

Newsletter



JANUARY 2016

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Message From the President

Happy new year – and welcome to our Spring newsletter. I hope you find items of interest in this issue. We have updated and added to the Cello Calendar and wish to advise you that the Cello Club is planning some workshops.

The Club is also sponsoring an additional class in April with Elliot Cheney immediately after the Vancouver Kiwanis Festival. More details, date and times, about Elliot's class will be forthcoming.

We also feature in this issue excerpts from the Vancouver Foundation's newsletter about Catherine Carmack and the fund in her name that helps young cellists.

And speaking of funds to assist young cellists, now is the time to start thinking about "summer assistance" bursaries. Teachers, if you have students interested in summer study in BC or out of province who may be in need of financial assistance, please write the Vancouver Cello Club for consideration.

Also, graduating secondary students and subscribers to the Cello Club Newsletter may be interested in applying for the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship in May.

The Caroline E. Riley Scholarship supports students engaging in advanced cello study outside of the Province.

And finally, another date for your calendar — the Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, June 7th at the Vancouver Academy. Luthier Brian Hoover will again be our featured speaker on the subject "Cello Repairs — when, where, and how".

My belated thanks to Jean Ireland who hosted our annual Christmas carol cello party. A grand time was had by all! We hope this will continue to be an annual event.

Best wishes for a successful cello year.

Lee Duckles, President



NEWS FROM NICOLE CHUNG...

2015 Winner of the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship,
now a student of Richard Aaron at the University of Michigan

My first semester at University of Michigan has been the best couple of months of my life. Of course being a university student is everything but easy but I appreciate every part of being a music major at this school. Coming into Richard Aaron's studio was not a smooth transition. Everyone in the studio was technically way above my level and understood Professor Aaron's standards a lot better than I did. Though I felt truly intimidated and almost ashamed to be so behind, I was also relieved

that I could be in an environment where I could learn from not only the professor in lessons but also from everyone else in the music school. Our studio has 18 cellists, around 3 in each year. The studio gets along very well. We have regular studio classes as well as excerpt, technique and Popper classes. The privilege of being in a university is that I can take courses outside of music, so this semester, I am taking physics of music.

Every year, Richard Aaron's studio collaborates with the voice and the piano departments in a concert. Everyone in the studio is teamed up with a singer and a pianist in a trio. This year, our concert consisted of all French songs. The cellists had to arrange our own parts which was completely out of my comfort zone, since I am the type of person who likes to be simply told what to do. My group was given a song called "Sérénade" by Charles Gounod. I spent hours working on this arrangement and practiced it every day with a tuner and a metronome. Then I put it together with the singer and realized that she had approached it in a completely different way than I had. She wasn't so concerned about her intonation or being strictly rhythmical. She focused on understanding the meaning of the song and the best ways she could tell the story convincingly. Granted, singers are given the story when they are given lyrics making the story telling easier, but they would not be able to do so if they do not express themselves in character. It is such a different yet gratifying experience to just forget about the notes on the page and instead see words to a story. I've always been a great believer in technique. I always thought technique came first and without technique, there is nothing. But what this project taught me more than anything else is that it does not just end there. Technical skill is a tool for us to use in order to convey the emotions in a story. Professor Aaron spent a lot of time and energy in this project and everyone worked very hard which resulted into a beautiful concert.

This project was definitely the highlight of my first semester and a great start to my four years here. I am so fortunate to be at such a great school and I am really looking forward to the next challenge.

HELLO FROM MOUNTAINSIDE CHAMBER MUSIC

- **CELLO FOCUS – June 24, 25, 26, 2016** (we changed this date so there is time to digest the material for those who want to do both programs – Taught by **Jeff Faragher** with special guest cellist and performer: **Michael Kevin Jones** (www.cellojones.com))
- **CHAMBER STRINGS – July 11-15, 2016** – with instructors and coaches **Jeff Faragher** and **Jeff Plotnick**. Clinician **Amy Zanrosso** will also be coaching small ensembles throughout the week. Other guest coaches and private lesson teachers include: Cellist, **Judy Fraser**, and Violinist, **Liz Lupton** (from "Strings the Thing" summer program). **Luthier Ross Hill** will also be on site.

