



American Liszt Society

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LISZT SOCIETY, INC.

American Liszt Society Announces 2011 Liszt Bicentennial Composition Competition

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The American Liszt Society proudly announces the 2011 Liszt Bicentennial Composition Competition in honor of the 200th birthday of the Society's namesake. The cash prize, awarded by Steinway & Sons, will be \$4000, and the premier performance will take place at the 2011 American Liszt Society Festival to be held on the campus of the University of Georgia. The 2011 Festival will also present the first performance of a commissioned work by the distinguished American composer, William Bolcom.

Requirements for the bicentennial composition competition are that the work submitted be a single or multi-movement composition for solo piano and of 8-15 minutes duration. The work must not have been previously publicly performed, and it must be unpublished.

To be eligible, composers may be of any nationality and must have been born between January 1, 1971 and December 31, 1985.

The Jury Panel will consist of members of the American Liszt Society. The identity of composers will not be revealed to the jury. The jury will be publicly identified only upon the announcement of the winning composition.

Application Fee - \$30 (U.S.), check made payable to American Liszt Society.

Application Deadline - all scores must be received by Feb. 1, 2010. Late submissions will not be accepted.

The name of the winner will be announced in July, 2010.

Send three copies of the fully-annotated score to:

Dr. Richard Zimdars, Chair
American Liszt Society
Bicentennial Composition Competition
Hugh Hodgson School of Music
University of Georgia
250 River Road
Athens, GA 30602

Special instructions: Scores should not bear the name of the composer. A sealed envelope containing the composer's name, contact information, and composition title should be included. A recording or MIDI realization may be included, but is not required.

The American Liszt Society wishes to thank Steinway & Sons and the University of Georgia for their support of the competition.

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ALS NEWSLETTER

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President's Message



Dear Lisztians,

It was exciting to see many of you at the ALS Festival in Washington, DC last May. The inspiration we provide each other at these events is indeed a blessing. And I want to thank the many ALS members and friends in the Baltimore-Washington Chapter who did so much to make the Festival such a great success!

More than ever the philosophy of beauty and concern for our colleagues is a legacy from Franz Liszt that emerges today in its urgency and immediacy. Rampant self interest, greed, and unconcern for the quality of life of our people and our environment threaten us on all sides. Liszt was a visionary and in a sense a missionary. If we can capture his zeal in our music making and in our scholarship and in our attitudes toward those around us, we can make the world a better place.

I urge you to think about how we can bring this message to our listeners, to our students, and to our friends. Beauty is persuasive. It transcends logic and verbal postulation. We can share it with others without diminishing it. It can only grow. But it must be nurtured in unselfish self-development. Those hours spent alone perfecting what we do prepare us to share and to reach deeper into the hearts of those whom we contact through our art.

At this time of moral, economic, and environmental crisis, we need to turn to each other with the message of hope that is inherent in the creation of beauty.

Yours in the Spirit of Liszt,

Thomas Mastroianni
President

Thomas Mastroianni
President, American Liszt Society
1420 Chilton Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Letter from the Editor



Dear Fellow Lisztians!

If you are like I am with respect to time, you're probably asking yourself, "Where have the past six months gone?". In fact, I just shared that question with my Director during a brief hallway meeting. It seems as though we were just in Washington for the annual ALS Conference and Festival, and yet that was more than six months ago. And ... ahem ... you will notice that your ALS Newsletter is a bit late hitting the mails, for which I apologize.

In any case, 2008 has now ended, a year that has witnessed some unbelievably interesting events - and, yes, some that have been quite painful. I think that President Mastroianni's words on the facing page are so appropriate. In troubling times, we do need to latch on to what is good and beautiful. While we may enjoy entertainment, true art is what we need, even crave. Certainly, art music can speak to us in a way that few other, if any, media can.

So, let us be grateful for the common bonds we have: great music and, more specifically, the music of Liszt. We are fortunate to be able to share the wonders of sound, inspiration, and hope for the future through the mastery and genius of F.L. and so many other great talents!

Some time ago, I asked that you contact me with your thoughts concerning going to an all-electronic format for the Newsletter via the website. I received very little input from the membership, but I brought the subject to the table at the most recent ALS Board meeting in Washington last Spring. While many in attendance spoke to the more efficient and cost-effective means by which an e-Newsletter would seem to be preferable to a paper version, a strong opinion prevailed: paper still provides a physical record of what we do and say. Further, there are some people who do not use electronic devices to access news such as found in these pages, and our library subscribers would likely feel left out.

