

Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2016

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Message From the President

Welcome to our Fall Newsletter.

Aside from the accounts of some great summer cello camps and events, this newsletter includes an expanded list of recitals and concerts in the Cello Calendar.

Some interesting cellists are appearing in Vancouver for the first time this year - with some original programs. And if you're like me, you will stick the Calendar on the fridge for easy reference.

This time of year will find many of us preparing to get back into our fall routines - lessons, rehearsals, and concerts.

I'd like to invite adult members to join our monthly cello ensemble class - held on the last Monday of the month in Room 22B at the Vancouver Academy of Music, 1270 Chestnut Street, Vancouver. We play everything from Bach to the Beatles with different coaches each month. Whether you are advanced or a beginner, this is a great opportunity to meet like-minded cello enthusiasts - and have a good time!

Just a reminder - Cello Club newsletter subscriptions and membership dues are due. We invite you to go online to download a form at www.vancouvercelloclub.ca or send a

cheque to our Dawn Binnington, our treasurer, at 979 Beatty Street, Van, BC V6Z 3C5. Your dues go a long way in providing adult ensemble classes, master classes, workshops, talks, and concerts for the local cello community.

I would also like to remind teachers that the Vancouver Cello Club offers bursaries to students in need. Teachers - if you have students who need financial help with tuition costs, instrument or bow rentals or purchases, or incidental music or festival costs, the Vancouver Cello Club can be of assistance. Teachers may write the Cello Club with an explanation of the circumstances.

We have two bursary funds specifically designated to assist young Cello Club newsletter subscribers in need.

And of course, BC resident newsletter subscribers, 17 and older, are eligible to audition for the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship in the spring.

Hope to see you at the next cello event!

Lee Duckles, President

L-R: Hezekiah Leung, viola; Luri Lee, violin; Jonathan Lo, cello; Jeffrey Dyrda, violin



Canada's Rolston String Quartet Takes Top Honours - Wins the Banff BISQC Competition

On Sunday afternoon, September 4, 2016, the Rolston String Quartet won one of the most important and prestigious competitions, the Banff International String Quartet Competition which takes place every 3 years. Ten young string quartets from Asia, Europe and North America emerged from the preliminary jury process to compete in a week of concerts - all competing until the final day when the jury chose the 3 finalist quartets.

In most high-level music competitions, competitors are progressively eliminated after each round. In this one, all the quartets could be heard in the rounds preceding the finals, performing in the first round a quartet by Haydn and a 20th century work; in the second a quartet from the romantic or nationalistic repertoire and, in the third, a specially-commissioned new piece by Canadian composer, Zosha De Castri. The fourth round was music of their own choice. Each of the non-finalist quartets received a 4,000 career development grant.

In the finals, the Castalian String Quartet, from the United Kingdom, and the Tesla Quartet, from Russia, South Korea and the U.S.A. joined the Rolston in playing a quartet by Beethoven or Schubert.

Interestingly, in the first round, 8 out of 10 quartets performed Haydn and Bartok - 2 performed (including the Rolston) Haydn and Janáček. The 2 quartets who performed Janáček, performed Bartok in the round of selections of their own choice. Another interesting note: every quartet had at least one female musician and from a cellist's view, all the quartets but the Castalian, had the cellists seated inside.

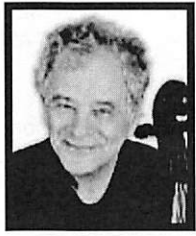
After an exciting 7 days, the Rolston String Quartet, whose members all hail from Canada, won the 12th Banff International String Quartet Competition.

Here is the prize breakdown:

