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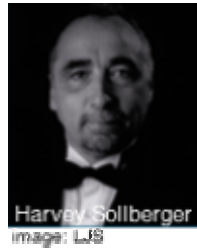
A Newsletter by and for the La Jolla
Symphony & Chorus Association

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE SEASON OPENER



~ Harvey Sollberger ~

As if to underscore the probity of that old saying, "Don't count your chickens before they're hatched," this season's first concert already experienced a bit of dramatic uncertainty at the end of the summer. Things seemed set, with a fine season opener featuring last year's Young Concert Artists Competition winner in the instrumental division, DAN YU, playing the *Third Piano Concerto* of Prokofiev along with Copland's *Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo* and Brahms' *Symphony No. 4*. Not exactly chopped liver, as New Yorkers say.

Things changed very quickly when I received a phone call from Dan informing me that physical problems in his hand and arm were forcing him to withdraw from the November concerts. He was very apologetic and concerned over any problems that this might cause us, but I assured him that the main thing now was for him to continue receiving the best medical attention possible and to give his hand time to get well. We will miss him in November, because I believe he would have been a dynamite soloist, and it's my hope that he might appear with us at some time in the future when he's recovered.

In the meantime, a replacement soloist and piece were needed. While we had three talented people tie for 3rd Place in the competition last year (and no 2nd Place winner), I didn't feel that any of them was ready to step into Dan's shoes. Subsequently, a chain of inquiries led me to STEVEN SCHICK, UCSD's globetrotting percussion professor and trainer extraordinaire of percussion stars of the future. Steve suggested Tan Dun's *Concerto for Water Percussion and Orchestra*, which he already knew and could re-learn for November. This struck me as an inspired suggestion for several reasons. First of all, Steve's charisma and appeal as a soloist. Secondly, the fact that percussion is always a hit with audiences, who groove on its many colors and the balletic motions of the performer. Finally, the piece itself, which I regard as one of Tan Dun's best efforts. I think that it will complement the Copland and Brahms pieces very nicely. It will also take advantage of a certain momentum in Tan Dun's local reputation as a result of the La Jolla Music Society's bringing him here last summer and featuring a number of his works. I had the sense that his music made a considerable and most favorable impression on what can only be called a conservative audience, and hope that many of these people will want to extend their acquaintance with his music and will show up for our concerts on November 1 and 2.



A further bonus is that Steve will be backed-up in the important Orchestra percussion parts by two of his students who are completing their studies with him -- MORRIS



image: Morris Patter

PALTER and AIYUN HUANG, both of whom have performed with us often in the past. They are representative of the best of the graduate performance program in the UCSD Dept. of Music. Aiyun is, for example, the most recent recipient of the Gold Medal of the prestigious Geneva International Competition. For them, and Steve, it will be a kind of 'sentimental journey' in making their last appearance together on a UCSD stage. I expect fireworks!

So, things are once again "all quiet on the western front" and looking good ... that is, until the next emergency. But let's hope it's far off. Meanwhile, I think we've got a lot to look forward to in our season opener. See you there!

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

~ Otto Sorensen & Sean Peisert ~

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

In July a new slate of officers of the Association was elected, in addition to several new Board members (including ensemble representatives). The new slate of officers includes Chorus bass OTTO SORENSEN as President and Orchestra percussionist SEAN PEISERT as Vice President. ROY GAYHART continues his role as Treasurer, and REV. JOHN BENBOW is Secretary. Chorus tenor DR. COLIN BLOOR is also on the Executive Committee as immediate past president, replacing TOM BAZE. From the Chorus, tenors PROF. WAYNE CORNELIUS and GEORGE ANDERSON have joined alto AMEE WOOD as representatives. Wayne is also the Chorus representative to the LJS&CA Executive Committee.