So, the Board voted to retain the publication of two issues of the Newsletter each year. You should watch for the next issue, which will be somewhat shorter, to arrive in March 2009.

Speaking of electronic media, by now we hope you will have found the redesigned ALS website at americanlisztsociety.net. Notice the new web address - .net, not .org, as before!! Our thanks to Heather Grotto Bellis of Chicago for assisting with the new look of the website. We are hoping to expand the site with additional pages, so check back often to find out what's new in the news and looks!

With best wishes for a wonderful 2009, ED

Edward Rath, Editor

American Liszt Society

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2008 Great Romantics Festival

What You Missed!

The 2008 Great Romantics Festival, October 9-11, again provided a variety of events to please the most discriminating of musical tastes.

The opening concert on Thursday evening featured the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra with Horst Förster, conductor, and soloist Kaori Yamagami, cello. Included on the program were Mendelssohn's Overture to Ruy Blas, the Schumann Cello Concerto in A Minor, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 in F Minor.

Festival organizer Dr. Alan Walker and ALS President Dr. Thomas Mastroianni greeted and welcomed those assembled on Friday afternoon at MacNab Presbyterian Church. Following was a splendid recital by the Canadian organist, Christiaan Teeuwssen. After opening his program with the Brahms Prelude and Fugue in G minor (op. posth), Teeuwssen continued with two Brahms Chorale Preludes, and ended with the impressive Introduction and Passacaglia in D Minor by Max Reger. Friday evening was devoted to a concert in Convocation Hall at MacMaster University featuring Yelena Beriyeva. Ms Beriyeva opened the program with the Brahms Klavierstücke, op. 118. After intermission, she continued with Liszt's transcriptions of two Schubert songs - Ständchen (Serenade) and Die Loreley. Chopin was next, in particular the Impromptu No. 2 in F-sharp Major, Three Mazurkas, op. 59 (A Minor, A-flat Major, and F-sharp Minor), the Waltz in A-flat Major, op. 42, and finishing up with the magnificent Polonaise-Fantasy, op. 61.

Saturday's schedule began at 10:00 am back in MacNab Presbyterian Church with a recital of lieder presented by John Fanning, bass-baritone, and Valerie Tryon, piano. The program was divided between works by Schumann and Brahms. Schumann was first, with Widmung, Der Nussbaum, Die Lotosblume, Du bist wie eine Blume, and Aus den östlichen Rosen (from Myrthen, op. 25); Die beiden Grenadiere; Dein Angesicht; and ending with Mit Myrten und Rosen (from Liederkreis, op. 24).

Next it was the wonderful music of Brahms: Die Mainacht; Botschaft; Wir wandelten; Komm bald; Salamander; Dein blaues Auge; Sonntag; O wüsst' ich doch den Weg; Meine Liebe ist grün; Wie bist du, meine Königen; and Von waldbekränzter Höhe.

William Wright, who traveled all the way from Scotland, presented "Brahms and the Piano," an illustrated talk about Brahms' piano music, with special reference to the music to be played in the Piano Gala after lunch.

And the Piano Gala was exactly that! "An Homage to Brahms" included the complete Fantasies of op. 116, played by Valerie Tryon ("One finds oneself in the presence of a great artist." Gazette de Lausanne [Switzerland]). The monumental Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel followed, performed by William Aide ("One of the most inventive and imaginative pianistic talents of our time." Glenn Gould).

After intermission, Yelena Beriyeva, a Hilton Head International Piano Finalist, again graced the stage and performed the Studies (Variations) on a Theme of Paganini, op. 35, Book 2. Louis Nagel ("The People's Pianist" by acclamation) ended the program with the heroic Piano Sonata in F Minor, op. 5.

After such an intense schedule, it was a much welcomed evening event that completed the 2008 Festival: the traditional Great Romantics Candlelight Banquet, held at the Hamilton Convention Centre.