- **1st Prize Laureates - Rolston String Quartet:** One quartet will be awarded a custom-designed, three-year artistic and career development program worth over \$150,000 which includes: \$25,000 cash prize; Winner's Concert Tours in career-building markets in Europe and North America, arranged by The Banff Centre; A two-week residency at The Banff Centre including the production of a disc, recorded and produced by The Banff Centre's Music program, as well as coaching and mentoring opportunities with established artists.
- **2nd Prize Laureates - Tesla Quartet:** \$12,000 cash prize; A fully funded creative residency at The Banff Centre's Music program including coaching and mentoring opportunities with established artists, a \$15,000 value
- **3rd Prize Laureates - Castalian String Quartet:** \$8,000 cash prize; A fully funded creative residency at The Banff Centre's Music program including coaching and mentoring opportunities with established artists, a \$15,000 value
- **Esterházy Foundation Prize:** Recital in Haydn Hall and the Esterházy Palace in Eisenstadt (Austria), for the First Prize Laureates. Prize includes artist fee and travel expenses.
- **Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance Prize:** The Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance is proud to offer a fully funded, four-week residency to the winning quartet of BISQC 2016. Overlooking the UNESCO World Heritage District at Lunenburg, Nova Scotia and the stunning Atlantic Ocean, LAMP provides the successful quartet the opportunity to work and perform with its distinguished faculty, to create and present broad community outreach programming, and to perform in its 1895 concert hall, a \$18,600 value.
- **The R.S. Williams & Sons Haydn Prize - Tesla Quartet:** \$3,000 for the best performance of a Haydn quartet from Round 1.
- **Canadian Commission Prize, in honour of the R.S. Williams & Sons Company - Tesla Quartet:** \$3,000 for the best performance in Round 3 of the new commissioned quartet by a Canadian composer.
- **Career Development Awards:** Upon completion of the first four rounds of BISQC, all quartets not selected to the final round of the competition will receive a career development award of \$4,000.00.

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There were a number of other activities to attend: a farewell concert by the Afiara Quartet and Skratz Bastid moderated by Afiara cellist, Adrian Fung; a beautiful Alumni Gala concert by the 2013 BISQC winners, the Dover Quartet (who have performed over 400 concerts in the last 3 years) with John Kimura Parker in Brahms Piano quintet and Smetana's quartet "From My Life" and a number of excellent lectures.



Joel Krosnick *Mentor-in-Residence*

Joel Krosnick, who retired in August as cellist of the Juilliard String quartet after 42 years, has been appointed Mentor-in-residence to the competing quartets. Joel Krosnick has performed as soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician around the world. As a member of the Juilliard String Quartet since 1974, he has performed the great quartet literature throughout North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. With his sonata partner of more than 30 years, pianist Gilbert Kalish, Mr. Krosnick has performed recitals throughout the U. S. and Europe. A dedicated teacher, Mr. Krosnick is chair of the cello department of The Juilliard School. A recipient of the Chevalier du Violoncelle Award from the Eva Janzer Memorial Cello Center at the Indiana University School of Music, Mr. Krosnick holds honorary doctoral degrees from Michigan State University, Jacksonville University, and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. *The BISQC Mentor in Residence program is supported by an anonymous donor.*

Székely/Rolston Young Musicians Program

Launched in 2010, the Székely/Rolston Young Musicians Program was created through a partnership between the Rolston and the Székely families. This initiative inspires and celebrates the next generation of great chamber musicians by creating a special, welcoming and affirming experience for young chamber ensembles as part of the Banff International String Quartet Competition. This year, we welcome the Travelling Quartet and Sakata/Kim Duo from The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, the Kolden Quartet from the Vancouver Academy of Music, and the Rundle String Quartet from Banff. These promising young musicians will attend BISQC lectures and concerts, receive coaching from some of the leading musicians of our time, and will be heard in performance.

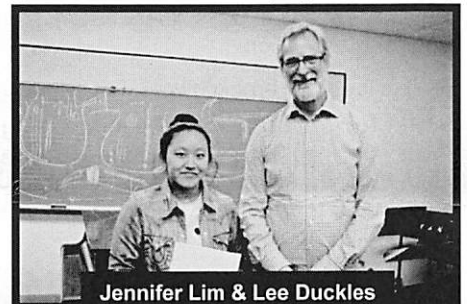
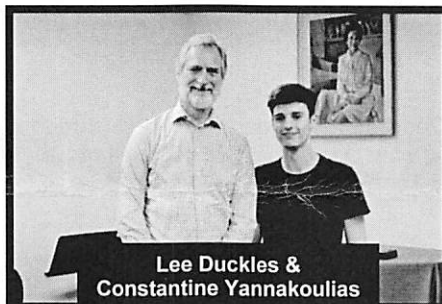
Banff Centre and the Banff International String Quartet Competition are thrilled to be supporting the next generation of chamber musicians through this wonderful initiative by the Rolston and Székely families. The Travelling Quartet and Sakata/Kim Duo are supported in part by the SOCMF Fund for Excellence of the Royal Conservatory of Music. ■

It is an incredible week – more than 50 hours of music – attended by approximately 600 audience members for the week and sold out (900) for the final 3 days. As many jurors said, it is more like a festival. From The Vancouver Academy of Music faculty came Robin Wenham, Audrey Nodwell and myself. We were so very proud of the Rolstons and Olivia Cho in the Kolden Quartet (Young Musicians Program). As Jonathan Lo's cello teacher all through The Academy, a very special warm congratulations to **Audrey Nodwell**.