Additionally, several other people have joined the Board as members-at-large, including Orchestra trumpeter KEN FITZGERALD, DR. ROBERT ENGLER, JEAN OELRICH from XLNC radio, former Board President DIANE WHITLEY (néé Salisbury), and CLAIRE STANLEY. Unfortunately, BILL PHOENIX, long-time Orchestra trombonist and also Orchestra representative to the Board has resigned, so we will be conducting elections in the Orchestra for two more representatives to join current Orchestra representative JIM SWIFT in this role.

NEW AND IMPROVED WEB SITE

Over the summer, our web site underwent a facelift, designed and implemented by Walt Dickinson of iWalt Designs. Walt graciously volunteered his time to do this large project for us. (Your comments would be welcomed at <http://www.iwalt.com/design/>.)

Among other things this, facelift will easily allow us to add features like

on-line ticketing, ensemble member profiles, music clips, and performance notes, all of which we hope to add by the end of the calendar year. Check out the revamped website at <http://www.lajollasympphony.com>.


CONCERTS TO BE RECORDED AGAIN

Finally, our concerts are once again being recorded due to the generous devotion of time, money and energy of KENT OBERLIN of K. Oberlin Studios. Due to budgetary constraints, we are no longer hiring UCSD Dept. of Music recordist JOE KUCERA for every concert (although he will be used periodically on high-profile pieces). Instead, Kent will continue to record concerts for the coming year, having recorded the May Debussy and Bruckner concerts.

Kent will be recording the concerts entirely for free, on a volunteer basis. He will be producing CDs not only for our archival and marketing purposes but also for sale to the ensembles -- and, on occasion, also 5.1-channel audio DVDs of our concerts. CD sales to ensemble members will be at only a very small mark-up above Kent's cost. Unlike LJS&CA CDs produced in previous years, the current ones should have fewer technical problems and peeling labels and instead feature professionally printed labels and CD covers.

As the only benefit to Kent of recording our concerts is through CD sales, it would be very helpful if Orchestra and Chorus members would purchase as many CDs of our concerts as possible so that we all may continue to enjoy the benefit of having them recorded. If not enough CDs are produced, Kent will be unable to continue to volunteer his time to record them.



 There are 8 more days to vote! (NO, it's not that other vote.) This is another of those "best of" polls run by the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#). Our organization continually looks for ways to broaden our exposure to the community. As strange as it might seem, this type of poll does just that. The La Jolla Symphony & Chorus was voted Best (Classical Music) Audience Winner in 2002. This year we're an editorial nominee, following the San Diego Symphony Orchestra and the San Diego Chamber Orchestra. Let's all send our electronic votes and see where we end up. It's easy to do. Just go to <http://entertainment.signonsandiego.com/best/ballot/130> and cast your vote for the LJS&C! The poll closes on October 7. If you have difficulty accessing the balloting with the above link, here are some alternatives: <http://entertainment.signonsandiego.com>,. Or, go to <http://www.signonsandiego.com/>, and click on "Entertainment" on the grey bar across the top; you'll see the Best of 2003 logo and "Vote on It." Click there. A page comes up with lists of bests of; click under the Arts & Movies category on "Best of Classical Music." You will finally get to the page with LJS&C listed with a vote button.

UPDATES FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

~ Sylvia Grace ~

LJS&CA RECEIVES BIG DONATION



Supervisor PAM SLATER was flanked by Board President OTTO SORENSEN and Executive Director SYLVIA GRACE, as she presented them with a check for \$10,000 to the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus Association. These funds, which came from the county's Community Projects grant program, will help fund musical outreach programs within District Three.

GALA FUNDRAISER A BIG SUCCESS

There was no doubt on the evening of Saturday, September 20 that we had a roaring success on our hands. Kicking off the season with this very special celebration of DAVID CHASE's 30 years as Choral Director really set an upbeat mood for a very exciting 2003-04 season. Just ask any of the over 250 people who attended.

As we all still feel the warm after-shocks of the gala, I feel the importance of acknowledging the many individuals both behind the scenes and those who were more visible for their roles in the success we enjoyed Saturday night.

