

October 1998

SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITION DATES

Formal audition dates for Fall 1999 entrance to the School of Music are:

Saturday, February 20, 1999

Saturday, March 20, 1999

Auditions for the Spring 1999 semester will be on a private basis. 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.

UPCOMING ON-CAMPUS FACULTY & STUDENT RECITALS/CONCERTS

All of our concerts (unless otherwise indicated) are free and open to the public.

October

- 10/6/98 Wind Ensemble Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
- 10/12/98 Jazz Lab Band & All-University Jazz Band, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
- 10/20/98 Concert Choir/Chamber Choir/All University Chorus Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
- 10/21/98 Fareed Haque, faculty guitar recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
- 10/23/98 Cordula Merks, graduate violin recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
- 10/26/98 Early Music Ensemble Concert, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
- 10/27/98 Chris Ordlock, senior double bass recital, 6:30, Recital Hall
- 10/27/98 Mark Zinn, graduate piano lecture/recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
- 10/28/98 Vermeer Quartet, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
- 10/29/98 Jay Evans, guest trombone recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
- 10/30/98 Casey Maday, senior trombone recital, 6:30 p.m., Recital Hall
- 10/30/98 Richard Hoskins, faculty organ recital, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
- 10/31/98 Halloween Concert-NIU Philharmonic & guests, 6:30 p.m., Concert Hall
- 10/31/98 Halloween Concert-NIU Philharmonic & guests, 8 p.m., Concert Hall

November

- 11/1/98 Nick Auriemmo, graduate percussion recital, 7 p.m., Recital Hall
- 11/2/98 Steve Avallone, senior saxophone recital, 6:30 p.m., Recital Hall
- 11/2/98 Jason Lazzarini, senior saxophone recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
- 11/4/98 SAI Recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall

11/5/98 Woodwind Quartet Recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/8/98 Oksana Ezhokina, graduate piano recital, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/9/98 All-University Jazz Band Concert, 8 p.m., Concert Hall
11/10/98 Opera Workshop, 8 p.m., Recital Hall
11/11/98 Opera Workshop, 8 p.m., Recital Hall

FACULTY NEWS

Larry Stoffel presented a clinic at the Southern California School Band & Orchestra Association Fall Conference in Buena Park, California last month. The topic was band transcriptions.

Paul McKee recently announced the release of his new CD by the Chicago-based label Corridor Records. The recording is titled *Gallery* and features Paul's creative arrangements of jazz standards and original compositions set to a variety of ensembles. Featured guests on the recording include legendary jazz artists Carl Fontana and Bobby Shew as well as members of the Woody Herman Thundering Herd and many outstanding Chicago musicians. The CD will soon be available in stores and is immediately available from Paul (815-753-7974).

Gregory Sarchet traveled to Great Britain with NIU student Jeremy Miller as guest artist at the British and International Bass Forum conference held in August. The residency was made possible by Sarchet's third Chicago Artists International Program award.

Ron Carter, Patricia Cichy, and Ronnie Wooten will make presentations at the ICMEA Fall Conference on Saturday, October 10 at Western Illinois University. Carter will talk on 'Beginning Jazz Band,' Cichy will present 'The Kodaly Method - An Overview,' and Wooten will present 'Band Reading Session.' We hope to see you there!

On the road with Fareed Haque...

Fareed has been traveling & performing in Madison, Wisconsin (Madison Guitar Society), Chicago, Germany (duo performance/live broadcast with Paquito D'Rivera at Frankfurt Jazz Festival) and California (Monterey Jazz Festival & Hollywood Bowl with United Nations Orchestra) for the past month. His upcoming gigs include The Chicago Cultural Center (Dame Myra Hess Series) on October 8 at 6:30 p.m., The Green Mill on October 10, The Note on October 17 and The Chicago Asian American Jazz Festival at the Museum of Contemporary Art on October 25 (all in Chicago). You are also welcome to drop in at NIU on October 21. Fareed will give a recital in the Recital Hall at 8 p.m. (This one is absolutely free!). He then heads to Santiago, Chile on tour with All-Star Group Kenny Kirkland, Jeff Watts, Javon Jackson, and Larry Kohut.

Jan Bach's *Variations on a Theme of Brahms*, under the direction of Guy Bordo, was received warmly by the audience attending the Richmond (IN) Symphony Orchestra concert on Saturday, September 19.

William Koehler performed a solo piano recital as the first program of the Blue Ridge Community College concert series in North Carolina on September 28.