Vancouver Cello Club (VCC) / 44th AGM / June 7, 2016 / Vancouver Academy of Music, Room 22B

MINUTES

- 1 Presentation by Guest Speaker Brian Hoover, Luthier
- 2 Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the AGM, held on June 16, 2015 The Minutes of the AGM held on June 16, 2015 are approved. Proposed: Katherine Roback. Seconded: Donald Berg. All in favor.
- 3 President's Report: Lee Duckles presented the President's Report. The Executive Committee met three times to plan and guide the Club's activities. The Newsletter was published three times; copies are available on club's website (www.vancouvercelloclub.com). The Adult ensemble class took place at the VAM once per month with groups of 4-12 cellists; additional festive activities were held (e.g. Christmas Play-in). Pictures of the Cello Club are available on the following website, maintained by Leslie Ponich: www.schaunzer.com/CelloClub
The Cello Club supported several activities: October: Recital with Rebecca Wenham and Sarah Hagen; April: Adult/Student Masterclasses with Carey Cheney and Elliott Cheney; April: The Cello Club provided medallions to the winners of the Vancouver Kiwanis Festival. The Cello Club maintains three funds with the Vancouver Foundation: the Audrey Piggott Fund; the Caroline E. Riley Fund and the Catherine Carmack Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Cello Club plans to distribute a brochure on its activities in the Fall to generate additional interest in the Club's activities and membership. Motion: It is proposed to accept the President's Report as presented. Moved: Leslie Ponich Seconded: Bettina Cenerelli. All in favor.
- 4 Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts: Dawn Binnington presented the Treasurer's Report. As of May 31, 2016, the Cello Club has a net worth of \$16,972.94. The Cello Club received \$3,860 in donations and \$1,369.44 in membership dues by 49 members. The Vancouver Cello Club received funds from the Vancouver Foundation worth \$6,435.35, for the Caroline E. Riley Fund, the Audrey Piggott Fund, and the Catherine Carmack Fund. On the expenses side, a total of \$269.44 was disbursed for Administration; the Newsletter costs was of \$1,163.77; the Carolyn Riley Fund will be rolled over to the next year (\$2,185.62); a contribution of \$250 was paid to the Whitehorse Music Society ("Yukon Project"). Additional expenses were made for the AGM speaker, the Audrey Piggott Fund Bursary, the Catherine Carmack Memorial Fund, Master classes, Recitals and the Summer Bursary, totaling \$6,203.26. Motion: It is proposed to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Moved: Paul Westwick Seconded: Jean Ireland All in favor.
- 5 Presentation of Awards: Lee Duckles presented the Summer Bursary to Jennifer Lim and the Catherine Carmack Scholarship fund to Constantine Yannakoulias.
- 6 Membership Dues: Lee Duckles presented the different amounts for the Membership dues. Motion: It is proposed to maintain the membership dues at the following amounts: Contributing member: \$50; Sustaining Member: \$35; Family or Individual Member: \$25 Out-of-town Member: \$20; Newsletter subscription: \$20. Moved: Nicholas Read Seconded: Leslie Ponich All in favor.
- 7 Nomination and Election of officers: The following members are standing for election: President: Lee Duckles; Treasurer: Dawn Binnington; Secretary: Bettina Cenerelli; VSO Representative: Cristian Markos; Members at large: Paul Westwick, Nicholas Read; Judith Fraser; Robin Copas; Audrey Nodwell Student Advisor: Jennifer Lim. Motion: It is proposed to confirm the above-mentioned members as the new Board of Directors for the Vancouver Cello Club. Moved: Shirley Lecker. Seconded: Leslie Ponich. All in favor.
- 8 New and Other Business: Nico Stephenson presented on the Yukon Cello project, a two-month summer project which will take place in three communities in the North, financed by corporate and personal donations and intended to spark the discovery of music and instruments among the population of the North. Objective is to teach 45 students; cost per student is evaluated at \$550; all fees would be covered by donations; the instrument rental is assured by Long & McQuade. Further information is available at <http://www.yukoncelloproject.org/>
- 9 Adjournment: The meeting is adjourned at 8:30 pm. Moved: Jean Ireland. Seconded: Bettina Cenerelli. All in favor.