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

Membership subscriptions are now due, please send to: Dawn Binnington, Treasurer, 979 Beatty St., Vancouver, BC V6Z 3C5

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

Name: _____ Phone: _____

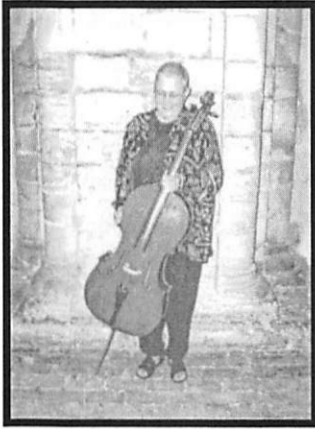
Address: _____

Contribution Membership\$..... \$ 50.00
 Sustaining Membership \$ 35.00 – 49.00
 Family or Individual Membership \$ 25.00
 Out-Of-Town Membership \$ 20.00
 Subscription to Newsletter (for non-members)..... \$ 20.00

Donation to Scholarship Fund..... \$ _____
 Donation to Performance Fund \$ _____
 Donation for General Purposes \$ _____
 Donation to Summer Bursaries \$ _____

Strings Attached by Wendy Goldsmith

Friends continue a cello teacher's dream of giving everyone a chance to play



Carolyn Finlay remembers her son Eric's first cello lesson vividly. His teacher, Catherine Carmack, offered to show the five-year-old a new way to slice an apple. She bisected the fruit sideways through its equator, and held up one white-fleshed half with a five-seeded star clearly visible at its centre. "She said, 'There's a star inside all of us. That's what you do when you play the cello; you're learning how to find your star,'" recalls Finlay.

There's a star inside all of us. That's what you do when you play the cello; you're learning how to find your star.

Carmack had captivated not only her young son, but his mother as well. An accomplished pianist herself, Finlay had never heard a teacher explain so explicitly

how to play from the heart. "It was remarkable. No one had ever taught me music like that before," says Finlay. "There's a star in you and you can express it!"

Over the next 10 years, Finlay took over piano accompaniment for all of Carmack's students' recitals and exams. She would eventually become Carmack's performance partner, playing duets with her friend around the Lower Mainland as well as at music festivals in England. As the "pianist in the room," says Finlay, she witnessed more than anyone Carmack's heartfelt teaching style. She would ask students what they were thinking about when they played, remembers Finlay, and they would confide the worries or memories that were affecting the resonance of their sound that day. "She believed you had to be able to open up yourself in order to open up the inner meaning of the music."

In 2003, Carmack suffered a relapse of cancer from an illness seven years earlier. A performance tour she was arranging for eight senior students had to be postponed while she embarked on a course of chemotherapy. Unfortunately, the chemotherapy weakened her immune system over several months, so that when she developed a blood infection later that year, Carmack died within hours. She was 46.

It was a shock to everyone who knew her. Not only had her students lost a beloved teacher, many felt they had lost a confidante and mentor. And because of Carmack's generosity, some had even lost a benefactor. Carmack had believed so strongly in affording everyone a voice through an instrument that she had given free lessons to students who couldn't afford to pay and funded scholarships for music camps, junior symphony tuition and performance tours.

But Carmack's largesse did not stem from personal wealth, for she had never experienced the luxury of silver spoons or free rides. Her father left the family when she was 15, and her mother returned to England and remarried when Carmack was in her late teens. Carmack obtained loans to cover living expenses and tuition while she studied music at UBC. Two decades later, says Finlay, she was still paying these off.

As soon as she graduated, she began teaching music full time in the North Vancouver school system, at the Waldorf School and at the Vancouver Academy of Music, as well as from her home, an airless basement rental suite. Just before young Eric had gone for his first lesson, Carmack had returned from a year abroad at Cambridge University

studying music's effect on the brain. Her thesis was approved for review, but as Carmack could not afford to return to England to defend it before a panel, she never earned her master's degree. But rather than ask anyone for money, she kept it a secret, recalls Finlay.

At the memorial service, friends discovered that each had been the recipient of some personal kindness on Carmack's part. Distressed to think that no more aspiring musicians would benefit from Carmack's selflessness, Finlay decided to set up a scholarship fund in her friend's name. She approached Vcr Foundation and found it surprisingly simple to set up the Catherine M. Carmack Memorial Cello Scholarship Fund. To produce enough for a yearly payout without reducing the principal, Finlay learned that the fund needed only \$10,000.

Since the fund must grant to a registered charity, Finlay suggested the organization "closest to Catherine's heart." The Vancouver Cello Club was a natural choice because it exists to promote and share a mutual love of the cello between students, teachers and master players – ideals that Carmack had held dear since her own student days.