Every corner of the UCSD Faculty Club looked fabulous -- from the slide shows to the floral arrangements and the Bhutan memorabilia display, to the heart-warming program featuring the voices of the *Bhutanaïres*, the tour chorus.

I want to personally thank CINDY COLLINS and COLLEEN PHILLIPS for

their tireless efforts in working on this event up through the inevitable last minute crunches so that every detail was covered and the train ran smoothly.

Many thanks to BEDA FARRELL for being our dependable resource and mentor for the multitude of details that needed her valuable involvement.

Thanks to the volunteers who pitched in and helped the staff with a long "To Do" list. These angels included ANN CHASE, THELMA PARRIS, VICKIE HEINS-SHAW, BEVERLY SHENKMAN, CATHY THOMPSON, ROMI SIMONS, GEOFF BROOKS, and ROSEMARY CHANG.

Our guests were greeted with an upbeat mood as they arrived to the brass sounds of JEFF NEVIN and the wonderful brass ensemble which included YAPHET JONES, MIKE MCCOY, ANDREW MOREAU, and KEN SERFASS. Then during dinner came the sounds of beautiful string music provided by DAVID BUCKLEY, PETER CLARK, MAX FENSTERMACHER, and NANCY SWANBERG. A robust "Cheers" to ROBERT and DIANE WHITLEY for their unparalleled donation of some of the most delectable wines that graced each table.

Then, of course, this list would not be complete without thanking SUPERVISOR PAM SLATER for her continual support. Last but not least, a big "Thank You" to all the members of the Board who rallied behind our dynamic new President, Chorus member OTTO SORENSEN, and brought friends and colleagues to the celebration.



time Chorus member and recent Board President COLIN BLOOR for going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that this event would happen.

And a special and heart-felt thanks to long-

Of course, the biggest "Thank You" goes to DAVID CHASE for giving us a grand reason to celebrate.

HOST FAMILIES SOUGHT

The LJS&CA has undertaken an unusual project this fall, and invites your participation in what should be a very enjoyable moment in our history. This October, one of the finest youth orchestras in Germany and Europe, the **Landesjugenderorchester Rheinland-Pfalz**, is touring the West Coast. (One of the members of this orchestra's board is IVO MEINHOLD, whom many of you may remember as an old friend of the LJS&CA -- a doctor who spent several years at the Scripps Research Institute, and played piccolo in the La Jolla Symphony.)

The LJS&CA will present this orchestra in concert in Mandeville Auditorium on Thursday, October 23. The program will include an overture by Mendelssohn; the Sibelius *Violin Concerto*, with the young Korean violinist HAHN BIN; Richard Strauss' *Four Last Songs*, with soprano DANIELA BECHLY; and the Shostakovich *Symphony Number 9*. We hope that all of our performers and other Association members will be able to hear what should be a spectacular concert.

While the orchestra is in Southern California, we have offered to find accommodations for the 80 players (who range in age from 12 to 19) and a few staff members. We would like to invite the members of our own Orchestra and Chorus to act as host families for individual players in the orchestra during the 3-day/2 night period they are here. You don't even have to speak German! This should not be an unusually demanding experience for host families: the players will be gone much of the time, but will need a place to sleep, a few meals, and some help with local transportation. For the host families, the experience will be like having a foreign exchange student for a couple of days; it will be a chance to meet a talented young German musician, to have his/her as a brief guest in your home, and to participate in this unusual

event. We feel that this entire experience will be a memorable and rewarding one for all of us. For more information, or if you are interested in hosting, please contact the LJS&CA Office, at (858) 534-4637 or send an email to sgrace@ucsd.edu.

SELL SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS

We are only 160 season subscriptions short of reaching our goal for this year's season! We have already exceeded last year's sales (thank you, Operations Manager CINDY COLLINS!), and we are convinced that this goal can be met. So, we are asking for help from our Board and ensemble members. *If everyone sells just one subscription*, then we will have met our goal -- with a couple to spare -- and gain the distinction of having sold more subscriptions for the 2003-04 season than any other previous season.

ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIP

If in your little black book or palm pilot you know a business or individual who might have some interest in advertising in our concert program, or in sponsoring one of our concerts, then please call me, at (858) 822-3774. To put the cost in perspective, \$2500 for sponsoring one concert is less than the 7" x 4" ad that we took out two years ago in the San Diego Union-Tribune (which I am sure costs more today).

CHORAL ARRANGEMENTS

~ Beda Farrell & Sharon Jones ~

WORKS BY PABLO NERUDA

This week we begin rehearsals on Cary Ratcliff's *Ode to Common Things*, which draws on the poetry of Chilean



poet PABLO NERUDA. Now, 30 years after his death in 1973 at age 69, comes

The Poetry of Pablo Neruda, the most comprehensive single-volume compilation of his work to date.

For those unacquainted with his work, this impressive volume enables readers to understand why, when Neruda was being awarded the Nobel Prize in 1971, the Swedish Academy declared, "In his work a continent awakens to consciousness."

The volume's editor is IVAN STAVANS, Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Chicano Culture at Amherst and host of NPR's "La Plaza." Stavans notes that Neruda was called "the people's poet," "the voice of the voiceless," who had a lifelong "intuitive connection to the masses."

This book was reviewed in the San Diego Union-Tribune on August 31. More information may be found at <http://www.archives.signonsandiego.com>.

RETURN FROM THE LAND OF THE THUNDER DRAGON



Early on the morning of July 2, 48 singers of the La Jolla Symphony Chamber Chorus (our LJS&C tour name, though we call ourselves "Bhutanaires"), plus 18 companions ("Bhutaners"), and the dynamo team of 'Brenda and Ted' (Adventures in Learning, Inc.) flew around Himalayan mountain peaks on a Druk Air flight and landed in the narrow river valley of Paro, Bhutan. Thus began our musical adventure of a lifetime. As official guests of the Kingdom of Bhutan we shared our 'Voices from America' with people who for the most part were completely unfamiliar with traditional choral music of North and South America.

"I Long To See You," a fundraiser for the *Martha Neal-Brown Story Arts Fund*, will be held on Sunday, October 26, 7:30 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito, 1036 Solana Dr., Solana Beach. \$10 cost of admission is tax-deductible. For more information, please contact Sally Dean, at (760) 436-7125, sallyhdean@cox.net, or StoryArts at (760) 436-3970.



As (paying) guests of the government, it was fitting that our very first (private) concert was presented at the Royal Academy of the Performing Arts in the capital city of Thimpu. The guest list included members of the Royal Family, government ministers and officials, members of Bhutan's Parliament, and prominent residents of the city.

Since we were Cultural Ambassadors of San Diego, California, U.S.A., the remainder of our concerts was presented to ALL wishing to see us throughout our tour of Bhutan. We gave a second performance at the Performing Arts Center, plus performances in high schools, the National Institute of Education Hall in Punakha (while still under construction), and at a major Buddhist festival (a true honor for us foreigners).



We presented a cappella pieces of U.S., Canadian, Venezuelan and Brazilian composers, many of which had already been shared on our European tours. But we had no idea how the Bhutanese audiences would respond to our music. These are a people who didn't have a sense of concert performance as we know it in the western world, and they'd never heard a chorus like ours. Would they applaud? cheer? Would they sit quietly as we ended our 'shows'?

During our concerts, mostly between songs, we'd hear murmuring (and more) in the audience. Since English is taught in schools, many people had an understanding for David's comments about our music. They, in turn,

translated to those folks who understood only *Dzongka* (the primary language of the country), or other dialects. We were delighted when they applauded -- especially for "Cowboy Max" (AKA tenor MAX CHODOS) at the end of *Mata del Anima Sola*, the song about a lonely Venezuelan cowboy.