Upcoming Events Fall/Winter 2016/2017

Please visit the respective web sites for additional concert information

- Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra -- www.vanphil.ca
Saturday October 22, 8 pm at Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
Sunday October 23, 7:30 pm at UBC Chan Centre, Vancouver
Saturday December 3, 8 pm at Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
- Ambleside Orchestra -- www.amblesideorchestra.ca
Wednesday October 19, 7 pm at Carnegie Community Centre, Vancouver
Friday October 28, at Vancouver Academy of Music, Vancouver
Friday December 9, 6:45 pm at Lonsdale Quay Market, North Vancouver
- A Little Night Music Orchestra -- www.alnm.ca
Monday December 12, 7:00 pm at Magee Secondary School Theatre, Vancouver
- West Coast Symphony -- www.westcoastsymphony.ca
Friday October 14, at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver
Saturday October 15, 7:30 pm at Queens Avenue United Church, New Westminster
Friday November 25, at Vancouver Playhouse, Vancouver
Sunday November 27, 2 pm at Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver
Friday December 16, at Canadian Memorial United Church, Vancouver
- Fraser Valley Symphony -- www.fraservalleysymphony.org/
Sunday November 20, 3 pm at Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford
- White Rock Community Orchestra -- whiterockcommunityorchestra.org/
Saturday December 3, TBA at St John's Presbyterian Church, White Rock
- New Westminster Symphony Orchestra -- www.newwestsymphony.net
Sunday November 6, at Massey Theatre, New Westminster
Friday December 2, at Massey Theatre, New Westminster
- Coquitlam Youth Orchestra -- www.coquitlamyouthorchestra.ca
Saturday December 10, 12 pm at Evergreen Cultural Centre, Coquitlam

Amateur Orchestra List

- Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra / www.vanphil.ca / Anne Worthington / skibumanne@gmail.com
vancouver.philharmonic@gmail.com / Auditions required / Wednesdays: - 10 pm / Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver / Looking for violas
- Ambleside Orchestra / www.amblesideorchestra.ca / Jeff Marliave, 604-984-9066 / jeff.marliave@vanaqua.org / No auditions required / Wednesdays: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm / Highlands United Church, Edgemont Village, N. Vancouver / Fees: \$150.00/adults \$75.00/students / Strings space available, see website for current openings / See website for ages 14-25 scholarship program
- Elgar Strings Group / Pat Laimon, 604-266-2724 / No auditions required / Fridays: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm / Willingdon Church, Burnaby
All instruments welcome, looking for violins
- North Shore Chamber Orchestra / nschamberorchestra.org / Kathy Allison, 604-988-8344 / kxallison@gmail.com
info@nschamberorchestra.org / See Facebook for NSCO events/news / No auditions required / Wednesdays: - 9:30 pm
Sutherland Secondary School, North Vancouver / Contact orchestra for space availability
- A Little Night Music / www.alnm.ca / Peter Stigings, 604-261-6891 / stigs@telus.net / No auditions required
Mondays: - 9:30 pm / Magee Secondary School, Vancouver / Cello wait list
- West Coast Symphony / www.westcoastsymphony.ca / Paul McEwen, 604-551-4221 / paul@mcewencbv.com
wcs@westcoastsymphony.ca / See Facebook / website for WCS events/news / Auditions required / Thursdays: - 10:00 pm
VCC Broadway, Vancouver / Cello and Double Bass space available
- Fraser Valley Symphony / www.fraservalleysymphony.org / Kathy Klassen, 1-604-854-2024 (Abbotsford)
info@fraservalleysymphony.org / Informal auditions / Mondays: 7:15 pm - 9:45 pm / Aldergrove Community Secondary School,
Aldergrove / Cello wait list
- White Rock Community Orchestra / www.wrco.ca / Don Miller, 604-807-0560 / papadon1812@hotmail.com / No auditions required
Saturdays: 9:30 am - 11:30 am / Masonic Hall, White Rock / See website for current openings
- Brock House 55+ Orchestra / bhorchestra.webs.com / Ernie Fiedler, 604-736-5878 / erniefiedler@telus.net / No auditions required
Wednesdays: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm / Brock House, Vancouver / Looking for French horns
- New Westminster Symphony Orchestra / www.newwestsymphony.net / Jim Stronach, 604-521-6785 / nwso@shaw.ca
Informal auditions / Sundays: 1:45 pm - 4:30 pm / New Westminster Senior Secondary School, Band room
Cello and viola space available
- Coquitlam Youth Orchestra / coquitlamyouthorchestra.ca / Reg Quiring, 604-939-9313 / coquitlamyouthorchestra@gmail.com
Auditions required / Fridays: 3:45 pm - 9:30 pm (Jr./Intermediate/Sr.) / Evergreen Cultural Centre, Coquitlam
Cello space available, contact for further space availability