Once the fund was in place, Finlay spread the word to all of Carmack's students and friends. After several fundraising recitals and many generous private donations, the fund had double the minimum. In 2005, the Club began awarding \$1,000 in scholarships to promising students unable to afford intensive music summer camps.

It's fitting, believes Finlay, that the scholarships will help young people find expression through music. Carmack had a special affinity for children, teens and anyone suffering in a way they could not fully articulate. She taught them how to speak with their cellos, and how to listen.

"She was there to give a musical voice to ordinary people, for their own richness of being. If they thought they could express themselves through a cello, she was there to help." ■

Amateur Orchestra List

- ▶ **Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra** / vanphil.ca
Anne Worthington / skibumanne@gmail.com
vancouver.philharmonic@gmail.com
Auditions required / Wednesdays: 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
Looking for violas
- ▶ **Ambleside Orchestra** / amblesideorchestra.ca
David Carter, 604-922-1035 / No auditions required
Wednesdays: 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Highlands United Church, Edgemont Village, N. Van.
Fees: \$150 Adults / \$75 Students
Strings space available, see website for current openings
See website for ages 14 – 25 scholarship program
- ▶ **Elgar Strings Group** / Pat Laimon, 604-2667-2724
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
Jean Ireland, 604-980-3132 / jeanireland1@hotmail.com
info@nschamberorchestra.org
See Facebook for NSCO events/news
No auditions required / Wednesdays: 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Sutherland Secondary School, North Vancouver
Contact orchestra for space availability
- ▶ **A Little Night Music**/alnm.ca / Peter Stigings, 604-261-6891
stigs@telus.net / No auditions required
Mondays: 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm / Magee Sec. School, Vcr
Cello wait list
- ▶ **West Coast Symphony** / westcoastsymphony.ca
Nick Urquhart, 778-994-6425 / wcso@westcoastsymphony.ca
See Facebook/ website for WCS events/news
Auditions required / Thursdays: 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm
VCC Broadway, Vanc. / Cello & double bass space available
- ▶ **Fraser Valley Symphony** / 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** / wrco.ca
Don Miller, 604-807-0560 / papadon1812@hotmail.com
No auditions required / Saturdays: 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Masonic Hall, White rock / Looking for violins, viola,
bassoon and drums
- ▶ **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 Orch** / 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)
Cello space available. Contact for further space availability.

Upcoming Events – Winter/Spring 2016

(Please visit the respective websites for additional concert information)

VANCOUVER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA / www.vanphil.ca

- Saturday Feb 20 / 8:00 pm / Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
- Saturday Apr 2 / 8:00 pm / Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
- Sunday Apr 17 / 2:00 pm / Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, Vancouver

AMBLESIDE ORCHESTRA / www.amblesideorchestra.ca

(Each concert offers complimentary refreshments at 7:30pm)

- Friday Jan 29 / 8:00 pm / Mount Seymour United Church, North Vancouver
- Friday Apr 1 / 8:00 pm / Mount Seymour United Church, North Vancouver
- Friday May 27 / 8:00 pm / Highlands United Church, North Vancouver

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC ORCHESTRA / www.alnm.ca

- Monday Mar 7 / 7:30 pm / Magee Secondary School Theatre, Vancouver
Music from around the world

WEST COAST SYMPHONY / www.westcoastsvmohonv.ca

- Friday Feb 12 / 8:00 pm / Performance Works (Granville Island), Vancouver
- Saturday Feb 13 / 7:30 pm / Queens Avenue United Church, New Westminster
- Friday Mar 18 / 8:00 pm / Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver
- Sunday Mar 20 / 2:00 pm / Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver
- Friday Apr 29 / 8:00 pm / Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver
- Saturday Apr 30 / 7:30 pm / Queens Avenue United Church, New Westminster
- Friday Jun 10 / 8:00 pm / Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver
- Sunday Jun 12 / 2:00 pm / Bowen Island Community School, Bowen Island

FRASER VALLEY SYMPHONY / www.fraservallevsymohonv.org

- Sunday Jan 31 / 3:00 pm / Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford
- Sunday Apr 3 / 3:00 pm / Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford
- Sunday Jun 5 / 3:00 pm / Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford

WHITE ROCK COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA / whiterockcommunitvorchestra.org

- Saturday Jun 4 / 7:30 pm / St. John's Presbyterian Church, White Rock

NEW WESTMINSTER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA / www.newwestsymphony.net