The Menu:
Carrot and Ginger Bisque Soup
Mixed Vegetable Salad with Orange
Poppy Seed Vinaigrette Dressing
Salmon Calabresi
Mushroom, White Wine, and Parmesan
Risotto
Roasted Italian Eggplant with Tomatoes,
Garlic, and Herbs
Warm Apple Pear Tartatin
Red and White Wine

Future Festivals

Kansas City: Here We Come

Dr. Steven Spooner of the University of Kansas School of Music invites you to join with fellow Lisztians for an exciting American Liszt Society Festival exploring the theme, "Liszt and the Art of Transcription." The event will take place in Kansas City, Kansas from April 3 to April 5, 2009. Presentations will examine Liszt's legacy of transcription, including works by Godowsky, Tausig, and many others. Presenters will include pianists John Perry and Frederic Chiu, and a host of additional distinguished pianists, musicologists, and teachers. The University of Kansas owns Liszt's last concert grand, which will be featured in several recitals. Other events will take place in the 2,000-seat Lied Center of Kansas and the Bales Organ Recital Hall, one of America's finest organ facilities. KU piano students will perform the complete Transcendental Etudes. KU is conveniently located 45 minutes from one of the most affordable airports in America, Kansas City International. Keep looking for a brochure about the Kansas City Festival, and check out the ALS website, too at americanlisztsociety.net!

2009 Great Romantics Festival to Celebrate Felix Mendelssohn

Dr. Alan Walker has announced that the 2009 Great Romantics Festival will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Felix Mendelssohn. The title of the Festival will be "On Wings of Song." The Great Romantics Festival takes place each October in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Interested parties may find more information on the Festival website at www.artset.net/GreatRomantics/web-content/index.html or the ALS website at americanlisztsociety.net.

From the Executive Secretary

Fellow Lisztians,
The Membership Directory that was published this past year is the Society's attempt at providing a usable tool for networking and an informational picture of the membership. Mistakes are made and corrected – but corrections occur only with the help of the membership. Updates and corrections will be routinely published in the Newsletter. This office appreciates learning of your changes.

Following this year's Board meeting in May 2008, this office was credited with the growth of membership. Though this office processes and maintains membership applications and renewals in a database, it does not take credit for membership growth. Within the Society, recruitment has traditionally been the result of members' enthusiasm and passion for the Society and its objectives. I assumed the responsibility for membership services in 2002 when membership was 469. During my tenure, thanks primarily to aggressive chapter programs, we hit the 600 mark this past year. Membership numbers fluctuate year to year due to formation of new chapters, natural attrition, and institutional budgets.

Again, this office reminds you to stay in touch with membership services. Let us hear from you!!

Onward and Upward!
Justin Kolb

Please make the following corrections and

Please add the following names to your Membership Directory:

Sylvia Barton
Kris Becker
Maxim Bernard
Michael H. Boyd
Michele Campanella
Karen Kuang Chen
Dr. Peter Cooper
Robert Doran
Laura Garritson
Daniel Bryan Griffiths
Dr. Pieter Grobler
Joel Hastings
Mindy Hodel
Xin Jia
Alexander (Sasha) Katsnelson
Min-Kuei Lan
Monica Leone
Dr. John A. Maltese
John Maltese
Proquest Humanities Index/
Terry Clark
Patrick T. Rucker
Mary Ann Shoemaker
Fabrizio Soprano
Manabu Takasawa
Karen M. Taylor
Leonid Treer
Phyllis Vickers
Crystal Zimmerman

Conference Report

“Les élèves de Liszt” – Colloque International Grand Théâtre d’Angers, France 19-21 June 2008