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2016 / 2017 (VCC Year-end is May 31)

Membership subscriptions are now due, please send to: Dawn Binnington, Treasurer, 5638 Wallace St., Vancouver, BC V6N 2A2

Please enrol me as a member of The Vancouver Cello Club:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Contribution Membership.....	\$ 50.00	Donation to Scholarship Fund.....	\$ _____
Sustaining Membership	\$ 35.00 – 49.00	Donation to Performance Fund	\$ _____
Family or Individual Membership	\$ 25.00	Donation for General Purposes	\$ _____
Out-Of-Town Membership	\$ 20.00	Donation to Summer Bursaries	\$ _____
Subscription to Newsletter (for non-members).....	\$ 20.00		

The Pro Nova Ensemble / 2016-2017 Season Concerts (www.pronova.ca)

Planning is still in progress but here is an outline of the upcoming season

SERIES ONE

- Sunday, November 13th, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)
- Wednesday, November 16th, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver);

Featuring: Joseph Haydn: String Quartet - "The Rider", Op. 74, No. 3; Antonín Dvořák: String Quartet in D minor, Op. 34

SERIES TWO

- Sunday, January 29th, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)
- Wednesday, February 1st, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver);

Featuring: Talented students of the Pro Nova Ensemble

SERIES THREE

- Wednesday, April 5th, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver)
- Sunday, April 9th, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)

SERIES FOUR

- Sunday, May 28th, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)
- Tuesday, May 30th, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver)

Featuring: Rosemary O'Connor, piano

You Moose Play Cello - Summer Cello Camps in Rural Yukon

Isidora Nojkovic



June 28, 2016, Nico Stephenson and I loaded seventeen cellos into a U Haul and started the drive up to the Yukon to teach cello camps in three rural communities. Nico's idea, which we had started working toward making a reality in March, was to create a series of weeklong introductory cello workshops for kids ages 5-15 in the north of Canada. The project was entirely funded by private donors and a few corporate contributions, making it completely free to all participants.

After picking up Roland Gjernes (our third cellist and teacher who had been in China until a few days earlier) in Whitehorse, we headed to Ross River to start the first week of teaching.

The first camp took place in Ross River, a community of about 300 people with very little in the way of formal music education and organized summer programming for kids. For the most part, kids in Ross River make their own schedules, most of them waking up around noon and going to sleep around tam (when the sun doesn't set, which it doesn't in the summers

that far north, the expression "be home before dark" doesn't have quite the same effect). This was the community where Nico had come up with the idea for the Yukon Cello Project in the first place two years ago while working at the pool there for a summer. Luckily, many of the kids remembered Nico and we managed to round some of them up and show them what a cello is. Many came in for just one day or sporadically throughout the week, although a few really took to the cello and came back every day. For a music camp in Ross River, this was a massive success.



Our second stop was Dawson City, a former gold rush city with about 1000 inhabitants and a strong fiddle community. Our camp there had a much more at 10 and picking them up at 4 fiddle, moving to cello was an easy theme songs from Star Wars, fiddle busked for ice cream money one Festival.