- Sunday Mar 6 / 2:00 pm / Massey Theatre, New Westminster
- Sunday May 8 / 2:00 pm / Massey Theatre, New Westminster

Pro Nova Ensemble Concerts / 2015 – 2016 Season

SERIES TWO... Featuring:

- Britten: Phantasy, Quartet for Oboe and Strings, Op. 2 with Tony Nickels, oboe
- Mozart: Divertimento in D major, K. 136, featuring talented students of the Pro Nova Ensemble
- Smetana: String Quartet No. 1 "From My Life"
- Wednesday Jan 27 / 7:30 pm / Kay meek Centre, West Vancouver
- Sunday Jan 31 / 7:30 pm / Mount Seymour United Church

SERIES THREE

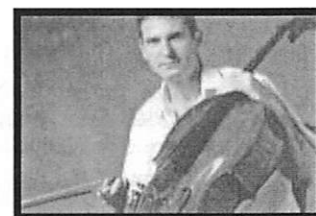
- Wednesday Apr 6 / 7:30 pm / Kay Meek Centre, West Vancouver
- Sunday Apr 10 / 7:30 pm / Mount Seymour United Church, North Vancouver

SERIES FOUR

- Sunday May 29 / 7:30 pm / Mount Seymour United Church, North Vancouver
- Wednesday Jun 1 / 7:30 pm / Kay Meek Centre, West Vancouver

MICHAEL JONES CELLIST / INSTRUCTOR – CELLO FOCUS

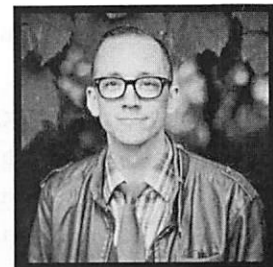
British-born cellist Michael Jones started to play at age 13. He studied at Dartington College with Michael Evans before going on to the Royal College of Music where he was a pupil of Joan Dickson. In London, he won prizes for solo and chamber music playing, was chosen to perform for the British Royal family and was awarded a scholarship from the German government to study cello under the great teacher Johannes Goritzki in Dusseldorf. In Germany, he became soloist for the German Chamber Academy, playing concerts around the world and in major music festivals such as Salzburg. He continued to study, participating in solo masterclass courses at the Hindemith Foundation in Switzerland, and studying chamber music with the Amadeus, Vermeer and La Salle Quartets. In 2002, he recorded the complete Bach Suites for Solo Cello on a 1667 Stradivarius Violoncello for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Michael was awarded the Blue Moon Swiss Audio Award in 2009 for his recording of solo Bach and in 2012 was invited to participate in the Bachfest in South America. He frequently plays international tours and resides in the Andalusian town of Jimena de la Frontera where he has started a cello education centre which services the Costa del Sol area in southern Spain and Gibraltar. Please visit www.cellojones.com for more on Michael.



ALUMNUS NEWS...

Born	June 28, 1974
Origin	Vancouver, BC, Canada
Genres	Alternative rock, indie rock, art rock, Baroque pop, hip hop
Instruments	Cello, guitar, keyboards
Associated Acts	Arcade Fire, The Hidden Cameras, K-os, Jim Guthrie, Keven Hearn, The Constantines, Gentleman Reg, Great Lake Swimmers
Studied at	The Vancouver Academy of Music with Audrey Nodwell, Ian Hampton and Judith Fraser
Website	uncomfortablesilence.com

MICHAEL OLSEN is a Toronto-based cellist, engineer, producer and songwriter whose experience impressively spans the Canadian indie music scene. As a cellist, he has recorded and performed on over 100 recordings including Arcade Fire's "Funeral", "K-os' "Joyful Rebel-ion", Jim Guthrie's "Now More than Ever" and The Hidden Cameras' "The Smell of Our Own". Michael toured internationally with Hidden Cam-eras in the early 2000s and has shared the stage with such diverse bands as Holy F*ck, Zaki Ibrahim, Great Lake Swimmers, Arcade Fire, The Constantines, Jayme Stone, Kevin Hearn, Rheostatics, Gentleman Reg, Slakadeliqs, Mocky, Sarah Slean and Jim Guthrie. As a string arranger, engineer, and producer he has worked with The Organ, Drake, Emma Lee, The Clics, Spiral Beach and Ohbijou. Michael has written music for short films, radio commercials, and TV, including the series *Kenny vs Spenny*. Michael fronts an original



band called Our Founders which released their critically acclaimed debut album in October of 2013. Michael holds a BA in Music Performance from the University of Toronto.



