

March 2000

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES

Formal audition dates for Fall 2000 entrance to the School of Music are:

Friday, March 24, 2000

Saturday, March 25, 2000

Please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or e-mail her at lslater@niu.edu for details. Let us know if you have students that are interested in auditioning for us!

IMPORTANT DATES

University Open Houses

4/21/2000 (Good Friday)

(12 - 2:00 Music Building tours & ensemble visits)

School of Music Dates

3/10/00 Wind & Percussion Festival Day II

3/21/00 Jazz Combo Day

UPCOMING RECITALS/CONCERTS

For an up-to-date listing of the upcoming on-campus faculty and student recitals/concerts, visit our [Concert Schedule](#).

FACULTY NEWS

Patricia Wurst Cichy and *Mrs. Jennifer Fox* (NIU alum; Music 5-12 Dakota High School) presented a session for the Junior High and Elementary Music Division of IMEA at the IMEA/All State Conference on January 29, 2000. The session, presented to approximately 280 people, was entitled "Making the Connections: Music and Children's Literature."

Robert Fleisher's book *Twenty Israeli Composers: Voices of a Culture* (1997) continues to receive critical praise in the USA and abroad. In the January 2000 issue of *Tempo*, Malcolm Miller wrote: "Fleisher's ground-breaking study, the first-ever collection of interviews with Israeli composers, represents an invaluable document of oral history, which illuminates the qualities and conceptual premises of Israeli music in all their richness and complexity. . . . In its depth and breadth Fleisher's study represents a major landmark and bold impetus towards a broader appreciation of Israeli music at the

threshold of the 21st century."

Roger Cichy traveled to St. Paul, Minnesota during February to work with the University of St. Thomas Wind Ensemble. His commissioned piece, "Bugs," was partially premiered at the Minnesota Music Educators Conference. "Bugs" premiered in its entirety on February 24 by the University of St. Thomas Wind Ensemble at the College Band Directors National Association Regional Conference at Central Michigan University. Cichy's latest commission, "Silhouette," for solo flute and wind chamber ensemble premiered February 27, 2000, at Luther College, Decorah, IA. Cichy will be among a panel of distinguished composers, including Mark Camphouse and David Gillingham, for a Composers Forum to be held in conjunction with the North Central Division Conference of the College Band Directors National Association at Central Michigan University.

Lawrence Stoffel, Director of the Huskie Bands, presented a clinic on "Sacred Music in the Public Schools for Band & Orchestra Directors" at the Southern California School Band & Orchestra Association Winter Conference in Long Beach, CA on February 5th.

Brian Hart recently published the following: Entries on César Franck and Camille Saint-Saëns for Reader's Guide to Music: History, Theory, and Criticism, published by Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers in Chicago, 1999 and an article "Wagner and the franckiste 'Message-Symphony' in Early Twentieth - Century France," in Von Wagner zum Wagnérisme: Musik, Literatur, Kunst, Politik, ed. Annegret Fauser and Manuela Schwartz (Leipzig: Leipziger Universitätsverlag, 1999), pp. 315-37.

Marlene Rosenberg's schedule for March:

March 3 - Andy's at 11 E. Hubbard (Chicago), with Eric Schneider & Greg Fishman Quintet, 5-8:30 p.m.

March 4 - The Plaza Tavern with acclaimed vocalist Spider Saloff, 7-11 p.m.

March 10 & 11 - Pete Millers Steakhouse in Evanston, Marlene Rosenberg Trio with tenor/soprano sax player Geoff Bradfield and Chad Taylor on drums, 8:30-12:30 p.m.

March 14 - Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Randolph, Marlene Rosenberg Trio, 1-2 p.m.

March 23 - Chicago Cultural Center, Marlene Rosenberg Quartet featuring Dennis Luxion, Carl Allen, and Mitch Paliga, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Art Davis will be touring with the Eastern Illinois University Jazz Band as a featured soloist during the first week of March. At 3:00 p.m. on March 19, he will be featured with the Chicago Jazz Orchestra in a performance of the Miles Davis/Gil Evans version of Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess," to be performed at the Harold Washington Library Auditorium. From March 21-26, Art will be backing singer Rosemary Clooney at the Drury Lane Theater in Chicago.