The final stop on our tour of cello surprise there was how many live need more tiny cellos next time! general, summer camps in Mayo This was very encouraging, since with - at which point they were all happily playing twinkle for a crowd of proud parents.



organized atmosphere, with parents dropping their kids off every day. Since the majority of the students already played transition for them. The kids there had fun learning to play tunes, and some introductory classical pieces. They even day and got to play a short set at the Dawson City Music

teaching was Mayo, a town of about 600 people. The main and six-year-olds wanted to learn how to play cello. We'll Toward the end of our time there we were told that, in tend to have high dropout rates within the first few days. we ended with exactly the number of students we started

Nico, Roland, and I played many concerts in other communities along the way. One such stop was Keno City, a former mining town with 15 permanent residents. An audience of around 35 welcomed us for the concert, which was just about everyone who lives in the surrounding countryside. One family had even driven five hours to hear us play. The reception at this particular concert solidified my belief that the Yukon is a place that needs more classical music programming. The desire to listen and to play is there, and we're bringing cellos and cellists to where that desire is.

Due to the strong positive response we received in each of the communities, we are planning town an expanded version of the project next year—potentially spending two weeks in each community, subsidizing the cost of cellos for those who wish to buy them, and including at least one more community. Keep an eye out for future developments at our website!

(www.yukoncelloproject.org)

Marrowstone 2016

This summer, thanks to the Vancouver Cello Club, I was lucky to attend the Marrowstone Music Festival in Bellingham for two weeks. Located on the campus of and hosted by Western Washington University, I was fortunate to be able to use the clean dormitories and cafeteria, play at the performing arts centre, and enjoy the parks nearby.

As soon as I got to camp, I had to sign up for an audition time. I was auditioned by Walter Gray and Andrew Smith, who made up the cello faculty. They placed me into the Philharmonic orchestra and I was the principal cellist! Everyday consisted of master classes, lessons, orchestra rehearsals, sectionals, chamber group rehearsal, and optional fun activities. We played two great orchestral works every week and went to concerts approximately every few days. The first week, our orchestra played the symphonic suite 'On the Waterfront' by Bernstein and it was a hard piece rhythmically, but we worked hard and eventually learned it in a few days. At the same time, we also rehearsed and worked hard on the 'Polovtsian Dances' by Borodin and our final concert at the end of the week was great!

If I wasn't practicing or rehearsing with the orchestra, I went to the lounge in the dorms with my friends, played table tennis and

watched movies. We also went to the farmers market in downtown Bellingham and went for ice cream!

The second week however, was a lot more stressful because I had to learn the cello solo part in 'Orpheus' by Liszt and practice for my chamber group performance that was at the end of the

week. What I found most difficult was to sustain the notes and the phrases of the solo as well as producing a nice sound. Also during the second week, another cello teacher, John Michel, came to conduct master classes, help with sectionals, and teach private lessons. In addition to 'Orpheus,' we also played the Mlada Suite by Rimsky-Korsakov at Mount Baker Theatre for our final concert that was open to the public.

Overall, I had an incredible time at Marrowstone because of the focus on cello as well as other activities that were not related to music. Although the hours were long every day from seven in the morning to eleven at night, they were all worth it because it meant that we could learn more and try to sharpen our skills. I highly recommend this camp to anyone who is independent and also likes to play music with great people.

Thank you to the Vancouver Cello Club for giving me a bursary and also a life-lasting opportunity. ■ *Jennifer Lim, Student Advisor*



Mountain Music Strings Camp, Nelson, B.C. – July, 2016

Music Director: Jeff Faraghar, Cello

Once again, I had the pleasure of teaching at Mountain Music Camp in Nelson last July; this time chamber music with Jeff Plotnick (Calgary violinist), Liz Luton (Penticton violinist), and Jeff Faraghar (Nelson cellist). We had 8 cellists and 7 violinists, so 4 cellists had lots of fun(?) when we worked on a Lully Suite under the direction of Jeff Plotnick. Patricia Whyte was delegated to the 2nd violin section while Jill Faulk, Patricia Luckey and Sue Mistretta became our viola section. I was added to the cello section. The performance on the final Friday came off very satisfactorily. Lots of good chamber music groups were coached and performed on the final concert, very well – sometimes much to their surprise. Jeff, Liz and pianist, Amy Zanrosso's faculty concert on July 11th included 2 movements from Dvorak's "Dumky" trio and on July 14th Jeff and Amy gave us a lovely cello and piano recital. We had lots of rain that week (good for practicing) including our final Friday concert which was held at Jeff's studio to a small, but enthusiastic, audience. Once again, I really recommend this camp for teens and adults, who love to play together. Jeff has a new CD; debuts Oct 11th. *Judy Fraser, Editor*

ALUMNI NEWS...