ASHTON LIM, cellist, enjoys an exciting and varied career as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral player and teacher, having performed throughout North America and Asia. First prizewinner in the 2014 Glenn Gould Chamber Music Competition, his piano trio has also won first place in the Canadian Music Competition and the Canadian National Music Festival. Ashton is a second-year Cello Fellow at the New World Symphony.

As a chamber musician, Ashton has performed alongside internationally-acclaimed artists such as James Boyd, Christopher Constanza, Jonathan Crow, Mark Fewer, Simin Ganatra, Jacqueline Shave and Huw Watkins. In addition, he has worked with members of the Nash Ensemble, the Afiara, Emerson, Guarneri, Shanghai, St. Lawrence, Tokyo & Vermeer String Quartets.

As an orchestral player, Ashton has performed with the Banff Festival Symphony Orchestra, Canadian Opera Company, Civic Orchestra of Chicago and the Eastern Festival Orchestra. He has also performed and participated in the Banff Summer Arts Festival, Domaine Forget Chamber Music Session, Int'l Cello Festival of Canada, Meadowmount School of Music, Morningside Music Bridge, National Arts Centre Young Artists Program, Orford Arts Centre, SALT New Music Festival, St. Lawrence String Quartet Chamber Music Seminar, Thailand International Composition Festival and the Toronto Summer Music Festival's Chamber Music Institute.

Born and raised in Vancouver, Ashton studied with Audrey Nodwell at the Vancouver Academy of Music, where he was awarded the Certificate in Music Performance, and earned an ARCT diploma from The Royal Conservatory of Music. He completed a bachelor of music degree with John Kadz at the Mount Royal College Conservatory and the University of Calgary, and a master of music degree at Northwestern University, studying with Hans Jorgen Jensen. Most recently, he completed an artist diploma under Andres Diaz and Desmond Hoebig at The Glenn Gould School of The Royal Conservatory of Music, as a recipient of the Chancellor Scholarship. He has been generously supported by the Canada Council for the Arts.

THE REEN FAMILY SINGERS – Steve and Sophie Reen are classically trained musicians who have performed professionally for the past twenty five years. They have recently been joined by their nine children, appearing as The Reen Family Singers, and are currently performing across the U.S.A and Canada. Weddings, dinners, church concerts and Chapter Shows are their specialty; they have appeared in Connecticut, New York State, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, Kansas, Toronto, Florida as well as closer to home in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. The Reen Family sing and play piano, organ, guitar and strings in a wide variety of musical styles: Classical, jazz, gospel and contemporary.

An alumnus of the VAM, Sophie studied with Audrey Nodwell, Lee Duckles and Judith Fraser.

Picture - in the front: Hugh (4); behind him L to R: MaryGabrielle (2), Lucy (7), William (8); behind them L to R: Virginia (12), Bernie (14), John (10), Dominic (15), Stephen (17); and Steve and Sophie at the back.



2016 Piatigorsky International Cello Festival

Young Cellists Workshop – May 22, 2016

Rehearsal: 9:00 a.m. / Concert: 10:30 a.m.

Alice & Eleonore Schoenfeld Symphonic Hall, Univ. of Southern California

Festival artist and UCLA cello professor, **Antonio Lysy**, will direct this workshop for pre-college-aged students. Participants will rehearse and perform a short program of cello ensemble music. Participants will be selected by video audition. The deadline for uploading the audition video is January 20, 2016.

Audition requirements: piatigorskyfestival.usc.edu/for-students/

Questions: youngcellistsworkshop2016@gmail.com

- ◆ News from **AMY LAING** in Toronto is that Charlie is delightful, smiles easily, doesn't play shy and hardly ever cries. She is busy playing the show "Kinky Boots" (8 shows per week) and also doing a lot of work with the TSO.
- ◆ Congratulations to **BRIAN YOON** on his marriage December 8th in Victoria to **JOELLE JO**. The Cello Club wishes them many years of wedded bliss! [Victoria Symphony – February 29, 2016 / BRIAN YOON, cello; Terence Tam, Violin / Bernhard Gueller, Conductor / Saniland – Voyageur / Brahms – Dble Concerto for Violin & Cello / Schubert – Symphony No. 9]
- ◆ News from **WINCA CHAN** that she is engaged, but no news other than the wedding will be in China in 2016.
- ◆ **Olivia Blander** writes: Five years ago, I was very fortunate to join the faculty of the Saint James Music Academy, a wonderful community music school in the downtown east side neighbourhood. At Saint James you will find a super energetic atmosphere where hundreds of lovely kids are spending their time after school. It was created to provide an opportunity for families who might otherwise not have access to or be able to afford music education, and the kids who attend take part in choir, orchestra, theory and technique classes. Currently, there are 32 budding cellists at Saint James, from grade two up to grade twelve. Please come and visit us; you will be inspired!