Yes, our tour of Bhutan, Land of the Thunder Dragon, was an experience of a lifetime. We had excellent guides, provided by our official contacts TENZIN RIDGEN, of Eastern Himalayan Adventures, and JIGME DRUKPA (photo below), the Bhutanese royal musician and vice principal of the Royal Academy of Performing Arts.



The tour was also very challenging. We spent many hours on five small buses, driving on the country's only east-west "highway"...1 1/2 lanes wide, dotted with potholes and mudslides. Our "rest areas" were in the natural beauty of the countryside (women up the road, men down the road). The beds in our hotels were not made by Tempur-Pedic, Simmons or Sealy. The food, all vegetarian so we wouldn't get sick on unrefrigerated meat, wouldn't receive a Michelin *. On the other hand, the land and the people were absolutely wonderful, and many of us look forward to the day when we might return.

For those not able to visit the Land of the Thunder Dragon with us, the next best thing might be visiting the excellent photo web site of alto BARBARA PEISCH, at <http://www/peisch.com/photos/bhutan>.

Tashi delek! (Cheers!)...

NEW CHORUS BABY

On the joyful side, tenor BRIAN PUGH and his wife CAROL (a harpist) have announced the birth of *Nicholas Lamont*

on June 10. He was 20" long and weighed in at 8 lbs., 2 oz. He is now 15 lbs., and has a much larger fortissimo than his father.



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD GOES TO WAYNE CORNELIUS



Congratulations to LJSCA tenor and new Board member WAYNE CORNELIUS as he is honored at the 2003 UCSD Alumni Association's Awards for Excellence Gala on October 25. Wayne is Gildred Professor of Political Science at UCSD and Director of its Center for Comparative Immigration Studies.

TAKING CARE OF YOUR VOICE

The beginning of a new season is a good time to remind ourselves that taking care of our instruments rewards us with many years of making beautiful music. For the string, wind and brass player, instrument care and maintenance insures years of beautiful music. Bridges are replaced, pads are replaced, leaky valves are repaired. But what about singers? Used 24 hours a day, the singer's instrument requires the same care as the finest violin, flute or trumpet (or the instrument of your choice).

With two members of our Chorus family dealing with severe vocal problems (one had surgery this summer, one may have surgery soon), it's time to remind ourselves about the care of our unique instruments. The following advice on "Preventing Vocal Problems: Guidelines for Singers, Dos and Don'ts" comes from Clark A. Rosen, M.D. and Thomas Murry, Ph.D. of the University of Pittsburgh Voice Center, <http://www.upmc.edu/upmcvoice/dos.htm>:

Do Not . . .

- * smoke tobacco or marijuana
- * use drugs
- * drink alcohol the day before or of
- * drink coffee before a performance
- * become a cheerleader
- * shout & scream at sporting events
- * go to loud clubs or bars
- * talk on a bus or airplane
- * try to be heard in noisy places like bars, sport arenas, large family gatherings, airplanes, buses
- * vocalize a sneeze

[Note: This does not mean you should stifle a sneeze -- never do that! Go ahead and sneeze; just don't phonate while doing so.]

- * phonate while yawning
- * stay up late the night before a performance
- * sing outdoors
- * cough
- * clear your throat continually
- * sing if it hurts to swallow
- * try to talk over a cold or laryngitis
- * sing higher or lower than is comfortable
- * "over-sing" (if you are hoarse after singing, something is very wrong)
- * whisper loudly, or for very long
- * raise the chest or shoulders when inhaling
- * be a vocalist in an acid rock or heavy metal band
- * use the "belt voice"
- * lift weights
- * scream
- * cry
- * talk on a lower or higher pitch than is comfortable for you -- the "huumm" pitch expressing mild surprise) is the pitch at which you should be speaking!
- * try to change your natural speaking voice ("vocal image," e.g., sexy, macho)
- * talk a lot on the day of performance

Do . . .