Kathryne Pirtle and the *Orion Ensemble* will continue their concert series on March 12 at the Fox Valley Unity Church in Batavia and on March 15 at Roosevelt University in Chicago. Their featured guest will be bassist Robert Kassinger. For ticket information,

please call 630-628-9591.

A poll involving hundreds of harpists here and abroad identified the 43 most influential persons in the harp world during the 20th Century. The list included performers, teachers, composers, and others. *Ronald Price* was cited for increasing employment opportunities for harpists and for expanding the therapeutic potential of the harp. Price's pioneering work, which was initiated at NIU in 1970, has had direct impact on new professions, hospitals, hospice, curricula in music and medical schools, and therapies.

Joey Sellers will conduct the premier of *Desert Spirit*, a concerto for jazz piano and orchestra, which he orchestrated for Chuck Marohnic, director of Jazz Studies at Arizona State University and a Steeplechase recording artist. Joey will also conduct community outreach programs as a touring artist and music director for the Side Street Strutters' Community Concert Series on a five state tour following his week as a featured artist for Arizona State University's Jazz Week. He will also perform with the Los Angeles-based Kim Richmond/Clay Jenkins Ensemble at the Matt Bevel Institute in Tucson, Arizona.

Ann Montzka-Smelser gave a violin recital for the Music Teachers Guild in Phoenix, Arizona on January 9. On February 20, Ann taught in a workshop for the Aurora Suzuki Strings program. Ann will present a Suzuki workshop in Fort Wayne, Indiana on March 4 and 5.

STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:

Corinne Nelson (Ness, '92) has just been accepted into the Opera Apprentice program at the Pine Mountain Music Festival.

The School of Music's *jazz department* was well represented at the Elmhurst Jazz Festival on February 18 and 19. The Jazz Lab Band was highly regarded by the adjudicators as was a combo that included Doug Stone, Joe Kral, Casey Nielsen and Josh Paris, who all received "outstanding" recognition certificates from the festival judges. Jorge Castro, Brad Fowlkens and Timothy Shadley from the Jazz Lab Band received the same honors. The All University Jazz Band also received accolades from the festival judges as did Shawn Davis and Pat Moynihan, members of that ensemble, directed by graduate students Mike McMann and Mark Roller.

Shirley Harbeck, Phyllis Caneva, Sue Huhta, Bridget Dougal, Carol Sullivan, and Dan Sullivan, all NIU harp students and members of Healing Harps were guest performers with the Salt Creek Sinfonietta on January 16 in Hinsdale. Daniel Pasquale D'Andrea, conductor and music director of the chamber orchestra, holds a master's degree in conducting from NIU.

Lisa Fischer, NIU harp student, was featured in *Beyond Chance*, on the Lifetime Channel, in a documentary which followed her progress as a harp student with multiple sclerosis. Also included in the airing were Katie Lyon, NIU graduate student, Michelle

Montgomery, Kerry Sanford, and Sarah Hess.

David Gordon (BM '98 and current MM student) has not only been accepted into the doctoral composition program at the University of Chicago, but has also been awarded their "Century" scholarship--100% tuition/fees covered throughout! Congratulations David!

ODDS & ENDS

Calling all Concert Choir alumni! The NIU School of Music choral department would like to extend an invitation to alumni of the Concert Choir to join us in a performance at Chicago's Symphony Center. The Chicago Sinfonietta has asked NIU's choral program to provide a chorus to join them in a performance of Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky on May 1, 2000. We would like to assemble an alumni choir to combine with the exceptional talent already here on campus. If you are interested, please contact Eric Johnson, director of choral activities at 815-753-7984 or e-mail him at ejohnsn@niu.edu.

Let us know if you have info you would like to share with other music educators. We can add it to our next newsletter (1st of each month). Just send your info to lslater@niu.edu!

Healing Harps, Inc. and the NIU School of Music will co-sponsor the Second International Healing Harps Symposium May 19-21. Presenters will include specialists in music, medicine, neuro-sciences, gerontology, hospice, and religion. The keynote speaker will be Alice Branfonbrener, MD, renowned music-medicine specialist.

If you have questions about any of the information in this newsletter, or would like more details, please contact Lynn Slater at 815-753-1546 or lslater@niu.edu.