By Rena Charnin Mueller and Richard Zimdars

Writing from Weimar to his mother on June 8, 1884, August Göllerich described the makeup of the piano students of Franz Liszt as a “Tower of Babel.” The same could be said of the presenters on the program of the international conference “Les élèves de Liszt,” held in the Grand Théâtre in Angers, France, 19-21 June 2008. Organized by Malou Haine and Nicolas Dufetel, under the auspices of the Université François Rabelais (Tours), the Institut de Recherche sur le Patrimoine Musical en France (IRPMF), and the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), the conference explored the careers and legacies of some of Liszt’s best—and least-known pupils. Four sessions were devoted to students of particular nationalities or their specific environments: speaking about the French pupils were Cécile Reynaud (“L’oeuvre de Franz Liszt dans les morceaux de concours du Conservatoire de Paris [1870-1950]”), Jean-Jacques Eigeldinger (“Les premières leçons de Liszt à Valerie Boissier”), and Claude Knepper (“Olga Janina”). The Spanish, Italian, and German pupils were grouped in a single session, beginning with Monserrat Bergadà (“Franz Liszt et les pianists espagnols”), Anna Tedesco (“Une élève napolitaine: Luisa Cognetti [1857-1952]”), Rainer Schmusch (“Franz Liszt et Eduard Lassen – Aspecte d’une inspiration réciproque”), and Malou Haine (“Le roman à clef d’une élève de Liszt à Weimar: Miss Träumerei de l’Américain Albert Morris Bagby”). The next session dealt with the Hungarian, Slovakian, and Polish pupils: Mária Eckhardt spoke on “István Thomán, élève et successeur de Franz Liszt à l’Académie de Musique de Budapest;” Ryszard Golianek on “En imitant le maître: la Grande Fantaisie de Jules Zarembski,” Bruno Moysan on “Moritz Rosenthal, le virtuose qui fit se retourner...Brahms,” and Serge Gut (“Comment se passait une leçon avec Liszt à Weimar en 1885?”) The session dealing with the Russians and Americans heard from David Cannata (“Liszt’s Pupils, Tchaikovsky’s Baton” [principally Adele Aus de Ohe]), Rena Mueller (“Who was Arma Senkrah?”), Andre Lischke (“Alexander Siloti et ses Souvenirs sur F. Liszt”), William Wright (“Frederic Lamond in Scotland [1940-1948]”), and Richard Zimdars (“Arthur Bird’s Piano Works After His Time With Liszt”). Finally, the conference closed with a session on pedagogical perspectives, with papers by Corinne Schneider (“La présence du piano lisztien dans le corpus didactique français du Second Empire à la Première Guerre mondiale: situation, filiations et fonctionnalités”), Marie-Françoise Bucquet and Nicolas Dufetel (“Entre Liszt, Bülow et Kempff: Beethoven”), and the conference concluded brilliantly with a summary by Jean-Jacques Eigeldinger.

The conference papers will be published by *Symétrie* in Brussels in due course, with the addition of several more essays on other students.

One of many joys of this conference was the opportunity to see the late fourteenth-century Tapestry of the Apocalypse, now housed in the magnificent Chateau of Angers, a monumental work consisting of 77 panels presenting scenes from the Book of Revelation. Other more fleeting pleasures were the elegant chandeliered foyer of the Angers Grand Théâtre, site of the conference, and the quality of the luncheons served to the participants in the basement of the Théâtre. A la Phantom of the Opera, we were guided into the depths of theatre - not to find Christine, but la cuisine!

The musical highlight of the conference was a superb Concert Humanitaire, a splendid program of Liszt and Bartók, with pianists Hélène Desmoulin and Joëlle Lemée, faculty members of the National Conservatory of Angers, and the Choeur d’enfants du CRR d’Angers under the direction of Claire-Marie Mille, performing the two-piano version of Liszt’s Dante Symphonie. The two pianists then performed Liszt’s Triomphe funèbre du Tasse for piano duo, and finally, Bartók’s Sonate pour deux pianos et percussions.

We have a new web address!

Please note that the new web address for the American Liszt Society is

www.americanlisztsociety.net

The former address (domain or URL, if you prefer) that included .org at the end is no longer valid for our website.

You will also notice a new design that provides for easier reading and a lighter feel for the site. The color scheme is based on the colors of the Hungarian flag, not just as it is today, but as it existed during the lifetime of Franz Liszt.

Plans call for expanded use of photography, including many photos of Liszt throughout his life. If you have an article or event that you want publicized, please send photos and texts to Edward Rath at erath@illinois.edu.

Save the dates!!!

April 3 - 5

2009 ALS Conference:

University of Kansas

Coming in the next issue of your American Liszt Society Newsletter

Details about the upcoming 2009 ALS Conference at the University of Kansas

Results of the 2008 Los Angeles International Liszt Competition

A review by Dr. Reid Alexander of Reginald Gerig's Great Pianists and Their Technique

... and much, much more - depending on you. Please let us know what you are doing in the context of Liszt scholarship, performance, or furthering the aims of the ALS in promoting a better understanding of the life and works of Franz Liszt.

The submission deadline for the Winter/Spring issue of the Newsletter is due March 1, 2009. All articles and information must be sent as e-mail messages or attachments. Photography should be in high resolution black and white and sent preferably as a .jpeg attachment (.psd files are acceptable). Please be sure that the subject line of your e-mail reads "ALS Newsletter."

Send your information to Edward Rath, Editor of the ALS Newsletter, at erath@illinois.edu. Thank you!

Members in the News

Two ALS members were featured in articles published in Clavier Magazine this past year. ALS President **Thomas Mastroianni** was the subject of an article in the March issue (Vol 47, No. 3) by ALS Board Member **Elyse Mach**, as well as an article by a former student, **Rosemary Hallum**. **Alexandre Dossin** was the subject of a cover story by Phillipa Kiraly in the Summer issue (Vol 47, No. 5). In case you have not yet heard, Clavier has merged with the former Keyboard Companion to create the new Clavier Companion. For more information, please go the website <http://www.keyboardcompanion.com/>.