◆ **Brian H.L. Chan** is a Vancouver-based recording engineer, multi-instrumentalist, and photographer. His work has been featured in over seventy commercial releases ranging from pop and jazz albums, to music for ESL curriculums, to surround mixes for TV and theatre. Recent audio projects include mixes for Hasbro's animated series *My Little Pony* and *Littlest Pet Shop*, live recordings for rock band Half Moon Run, as well as recordings with the Kenyan Boys Choir. Chan is well-versed in large and small format multichannel recording, having been involved with audio and video productions with orchestras, big bands, chamber choirs, rock bands and singer-songwriters.

As an active performing and session cellist, Chan collaborates frequently with west coast folk/pop artists Jordan Klassen, Zaac Pick and ambient experimental group Holy Hum. Touring across the continent has seen Chan at festivals such as the Folk Alliance International, Canadian Music Week, and Squamish Music festival. In the last year, Chan has toured Europe and North America, performing in London, Munich, and Montreal. Highlights include the Reeperbahn festival in Germany, CBC's Vinyl Café and DNTO. Other notable performances include live sessions at Daytrotter, Illinois and the Commodore ballroom in downtown Vancouver.

Currently, Chan is an audio engineer for the Canadian Broadcasting Company, classical concert series Music in the Morning and contemporary music series Music on Main. He is also an adjunct instructor of music and computers at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. In addition, he is steadily involved in record productions locally as well as on the east coast. Chan holds a Masters in sound recording from the acclaimed Schulich School of Music of McGill University where he was under the tutelage of Multi-Grammy winning recording engineers Richard King and George Massenburg. He also was a cello student of Audrey Nodwell at the VAM, and a member of the cello section of the VYSO, and The Academy Orchestra. P.S. **Brian Chan, Brian Yoon and Stephanie Chan (vln)** also played for pianist *Silvia Fraser's* wedding in Victoria July 23, 2006.

◆ Born and raised in Vancouver, **Bryan Deans** has been leaving a lasting impression on the Vancouver classical music scene. Bryan is a cellist, conductor, music director, composer, known not only for his skill but also his energy, leadership and dedication to his art. In his role as assistant conductor of the Lions Gate Youth orchestra, he is grateful for the opportunity to work with and inspire the next generation of orchestral musicians. His passion for classical music has been tempered with his love for other genres from rock, pop, jazz, folk and experimental, with the resulting dynamism reflecting in his choice of projects. He is also founder of Plastic Acid Orchestra, a full-symphony orchestra bent on breaking through genres and finding new fans for orchestral performance. Bryan has spent the last decade taking his full-sized symphony into uncharted territory performing at the Vancouver International Jazz Festival, The Vogue Theatre, Venue, Performance works Granville Island and collaborating with a wide variety of local artists and genres throughout these performances. Currently, he is also music director at St. John's School and a member of WestCoast Symphony, and since receiving his degree in music from the University of Victoria, he has also been the assistant conductor of the Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as conductor and performer in many other local ensembles.





► 2nd International Piatigorsky Cello Festival / Two weeks long, the 2nd International Piatigorsky Cello Festival took place at USC last May where Piatigorsky taught for 14 years. Cellist Ralph Kirshbaum joined the staff in 2008, staged the 1st festival in 2012 and the 2nd in 2016.

"Piatigorsky was really, in terms of the cello, the first great artist in the 21st century who opened the way for cellists to be soloists", says Kirshbaum, who studied with a student of Piatigorsky and played in a masterclass for Piatigorsky. Most cellists of his generation were impacted by Piatigorsky's personality, character and artistry, and the ripples went out.

Kirshbaum programmed repertoire from classics to contemporary, recruited 26 star cellists, including a number of former Piatigorsky students. The program included lunch-time series, a quintet plus series, more than 90 works were performed and there was a mass (over 100) cello ensemble. Panel discussion included 3 of former Piatigorsky students: Laurence Lesser, Mischa Maisky and Raphael Wallfisch. Yo Yo Ma had a sell-out concert, wearing a t-shirt and performing with recital partner Kathryn Stott – music from their latest CD, "The Arc of Life". Sol Gabetta debuted with the L.A. Philharmonic in a performance of Martinu's Cello Concerto No. 1 in E Minor.