Chit Chat continued on next page...



... continued

Here are some photos from the delightful concert on October 30, 20125 in the KRH of the VAM, given by cellist Becky Wenham and pianist Sarah Hagen. The concert was sponsored by the Vancouver Cello Club. Most disappointingly, the audience was very small. Those of us who were there were treated to a varied program given by two talented and wonderfully musical performers. I especially enjoyed the Ligeti Sonata. Thank you Becky & Sarah!



Becky & Sarah



Dawn, our Treasurer



Judy & Becky "I've Grown"



Becky & Sarah

◆ Here's some news from **SAMANTHA STARKEY** who is now at Stanford University: *"Hi Judy, I just received the cello club newsletter in the mail- what a treat to see some familiar names and faces! I hope you and everyone else are doing well. Please pass on my congratulations to Nicole and Jennifer as well! This first quarter at Stanford has been a bit overwhelming because of so many exciting things going on at once! Still, I'm doing well in my classes, and my favourite class is a 7-person 3rd year Chinese conversation class. I'm also in a singing group called Side by Side, which learns songs from the 1920s to the 1960s and performs them at seniors' homes. It's a really warm and fuzzy type group, and we sing some pretty entertaining songs including Alexander's Ragtime Band, Come Fly with Me, and Smoke Gets in Your Eyes (which also has choreo- so much fun). Next quarter I'm looking forward to taking a peer counselling class. I'm also making some friends and having really interesting conversations- in fact, today I'm meeting up with someone to talk about his thesis on positive psychology, after hearing a bit about it in a leadership strengths workshop we both attended. I'm still considering premed, but quite open to my options. (Not computer science, though! I dropped the class after 2 weeks - I really have no affinity for or interest in computers!) Best, Sam (sstarkey@stanford.edu)"*

◆ The **KOERNER QUARTET** concert, "Heart Strings" has been postponed to March 6, 2:00 p.m. in the KRH of the VAM

"HEART STRINGS" – Rather than confining to the paler hues of pink often found in the middle of February, Koerner Quartet explores the various shades of the proverbial heart-strings. From the frenetic pulsations and emotional lyricism of Debussy's String Quartet to the burning passion of heroism in Beethoven's Op. 74 ("Harp"), no dimension of the heart is left unanswered.

KOERNER QUARTET MEETS ROLSTON STRING QUARTET, Sunday, June 5, 7:30 p.m. Koerner Recital Hall Koerner Quartet's 15/16 season refuses to go out quietly, closing with an exhilarating pairing of Grieg and Mendelssohn, Grieg's String Quartet No. 1 compels the listener in feral energy with the vibrant trembling of strings and vicious speed. In the second half, the Rolston String quartet joins stage for Mendelssohn's String Octet in a continuation of Koerner Quartet's tradition of collaborating with emerging talent.

◆ **Adult Cello Ensemble Classes** – last Monday of the month at 7:30 pm, probably in Room 22A at the VAM; Jan 25 with **Audrey Nodwell**; Feb 29 with **Cristian Markos**; March is Easter so TBA. April 25 will be led by the dynamic duo of **Paul Westwick** and **Nicolas Reid**. Judy Fraser will do May 30th and **THE AGM WILL BE JUNE 6th**.

◆ The adult cello class had a smaller, but still well-attended, Christmas party at the home of executive member **Jean Ireland**. President **Lee Duckles** led everyone in carols, Christmas songs, Beatle tunes, etc., December 11th – early due to Judy leaving for Tasmania and New Zealand on December 14th. No photos this year as executive member **Leslie Ponich** was unable to come — next year!

◆ April 12th at 7:30 pm **Gary Hoffman** will perform the Schubert Quintet for 2 celli with the **Doric Quartet** at the QE Playhouse at 7:30 pm.