Chapter News

New York/New Jersey Chapter (Gila Goldstein, Founder-President, David Witten, Vice-President)

Gila reports that the NY/NJ Chapter hosted a magnificent concert on November 13 at the Yamaha Concert Hall. The guest artist was Gayle Martin-Henry, who played “an incredible performance to a packed house of more than 100 people. An audience of this size is somewhat rare for us, but it is definitely thanks to her and her fans that we had such a crowd. Also of note was that Gayle played a work by a living composer, Judith Shatin, who came from Virginia to attend the NY premiere. Shatin has her own NY crowd as well.” Gayle was the last student of Rosina Lhevinne at Juilliard in the 70s, and she was also the third American woman ever to reach the finals at the Tchaikovsky competition in Moscow. The program: John Field - Nocturne; Liszt - Nocturne after a poem by Toni Raab (“Sleepless, Question and Answer” - Gila comments, “What a beautiful work, seldom if ever played. Gayle demonstrated the two endings of the piece and read from Alan Walker’s 3rd volume, pages 441-2”); Judith Shatin - Fantasy on St. Cecilia, written in 1996 (a work in 3 movements: “Her Struggle,” “Her Spirit,” and “Her Martyrdom.” Shatin said she wrote this piece “with Liszt in mind, in his spirit.”); Respighi - Nocturne; Chopin - Nocturne in C-sharp Minor, op. 27 no. 1; Schumann-Liszt - Widmung and Frühlingnacht; and Wagner-Liszt - Senta’s Ballade from The Flying Dutchman and the Liebestod from Tristan und Isolde.

Oregon Chapter (Alexandre Dossin, Chair)

On October 22, 2009, Liszt’s 197th birthday, the Oregon Chapter presented an all-Liszt concert in Beall Concert Hall on the campus of the University of Oregon. The program consisted of song transcriptions: Petrarch Sonnet 104, performed by Alexis Gibbons; Widmung, performed by Kanako Ishihama; Buch der Lieder I (Am Rhein im Schönen Strome and Die Lorelei, performed by BoKyung Lee); Transcendental Etudes No. 10 in F Minor, performed by Julia Lin and No. 8 in C Minor (Wilde Jagd), performed by Michael Seregow; Unstern and Nuages Gris, performed by Jacob Coleman;

Hungarian Rhapsody No. 5, performed by Ben Corbin; Ballade No. 2 in B Minor, performed by Mihyun Kim; and Paraphrase on Themes from Verdi’s Rigoletto, performed by Alexandre Dossin.

The Chapter is organizing a series of benefit recitals for a young Brazilian pianist Priscilla Dantas.

Indiana University Chapter (Karen Shaw, President)

The highlight of our season last year: Distinguished ALS members Read Gainsford and Frederic Chiu performed the Liszt/Thalberg “Paris Piano Duel.” Karen organized and presented the concert, which was given both at the IU Jacobs School of Music and her Silvermine Artists Series in Connecticut in October, 2007. Karen obtained the scores for the authentic repertoire played during the Paris battle in 1837, and reenacted the occasion at the salon of Princess Christina Belgiojoso (portrayed by Karen herself!) on March 31st of that year. Read played Liszt, Frederic portrayed Thalberg. It was great fun, good publicity, a full house ... and the printed program included clear references to the “troupe’s” ALS memberships.

Baltimore-Washington Chapter (Nancy Roldán, President - new e-mail: nancy.rolدان@ymail.com, Ernest Ragogini, Vice-President)

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the BW chapter, Nancy welcomed all ALS board members and guests to the ALS Board meeting at the outset of the 2008 Festival meeting in Washington, DC, and presented each with a CD recording featuring winners of the 2005-2006 Garrison Piano Competitions.

Two winners of past competitions performed at the opening recital of the 2008 Festival: Robert Mitchell, who won first prize in the American Pianist division in 2005, and Irene Kim, first prize winner in the Young Artist division in 2007.

The chapter helped to increase the ALS membership in part through the awarding of memberships to all semifinalists in the 2007 competition - a total of 17 new members in 2007!