Since its release in 1997, Robert Fleisher's book *Twenty Israeli Composers: Voices of a Culture* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press) has received critical acclaim in a variety of publications. *The Journal of Jewish Music and Liturgy* (1997-98) characterized it as "an essential acquisition for libraries as well as for the general public." In *Choice* (January 1998), ethnomusicologist Bruno Nettl noted that the book "says a lot about music without requiring technical knowledge." In *Notes* (Journal of the Music Library Association, September 1998), Marion M. Stein wrote: "Fleisher integrates music into the history and general culture of Israeli society and shows the reader how they inform one another. This is an original contribution to the subject." The book has also been listed in *Shofar* (Spring 1997), *Music Educators Journal* ("For Your Library," January 1998), and the *Middle East Journal* (Winter 1998).

Willie Pickens, instructor of jazz piano, recently received the Midwest Jazz Masters Award. Congratulations! He also just returned from a tour of Japan (September 6-21). Be sure to check back here to find out the name of his new jazz Christmas CD that will be out in November (no name yet!). Willie also recently recorded with Ed Peterson and Von Freeman. Details on these releases will follow soon.

STUDENT/ALUMNI NEWS:

Another special double bass event will occur in the School of Music on Tuesday, October 27 beginning with the senior recital (6:30 p.m. - Recital Hall) of Chris Ordlock, student of Gregory Sarchet, followed by a masterclass by international guest artist Radoslav Sasina (8 p.m., room 151).

The St. Louis Symphony has firmed up its dates for the performance of Jan Bach's *Concerto for Steelpan and Orchestra* with Liam Teague, NIU pannist, on November 28 and 29. Liam competed against 100 other soloists to achieve this opportunity.

Melissa Dye, BM '88, was on campus recently to accept the NIU Outstanding Young Alumni award. While here, Melissa spoke to the Opera Workshop students about breaking into the 'business' and performed for us. What a treat! We just received the Washington Post review of her current performance in *Ragtime*: "...Melissa Dye is extremely funny and in extremely good voice as Evelyn Nesbit, the first of the century's numerous National Floozies. And the choral singing is flat-out heroic..."

The Avalon String Quartet, winners of the Zelzer Grand Prize in the 1998 National Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition will perform their premiere concert in the prize tour on Friday, October 30 at 8 p.m. at The Arts Club of Chicago - sponsored by Mostly Music/North Shore Concert Series. For tickets or more information, please call 773-667-1618.

In case you haven't heard, the NIU Jazz Ensemble Alumni All-Stars wowed audiences world-wide on their summer tour with Phil Collins (yes, that Phil Collins)! The ensemble consisted of NIU School of Music alums Mark Bettcher '82, Scott Bliege '83, Teofilo Carrillo '96, Christopher Collins '92, Tony Garcia ('87-'93 faculty member), Alan Hood '92, Matthew James '89, Ron Modell ('69-'97 NIU Jazz Ensemble founder and director), Ian Nevins '90, Lawrence Panella '87, and Kevin Sheehan '97. The group began their gig in Lausanne, Switzerland for two weeks of rehearsals. They then continued to 13 U.S. cities (including New York's Carnegie Hall, Chicago, and LA) and 13 European cities (including Montreux, Nice, and Cologne).

The Flag, a composition by A. Oscar Haugland, was performed at Mt. Vernon and the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. on June 9 & 10 by the Northern Illinois Children's Choir under the direction of Carol Stubbs ('89) and accompanied by Randy Stubbs ('90). The piece was commissioned by Carol and dedicated to the choir. The N.I.C.C. represented the state of Illinois in a 'Festival of States' in Washington.

The newly formed Silk and Bamboo Ensemble, under the direction of Kuo-Huang Han, will perform Chinese and American Appalachian music at the NIU Art Gallery in Chicago on October 16 for the opening of "A Brush with Nature" show by NIU art professors Charlotte Rollman (watercolors) and Harry Wirth (design and lighting). Prior to that, the ensemble will perform at the DeKalb County Nursing Home (October 15). On November 6, the group will perform for a China Conference in the Skyroom of the Holmes Student Center here at NIU. The group consists of five students, each of whom performs two to three different kind of instruments in two cultures.

Scott Stevenson can be seen at Pheasant Run's Bourbon Sreet on Friday, October 9. He'll be joined by trombonist Troy Anderson, bassist Randy Henry, and special guest drummer Tom Leddy. For more info or to get on Scott's mailing list, email him at stevensound@earthlink.net.

MISCELLANEOUS STUFF

The NIU Jazz Jam has moved to Pagliai's Pizza. Students, faculty, and guest artists pop in every Wednesday evening from 8:30 - 11:30 and hold jam sessions. No cover charge. Can't beat that!

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 us a reply!