► New CD release this month "For the Love of Brahms" with violinist Joshua Bell, **cellist Steven Isserlis** and pianist Jeremy Denk. The CD includes the Brahms Double Concerto Op. 102, the 1st piano trio, and the slow movement of Schumann's Violin Concerto.

► "Go With The Flow" – application of basic principles of tai chi to improve your cell-bowing technique in August 2016 Strings Magazine: (1) Relax – release let go; (2) Keep your body upright; (3) Separate your weight; (4) Keep wrists open and relaxed; (5) Let your core direct the flow of energy through your body. Here's a hint regarding #3: sit in a neutral position holding the cello and your bow with your weight distributed on both "sit bones"; shift your weight to your right sit-bone as you place the bow on any string, preparing to play a M bow. Allow your weight to gradually shift to your left sit-bone while playing a M (down) bow; as you play an up (V) bow, shift your weight to your right sit-bone.

► **FOR SALE:** Rumanian 3/4 cello in excellent condition, bought from Prussian Music for \$2,200 with bow and soft case. Bettina Cenerelli: 778-782-6686 or bettina.cenerelli@sfu.ca



Judy Fraser, Erin Sachs and Kaylee Sachs
- having fun playing trios

CONCERTS

❖ Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture / Robert Schumann: Cello Concerto / Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5
Bujar Llapaj, Conductor / **Rebecca Wenham**, Cello

Friday, October 14, 2016 8pm: Christ Church Cathedral, 690 Burrard Street, Vancouver / cathedral.vancouver.bc.ca

Saturday, October 15, 2016 7:30 pm: Queens Avenue United Church, 529 Queens Avenue, New Westminster
Admission to our concerts is by donation at the door.

❖ "The WCSO Goes to the Movies", featuring selections from: 2001: A Space Odyssey, The Lord of the Rings, Pirates of the Caribbean, Avatar, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, Psycho, Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace
Hal Beckett, Conductor

Friday, November 25, 2016 8pm: Vancouver Playhouse, 600 Hamilton Street, Vancouver

Sunday, November 27, 2016 2 pm: Centennial Theatre, 2300 Lonsdale Ave, North Vancouver / centennialtheatre.com

Admission to the above concerts is by donation at the door.

❖ **October 23 at the Gleneagles Community Centre – Ariel Barnes, Cellist** / Described as creating a "mesmerizing musical experience" by combining his "deep personal connection" (Toronto Live Music Report), "luscious tone and technical prowess" (The Vancouver Sun), cellist Ariel Barnes is internationally recognized for his unique tone and passionate performances. His solo and chamber music recordings have been nominated for a Juno Award and two Western Canadian Music Awards. In January 2013, Ariel was appointed Principal Cell of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

❖ VR Society - **October 30 at the Vancouver Playhouse – István Várdai, Cellist and Zoltán Fejérvári, Pianist** / Award-winning Hungarian cellist István is a rising star, performing to great acclaim at major international venues. In 2014, he won the ARD Cello Competition in Munich and a year later captured Hungary's highest classical music honour, the Liszt Prize / Mendelssohn: Variations, Concertantes, Op. 17; Kodaly: Sonatina for Cello and Piano; Ligeti: Sonata for Solo Cello.

Inspiring the next generation of concertgoers – only \$13 per concert! Treat your children (or grandchildren) to a Youth Club subscription. Students in Grades 1 through 12 can enjoy a minimum of 3 concerts for as little as \$39. Youth Club subscriptions are available for all series.

❖ VR Society - Winterlude with Cellist, **Jean-Guihen Queyras** and Alexander Melnikov (piano) / **Saturday, January 21st at 3 pm** at the Orpheum Annex Suite / **Sunday January 22nd at 3 pm and 7:30 pm** at the Vancouver Playhouse / Super Sunday

❖ **Marina Hasselberg**, Saturday October 15th : Recitations & Reponses / Lamentations & Litanies / Visual Space Gallery; Saturday November 3 from 8 – 11 pm, Wave Equation, Musica Electronica Viva at Western Front. Marina will perform in 2 sets: one with Sarah Davachi and one with Masi (Alanna Ho) / cello@marinahasselberg.com

See VAM website for Koerner Piano Trio (Joseph Elworthy, cello) concerts.