, which took place on Sat., Jan. 31. The winners (who performed at a Winners' Showcase Recital at the Neurosciences Institute on Sun., Feb. 1) are:

INSTRUMENTAL:

- 1st place, Mathias Reumert, percussion
- 2nd place, Eugene Ugorski, violin
- 3rd place, Whittney Thomas, viola
- 4th place, Ines Irawati, piano

VOCAL:

- 1st place, Tom Corbeil, bass-baritone
- 2nd place, Laura Mitchell, soprano

CHORAL ARRANGEMENTS ... Beda Farrell & Chuck Carver



The LJS&C at the end of the *Ode to Common Things* concert, Dec. 7, 2003

What sorts of things would
YOU like to know and read
about?

The next copy deadline is
Friday, February 27, 2004.

Please direct any questions,
comments, news, or story
ideas to the Editor at (858)
534-3642, or
scjones@ucsd.edu.

New Year's in Bhutan

The Bhutanese/Tibetan New Year is "Losar" (New Year's Day), Feb. 21/22: Wood Male Monkey Year. For those wanting to send New Year's greetings to our friends in Bhutan, they may be addressed to TENZIN RIGDEN and JIGME DRUKPA c/o Bhutan Media Services, Post Box 1365, Wogzin Lam, Zomlha Building, Thimphu, Bhutan. Their email addresses and those of our guides are as follows:

jdrukpa@druknet.bt
bms@druknet.bt
barbetczt@yahoo.com
gelay_j@hotmail.com
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garab@yangphel.com.bt
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Recent Birthdays



It's always nice to be remembered on special days. If you wish to see the cake decorated with your name and a birthday wish, plan on arriving a couple of minutes early. We should have a camera to document the occasion with a photo. Unfortunately, you'll have to wait until rehearsal break for a taste (sorry).

[
to bring culinary splendor to the Chorus's rehearsal breaks. Week after week, year after year, we come to rehearsal knowing that it will not be something ordinary that awaits us at 'half-time'!]

Messiah Sing the Largest

Below is a photo of our Sun., Dec. 14, 2003 Messiah Sing audience ... the largest ever!

Need to contact the LJS&CA?

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Mail Code 0361

La Jolla, CA 92093

(858) 534-4637

<http://www.lajollasympphony.com>

Sylvia Grace, Executive Director
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Greetings from Former Chorus Member

Former Chorus member ANDREAS JELONNEK (the tall, red-headed bass from Germany who sang with us last season) sends his greetings:

After many months of travelling I finally managed to move into my new apartment here in Kassel and for once settle down. I do want to thank you, Dave, Ken and the choir for giving me a "musical home" in the past year. We have an idiomatic phrase in German -- "Wo man singt da laß dich ruhig nieder; böse Menschen kennen keine Lieder" -- which freely translates into "Settle where people sing, because bad people don't have/know any songs". I was blessed to meet so many good people in your Choir! If everybody in the world could be part of a choir there would be no wars! I joined a Bach Choir here in Kassel and luckily picked up my solo activities at a music school.

Thanks & Love,

Andreas H. Jellonek
andreasjellonek@netscape.net

Orchestrations ... Susan Ung

I'm forwarding this email from YAPHET JONES, one of our LJS trumpet players, and a marine who is being deployed to Iraq for the third time. Please join me in keeping in contact with him, and help him to have a safe return ... send him laser-sharp protective white light armor against any danger, letters, bubble gum, magazines, books, St. Christopher medals, whatever ... and he says he may even have email.

Hello All,

It's that time again for deployment to Iraq, and I am slated to depart to leave next week on that long 28 hr. flight. We are scheduled to be there for 7 months, which would put me back in California sometime in September '04. If you'd like to write, please feel free, as you know how much we look forward to mail. If you wish to send something, please, no firearms or ammunition (believe me, we have plenty), and among my favorites are bubble yum bubblegum, strawberry pop tarts, pudding, and hot chocolate, and things to read. I'd thank you all in advance for your support and encouragement

during these tough times. Our task won't be easy, but our spirits are high, and we are ready to do what we have to do. Take care ... I promise to write back when I can, and please wish us luck and send many prayers.

- Yaphet Jones

Mailing address:

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FEATURE: Fanfare for the Frozen Man ...

San Diego Union-Tribune, Dec. 3, 2003. Among some musicians, deep-freezing their instruments is all the rage. The idea is this. You take an instrument like a trumpet and expose it to liquid nitrogen, which reduces the horn's temperature to minus-321 degrees Fahrenheit. Then you allow the trumpet to slowly return to room temperature. The result is a trumpet that not only plays more easily, but also produces a better sound ... or so the notion goes.

Now, a pair of Tufts University engineering researchers have blown holes in the popular myth. The researchers cryogenically froze 10 trumpets, then asked volunteers of varying musical abilities to play them and other trumpets not previously frozen. The volunteers could not make an accurate differentiation, though some insisted they could.

"One of the great things about studying musical instruments is if the player believes it will make a difference, he or she will play better, so it acts as a sort of placebo," said Chris Rogers, an engineering professor who worked on the study for two years. (The study did not address the question of what happens when you try to play a still-frozen trumpet.)