The chapter has changed the name of the former Garrison Piano Competition to the new Liszt/Garrison Festival and International Piano Competition. The new website address is www.lisztgarrisoncompetition.org. The Board voted to host the Festival/Competition on a biennial basis to allow for increased fundraising and to accommodate the more extensive preparations required of an expanded festival. The Festival has been extended by one day to allow more contestants to perform in the semifinals. The Competition is now fully international and will include three major categories. For detailed information about rules and regulations, please visit the website at www.lisztgarrisoncompetition.org/

Earlier this year, fundraising efforts included the presentation the very successful “Noche de Tango” at the College of Notre Dame (CND) in Maryland, featuring singers, actors, dancers, and a piano quartet which included violin, double bass, and a bandoneón virtuoso. Another fundraiser will take place May 30, 2009: “VOLVER ... Noche de Tango” will benefit both the BWALS and Music at CND. This is the BW Chapter’s way of contributing to an important community series. Any financial contributions to the upcoming Festival/Competition - all are tax deductible! - will be greatly appreciated.

Festival 2009 will be dedicated to Nationalism in Music under the title, “At the Heart of Nations.” Confirmed guests, presenters, and judges include Michael Adcock, Andrew Cooperstock, José Cueto, Alexandre Dossin, Giulio Draghi, Inna Faliks, Andrew Gerle, Daniel Glover, Gila Goldstein, Ivo Kaltchev, José Ramos Santana, Shaun Tirrell, Alan Walker, and Richard Zimdars.

We would love to welcome you and your students to the campus of CND. For more information on the revised Liszt/Garrison Festival and Competition, please call 410 833 5782, or visit our website at www.lisztgarrisoncompetition.org.

Member News

Richard Zimdars reports that Robert Mitchell, winner of the inaugural William Garrison Piano Competition, was guest artist at the University of Georgia in February. In conjunction with Zimdars' graduate seminar on twentieth-century American piano music, Mitchell presented a lecture on Frederic Rzewski's "The People United Will Never Be Defeated" and performed this monumental work to an enthusiastic audience. Zimdars also heard Mitchell's Schubert/Liszt graduate recital at the Royal Conservatory in the Hague on June 17. The night before, both attended the Netherlands Opera production of Messiaen's Saint François d'Assise, an extraordinary five-hour evening.

This past school year, Richard, with colleague Martha Thomas, performed the Mozart Concerto for Two Pianos with the UGA Symphony Orchestra. Zimdars also conducted the UGA Contemporary Chamber Ensemble in Giacinto Scelsi's *I Presagi*, for nine wind instruments and percussion.

The recipients of the 2008 University of Georgia Franz Liszt Award were Paolo Gualdi and **Grant Jones**, both students of Evgeny Rivkin. The award is a package of scores, books, CDs, and a year's student membership in ALS. The annual award, inaugurated in 2004, is supported by the Despy Karlas Piano Professorship, currently held by Richard Zimdars.

Lydia Youmans, rising senior piano performance student of Richard Zimdars at the University of Georgia, won the 2007 Atlanta Music Club \$3000 undergraduate piano scholarship. In April, 2008, she performed Messiaen's Theme and Variations for violin and piano as part of UGA's celebration of the Messiaen centennial.

Michael Schneider performed two recitals at the 3rd Hungarian Festival in Cancun, Mexico. The first all-Liszt recital included the Mephisto Waltz No. 2; Ave Maria, (The Bells of Rome); transcriptions of Schubert's Gretchen am Spinnrade and Schumann's Widmung; Three Transcendental Etudes (No. 6, Vision; No. 8, Wilde Jagd; and No. 11, Harmonies du soir); and the Hungarian Rhapsody No. 9 (Carnival in Pest). The second program consisted of selections from *Années de Pèlerinage, Deuxième Année - Italy* (Sposalizio, Sonetto 104 del Petrarca, and *Après une lecture de Dante - Fantaisie quasi Sonate*); *Impromptu in F-sharp Major*; *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 9 (Carnival in Pest)*; and two *Transcendental Etudes* (No. 6, Vision, and No. 8, Wild Jagd). He will also be giving an all-Liszt recital on May 16th, 2009 at the Liszt Museum in Budapest.

Pianist **Gila Goldstein** performed at Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco, the Piano Passions series in New York, Pittsburgh Jewish Music Festival, ALS Festival in Washington DC, Progetto Martha Argerich in Lugano, and OpusFest Festival in Manila. As of August 21, Gila has been a Visiting Assistant Professor of Piano at the Schwob School of Music, Columbus State University in Georgia. Gila just returned from a trip to China, which she describes as having been "incredible." You can learn more about Gila's new school and what she is doing there by going to its website at music.colstate.edu. Click "People," "Faculty Profiles," and then her name in the "Keyboard" section. Gila tells us that Columbus State recently became an all-Steinway school. Congratulations from the ALS membership!