◆ **May 28** at 8:00 pm **Johannes Moser** will perform with the VOS and on **May 30** at 8:00 pm at North Vancouver Centennial Theatre; Program: Bramwell Tovey, conductor, Johannes Moser, cello; Tchaikovsky – Eugene Onegin: Polonaise; Tchaikovsky – Variations on a Rocooco Theme; Tchaikovsky – Symphony No. 6 in B minor, *Pathétique*.

◆ February 21 at 7:30 pm at the Kay Meek Centre, West Vancouver, The VYSO senior orchestra presents "Rising Stars" including cellist **Sam (Seyong) Chung** who will perform the 4th movement of the Shostakovich Concerto No. 1 for Cello and Orchestra.

◆ The cello adjudicator for the Kiwanis Music Festival April 18-23 will be **Carey Cheney** from Salt Lake City, Utah. She will also be doing a Cello Suzuki Workshop with her cellist husband **Elliot Cheney** at the Vancouver Academy of Music.

Carey Cheney, a native of Canada, has been teaching and performing for over 29 years. She is a Registered Teacher Trainer of cello for the Suzuki Association of the Americas, and author/recording artist of the series of books and CD's (eight volumes), Solos For Young Cellists published by Summy-Birchard (Alfred Music Inc.). She holds the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in Cello Performance (a minor in musicology) with Highest Honors from University of Utah. For her Master of Music, she studied cello and pedagogy with Phyllis Young. She also studied in Germany for 2 years with Andre Navarra. She has had much international teaching and playing experience, in Europe, Canada, Costa Rica, Brazil, Japan, Mexico and New Zealand. She was a guest teacher at the 1999 World Suzuki Conference in Matsumoto, Japan the 2006 World Suzuki Conference in Turin, Italy, taught at the 2008 Hamilton Summer Suzuki String Institute in Rotorua, New Zealand, and at the Festival Los Cedros 2013, as well as 2010, 2012 and 2014 in Mexico City. She was a guest presenter at the 2nd Mexican National Suzuki Conference in 2015.

Carey is interested in the balance of teaching and playing and enjoys concertizing in many types of settings, especially for young people. She enjoys designing programs that involve contrasting musical styles and high energy. She is an enthusiastic researcher, and writer, having been the editor and publisher of the bimonthly newsletter which circulated world-wide from 1988 - 2001, Cello News. She has also published articles about cello pedagogy in the American String Teacher, and the American Suzuki Teacher.



Chit Chat continued on next page...



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- ◆ We are hoping also for the Cello Club to have an adult workshop with the Cheneys (see article on previous page).
 - ◆ Congratulations to **Rosanna Butterfield** who was called by the Oregon Symphony in Portland to finish the rest of their 2015/16 season as acting section cello. The position will be auditioned for in the spring of 2016.
 - ◆ **Rachel Mercer** gave a masterclass November 17, 2015 in the KRH of the VAM. Three cello students performed for her. **Vinci Chen** played Dvorak Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104, 1st movement. **Sarah Baek** was heard in the Lalo Cello concerto in D Minor, Allegro Maestoso and **Olivia Cho** performed Suite for Solo Cello by Cassado, Preludio – Fantasia.
 - ◆ Congratulations to **Albert Seo** 2015 First Place Scholarship Winner of the Vancouver Women's Musical Society, heard in recital December 2, 2015 at the Unitarian Church, 949 W. 49th Avenue.
 - ◆ **Brett Rutherford, Cellist with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra** – Brett began his professional career as a full-time cellist with the Sydney Elizabethan Orchestra, now known as the AOBO. In 1984 he spent a year of study in London with Alexander Baillie and William Pleeth and soon after returning accepted a full-time position in the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. Brett, with this wife, Janet, and Barbara Jane Gilby, formed the trigon Ensemble which performed regularly around Tasmania and interstate and featured on ABC television and Classic FM. Brett is also a founding member of the Piano Quartet, The Kettering Piano Quartet, which has a regular concert series at the Town Hall and has also performed for Classic FM and around the state. Brett also plays the Viola Da Gamba and has been a member of the early music group, Backgammon, and now performs with the group Sequenza.
- I interviewed Brett at Christmas while in Hobart, Tasmania visiting my friend, violinist, Alison Malcolm. While my main interest was in collecting information on their youth orchestras and their relationship with the TSO, talking with Brett about his varied musical professional life was fun to compare with mine. Hobart is not a large city but has 5 youth orchestras: 2 string orchestras, a ww/brass ensemble, followed by an intermediate and senior full orchestra. The age span runs 8 years to 26 years and the annual fees run around \$520.00. The senior orchestra always has a concert with the TSO with rehearsals and this year it is in the City Hall. The Youth Music Australia (from all the state capitals) has an exciting 2-week summer camp with professional tutors. Begun in WWII, the AYO is fed by all the high school youth orchestras. For fun, Brett told me: "Play 2 bars of Bach G major, Prelude and then add The Swan"; he swears it fits!