- * speak at your own pitch (like Julia Child and opera divas)
- * support your speaking voice just as when singing
- * get plenty of rest
- * be happy

- * laugh a lot, but with good support
- * avoid stress
- * avoid places with foul air -- everything you breathe passes through your instrument
- * inhale at the belly (like an inner tube around your waist) -- relax belly to inhale (i.e., let your belly hang out, "feel fat")
- * eat well (as do Pavarotti & ladies of the opera)
- * avoid dairy products prior to a performance
- * treat your body like a valuable instrument
- * humidify your bedroom during winter months
- * insist, if undergoing surgery, that the intubation be performed by someone well acquainted with the risk to the vocal folds
- * drink lots of water -- 8 glasses a day
- * "Pee Pale, Sing Clear" -- your urine should be clear (yellowness means you are dehydrated; the more yellow it is, the worse)

**“A CLASSICAL NIGHT”
FEATURING
GREGORIO GONZALEZ**



Former LJSC baritone GREGORIO GONZALEZ is special guest artist on “A Classical Night” at 8:00 PM on Friday, October 3, at the **Centre Theatre, California Center**

for the Arts, Escondido. Los Angeles Opera Company future superstar Gregorio was finalist in PLACIDO DOMINGO’s Operalia World Singer Competition. Also featured is soprano CYNTHIA LEIGH KARP. The recital pairs these two truly exceptional local opera talents for an evening of memorable and beautiful duets, arias and classical songs.

For more information, call
1 (800) 98 TICKET.

**OCTOBER EVENTS
UCSD DEPT. OF MUSIC**

Morris Palter, Percussionist
Music Center Studio A
Friday, October 3, 8 PM
Admission: \$8 general, \$6 student

Morris Palter and friends present prominent works by Karlheinz Stockhausen. Included on the program are *Zyklus*, *Refrain*, and the seminal work, *Kontakte*, for piano, percussion and tape. Featured artists are percussionists MORRIS PALTER and Prof. STEVEN SCHICK, and pianists LUCIANE CARDASSI and Prof. ALECK KARIS.



David Burge, Composer/Pianist
Mandeville Recital Hall
Monday, October 6
Admission: \$8 general, \$6 student

DAVID BURGE, composer-in-residence of the San Diego Ballet and internationally known pianist, will perform *Sonata for Violin and Piano*, *Sources II* for violin, celeste and piano, and *When Love Prevails* for solo vibraphone. *When Love Prevails* was the composer's eighth ballet, written especially for the San Diego Ballet. The program concludes with a new composition, *Dibujos* ("Sketches"). Assisting the composer in this concert will be violinist PÄIVIKKI NYKTER, percussionist AIYUN HUANG, and pianist LILIANE CHONEY.



Graduate Composition Juries
Music Center Studio A
Saturday, October 11, 12 PM
Admission: FREE

Returning first-year graduate student composers present last year's works for a jury comprised of UCSD composition faculty. Listen to the newest works in informal readings by UCSD performers, followed by lively discussions between the composers and jury.

David Borgo, Saxophonist
Mandeville Recital Hall
Tuesday, October 14, 8 PM
Admission: \$8 general, \$6 student



Prof. DAVID BORGO -- jazz theorist, historian and improviser -- will perform on saxophone. He will be joined by RICK HELZER,

piano, Prof. BERT TURETZKY, bass; and NATHAN HUBBARD, drums. Featured on this concert will be works by Helzer and Borgo, including some pieces recently released on Prof. Borgo's newest CD, "Massanetta Springs."

Soirée for Music Lovers
Mandeville Recital Hall
Wednesday, October 22
Admission: \$8 general, \$6 student

Join Prof. JÁNOS NÉGYESY and friends for the 51st Soirée performance of 18th and 19th century chamber music.



What sorts of things would YOU like to know and read about? Please direct any questions, comments, news, or story ideas or submissions (the

next copy deadline is October 17) to the Editor at (858) 534-3642, or scjones@ucsd.edu.

This issue of 'TUTTY' has been brought to you by:

- | | |
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