ALS President **Thomas Mastroianni** performed a recital with the theme, "Debussy and Symbolism" on November 7, 2008 at the Catholic University of America's Benjamin T. Rome School of Music. The program included Debussy's *Suite Bergamasque*, *L'isle joyeuse*, and the *Twelve Preludes, Book II*.

Boaz Sharon, until recently the chair of the piano department at the University of Florida, established a new Liszt international piano competition in Moscow for very young pianists, dedicated to Franz Liszt. There were two age categories: one for the very young, where top age is 13, and the second one, where the top age is 20. The competition took place November 15-23, 2008. For more information, please go to the event web sites at www.arts.ufl.edu/prague/russia/ or www.konkurs-cms.narod.ru/. Boaz became chair of the Piano Department at Boston University, effective January 1, 2009.

Christopher Schindler, a pianist living in Portland, Oregon recently released an all-Liszt CD. It includes the *Vallée d'Obermann*, *Sonata in B Minor*, *Aux Cyprès de la Villa d'Este II*, *La Lugubre Gondola II*, and *En rêve*. More information about the CD is available at his website at www.christopherschindler.net. Dr. Schindler, a former professor of piano at Marylhurst University in Oregon, features the music of Liszt in his solo recitals throughout the Pacific Northwest. Recently he played the "Dante" Sonata at the Villa Serbelloni in Bellagio, Italy. This year he was the guest artist of the Pacific Northwest Piano Technicians Guild Conference. For this occasion he played the *Vallée d'Obermann* and the *Sonata in B minor* on a new Model 205 Steingraeber piano. You may contact Christopher by e-mail at chris24@teleport.com.

Madeleine Forte was a performer at the Mu Phi Epsilon International Convention in Jacksonville, Florida last August. The program, "Music of Olivier Messiaen," was in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the composer's birth. Madeleine performed selections from *Vingt regards sur l'enfant Jesus* with presenter/performer Allen Forte, who also performed a program with soprano Beverly Hoch, featuring the music of Cole Porter.

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Four New Chapters Join the American Liszt Society

Four new chapters were welcomed at 2008 ALS Festival in Washington D.C. At its meeting on Thursday, May 29, the American Liszt Society Board of Directors voted to accept applications requesting the establishment of four new chapters of the Society. The new chapters include:

Iowa: Kestia Nosikova, President

Kansas: Steven Spooner, President

Italy: Michele Campanella, President

Mid-Hudson (New York): Tammy Lum, President.

Congratulations to these newest chapters of the American Liszt Society. With these additions, the Society has 14 chapters, its largest number in history. If you are interested in forming a chapter, please contact Chapters Chair Paul Barnes at pbarnes@unl.edu. For a complete listing of current chapters and their presidents, please see the American Liszt Society website at americanlizstsociety.net.

New Volume of Liszt Works now Available

Frederick Harris Music recently published a new volume of works by Liszt entitled, "Celebrate Liszt." The volume is part of the monumental "Celebrate" project featuring numerous composers. Repertoire includes Four Short Piano Pieces (S. 192); Consolations (S. 172); selections from *Wiehnachtsbaum* (S. 186); *La lugubre gondola* (S. 200/2); *Liebstraum No. 2* (S. 541/3); *Valse oubliée No. 1* (S. 215/1); *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 3* (S. 244/3); and the *Concert Etude No. 3* ("Un sospiro," S. 144/3). Compilers of the volume include Redi Alexander, Samuel Holland, and Marc Widner. (www.frederickharrismusic.com)

Member News

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Newly-elected member of the Board of Directors **Alexandre Dossin** has been busy performing and recording. His Naxos CD (Verdi-Liszt Paraphrases) was released with great success, receiving 12 glowing international reviews from publications such as Diapason (France), Financial Times and Piano International (UK), *Klassik Heute.com* (Germany), and in the US - *Clavier Magazine*, *American Record Guide*, and *Fanfare*, among others. Reviewers compared his recording with Arrau's famous Verdi-Liszt recording from the 1970s: "Like Arrau, Dossin is a big virtuoso who obtains huge sonorities without banging, and is not averse to underlining Liszt's expressive directives in red ink, with broad, rhetorical strokes" (Jed Distler). "Arrau's famous readings are, by comparison, slightly dour" (Peter Rabinowitz). The CD was chosen by Michael Cookson as "CD of the Month" in July, 2007 and as one of the best in 2007, and also made the headline "Brazilian pianist proves to be a master at Liszt" at the *Courier-Post* (NJ). Alexandre just finished two CDs for Naxos, with music by Kabalevsky. He was also recently invited to be an editor for Schirmer, for which firm he will edit and record Tchaikovsky's *The Seasons* for the Schirmer Performance Editions series, to be released nationally during the 2009 MTNA Convention in Atlanta. Most recently, Alexandre was in São Paulo to perform *Totentanz* and Liszt's *Concerto No. 1* with the São Paulo Municipal Theater Symphony on December 14.