Tanya Prochazka

Tanya Prochazka, one of Edmonton's best-loved classical musicians, was celebrated October 10, 2015 in a memorial concert at the University's Convocation Hall, performed by a variety of distinguished musicians who were her friends, former pupils and members of her family.

Tanya, who died in May after a long fight with cancer, was a cellist notable for the warmth of her playing, and a cherished teacher. She was born into a singularly musical family in Australia in 1952.

Her grandfather was the celebrated British conductor Albert Coates, and both her sisters are cellists. Her twin, Elizabeth, is an internationally-renowned Baroque violinist, married to yet another famous cellist, Raphael Wallfisch, while Rosanne Hunt is based in Australia. Her nephew Benjamin Wallfisch is a Hollywood film composer.

Tanya won the Australian Broadcasting Commission's National Concerto Competition as a teenager, and then studied with some of the most celebrated cellists of the day: André Navarra, Janos Starker, and, for a short time, Jacqueline du Pré, with whom she was sometimes compared for her forthright approach to performing.

She started her career with a group of touring musicians based in Vienna, and then settled in London. There she played with, among other groups, the Philharmonia Orchestra, and taught at the Royal Conservatory

It was in London that she met her husband, Arthur, and one of his abiding memories is being taken by Tanya during their courtship to a concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. He had been forewarned that some of her family would be there, but he hadn't expected the 50 or so family members who formed much of the audience, all curious to see Tanya's boyfriend. "I felt," he remembers fondly, "like an exhibit!"

In 1986 Arthur and Tanya moved to Edmonton, following his appointment as professor of neuroscience at the University of Alberta. She quickly became involved in Canada's musical life, broadcasting on CBC and sometimes playing with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

In 1998 she was appointed a professor of music at the University, as head of strings and conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra. It was typical of her adventurous spirit that she took the orchestra on a tour to Cuba in 2002. As a teacher she gained a reputation as being demanding but always exceptionally kind to her students.

Two of those students who now have international careers played in the memorial concert. The Korean-born Dongkyun



An was top prize winner in the 2012 International Prague Spring Cello Competition, and made his Carnegie Hall debut last year. Caroline Stinson specializes in chamber music, has recorded extensively, and teaches at the Juilliard School.

Tanya's two sisters also played, as did Raphael Wallfisch. Rosanne Hunt played a cello once owned by composer and cellist David Popper (whose Hungarian Rhapsody was featured in the concert, with the University of Alberta Symphony Orchestra), and which came unscathed through the great San Francisco fire of 1906.

They were joined by some of Tanya's many musician friends, including violinist Guillaume Tardif and pianists Stephan Lemelin, Milton Schlosser and Janet Scott Hoyt.

The music — almost all favourites of the classical and romantic repertoire — was chosen by Arthur Prochazka to reflect the kind of music they both loved. There were works by Brahms, Beethoven, Dvorak, Schubert, and Schumann. A rarity is Bloch's Jewish Song for cello and piano, selected because Tanya was attracted to works influenced by Jewish music. "For her funeral she specifically requested a cantor singing," explains Arthur, "and I remember Tanya performing the Bloch piece".

Three works were performed by a group of eight cellos. Elgar's Nimrod from the Enigma Variations was arranged for the unusual instrumentation, and the concert ended with a Ragtime by Thomas Lamb and a Tango by Mariano Mores, suggested by Rosanne Hunt as the family wanted an uplifting close to the musical memorial.

Outside of competitions, I cannot think of an occasion where quite so many cellists gathered together for a concert, let alone such distinguished cellists as those who played at Convocation Hall. There could hardly be a more fitting tribute to a woman who gave so much to Edmonton's musical life, and who, in her husband's words, had such "a complete and utter commitment to music."

Performers included: Dongkyun An, Rosanne Hunt, Janet Scott Hoyt, Stephane Lemelin, Milton Schlosser, Caroline Stinson, Guillaume Tardif, Elizabeth Wallfisch, Raphael Wallfisch, and the University of Alberta Symphony. ■