Nancy Roldán traveled with her "tone paintings" program throughout the Washington/MD area in 2008. Other concerts included "Noche de Tango," a fundraiser for the BW Chapter's Liszt/Garrison Festival and Piano Competition. It was so successful the president of College of Notre Dame requested an encore to occur on May 30, 2009 for the same cause. Funds raised May will be shared with the Music at CND Series that has been so kind to the ALS/BW-chapter. Workshops and master classes that Nancy presented in Denver and Buffalo added variety to the year's many performances.

Duo recitals with **José Cueto** included traditional program themes and "From Blues to Tango." Judging engagements included competitions in College Park, MD; Boulder, Colorado; and the November Los Angeles International Liszt Competition. Of the Los Angeles event, Nancy said that "It was rewarding to listen to so many wonderful performances and to renew friendships and make new acquaintances." Franz Liszt's music was present throughout the year in all her solo recitals, at the May/ALS Festival in Washington, DC, and on his birthday October 22 at Hood College, where six pianists performed an All-Liszt Recital to a mesmerized audience. The CD "Remembrance" was launched this year and is available on CD-Baby. The recording contains several live performances by the duo Cueto/Roldán. Nancy is currently optimistically absorbed in the preparations for the chapter's next May fundraiser. She extends an invitation to all chapter members for a most exciting program at 7PM, on May 30 at CND! For additional information, please visit Nancy's website at www.nancyroldan.org.

Justin Kolb performed for the eighth time at the Belleayre (NY) Summer Music Festival on Friday, July 25, this time with the Post-Neo Trio, which included Abby Newton and Mikhail Horowitz. The Trio reprised *Remembering Felix*, composed by the late Robert Starer, as the centerpiece of its program. Also on the program were works by Schumann, David Alpher, and William Bolcom. Each member of the trio also performed a short solo piece. Justin also performed a piano recital titled "Great Romantics Meet Hudson River Composers" in Burnt Hills, NY on October 13. The performance included traditional repertoire as well as music by Albany's Nicolas Ascioti, New York City's Victoria Bond, and Woodstock composer Gilles Malkine. Prior to the recital members of the Saratoga Youth Symphony attended a special master class during which Kolb and the participants discussed in depth why it is that music students excel. For more information about Justin's performance schedule, go to his website at www.justinkolb.com.

James Conlon Receives Medal of the American Liszt Society

On Friday afternoon, May 30, 2008 at 5:00 pm, conductor James Conlon, Music Director of the Los Angeles Opera and Cincinnati May Festival, was awarded the Medal of the American Liszt Society. The ceremony took place in Coolidge Auditorium of the Jefferson Building at the United States Library of Congress on the first day of the American Liszt Society's three-day annual festival.

"The American Liszt Society is pleased to present this award to an individual whose interest in and commitment to the interaction and relationship of the arts so resembles the all embracing spirit of Liszt. The theme of this year's festival, "Liszt, Literature and Painting," explored this same spirit," stated Dr. Thomas Mastroianni, President of the American Liszt Society.

Conlon remarked that he was exceedingly pleased and honored to have been chosen to receive the medal. His acceptance speech, presented via DVD, was recorded in Florence, Italy, where he was rehearsing Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* at the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Italy's famous May Festival. Jennifer Ringo, the highly regarded American soprano and wife of the acclaimed conductor, accepted the medal on behalf of her husband.

The Medal of the American Liszt Society (engraved and die struck in solid silver) is awarded to an individual who has achieved international distinction in performance, writing, and/or scholarship. Outstanding administrators and teachers are also considered. Recipients must be particularly associated with Franz Liszt. Some past recipients include Claudio Arrau, Jorge Bolet, Alfred Brendel, Maria Eckhardt, Klara Hamburger, Maurice Hinson, Fernando Laires, and Alan Walker.

New Members

(continued from page 5)

Information originally shown on this page was removed to protect the personal information of members.

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