

Newsletter



JANUARY 2015

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Message From the President

Best wishes for a productive 2015!

It's amazing how fast time travels when you're having fun! 2014 has come and gone in a flash - but not without notable landmarks along the way; concerts and cello masterclasses at the Academy and of course, Judy Fraser's 80th birthday celebration! - pictures of which can be seen on our website.

The cello world also lost some great performers and teachers in 2014 - notably, Lazio Varga, former principal of the New York Philharmonic and member of the Lener and the Canadian String Quartets. On Sunday afternoon, January 25, the Cello Club will co-sponsor a concert of virtuoso cello quartet music featuring some of the great cello transcriptions by Mr. Varga. The concert by the Vancouver Cello Quartet - (myself, Brian Yoon, Cristian Markos, and Olivai Blander) - will take place at 3:00 pm in the Mary Olsen

Room at the Vancouver Academy of Music. In case you can't get to the Sunday performance, the concert will be repeated at Hycroft Mansion (the University Women's Club of Vancouver) on Tuesday morning, January 27 at 10:30 am in Hycroft's beautiful Salon Room. Tickets for that event may be purchased at the door.

More items for your spring calendar: Yo Yo Ma returns to Vancouver to perform with the VSO on May 1 at the Orpheum. Paul Marleyn will present a masterclass on Sat., May 16, at 2 pm at the VAM and on May 22, the Bridge Musicians perform Schubert's great C major cello quintet at the Unitarian Church on 49th & Oak.

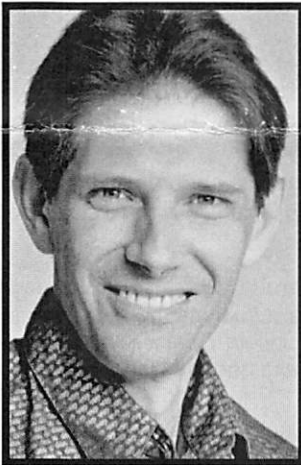
The Cello Club is accepting applications for the annual Caroline E. Riley Award. The scholarship is designed to assist BC residents, Canadian citizens, Landed Immigrants, 17 and older, leaving their home base for the first time, to pursue

advanced cello studies. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of an audition. Applications should be in writing, stating the applicant's proposal for study and should be sent to the Club Treasurer by May 1. (Please note Dawn Binnington's new address above.) The Caroline E. Riley Scholarship is payable directly to an educational institution of the applicant's choice and in the past has exceeded \$1000.

This newsletter includes some information about some interesting cellos for sale. If you have an instrument or item that you would like to advertise, please contact the Club through our website at: vancouvercelloclub.ca. We aim to reach the largest cello community in the Lower Mainland.

Until the next newsletter, have a Happy Cello Year!

Paul Marleyn to adjudicate the Vancouver Kiwanis Music Festival April 19, 2015

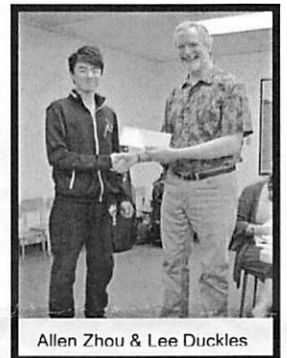


Cellist **Paul Marleyn** tours regularly in North America, Europe and Asia. As a frequent participant in summer festivals including the Prussia Cove, Susan, Festival of the Sound, Domaine Forget, Casalmaggiore, Leicester and Ottawa international festivals, he collaborates with artists such as Boris Berman, Miriam Fried, James Somerville, Paul Neubauer, Marc-Andre Hamelin, Steven Dann, Joshua Bell, and with members of the Tokyo, Vermeer, St. Lawrence and Hagen quartets. He has appeared as soloist with the London Philharmonia, Belgrade Philharmonic, European Chamber, Winnipeg Symphony, Symphony Nova Scotia, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Thunder Bay Symphony and Manitoba Chamber orchestras. The Artistic Director of Winnipeg's *Agassiz Chamber Music Festival* since 2000, and the International Cello Festival of Canada since 2011, Paul was the cellist in *Trio Hochelega* from 2006-2012. He has made several compact disc recordings on the United Records, CALA, ATMA, Signum Classics, CBC and RCA Victor labels. From 1993-7, Paul was principal cellist of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and has served at professor of cello at the University of Manitoba, and most recently at the University of Ottawa, where he now mentors an award-winning studio of young cellists. This is Paul's 4th occasion to adjudicate The Vancouver Kiwanis Music Festival.

Paul will be presented in **recital** by the Vancouver Cello Club and the Vancouver Academy of Music on May 15, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the newly-renovated Mary Olsen Hall. Mr. Marleyn will also be co-presented in a **Masterclass** at 2:00 p.m., May 16, 2015. Free admission to the Masterclass.

Letter from Allen Zhou, 2014 winner of the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship

Upon arriving in Ottawa to study at the University of Ottawa under the guidance of Paul Marleyn, I felt a great sense of confidence and pride. I was ready to take on what a higher level learning institution had in store for me. But now that I look back on the past few months of school, it was not as easy as I anticipated. Every week was fast paced and it consisted of new requirements and challenges. Despite the endless work load, it was interesting and enlightening to work with new professors. I have learned methodical approaches that have certainly contributed to my growth as a musician. The music community here consists of really friendly and caring people. I have witnessed it for myself. They are supportive in hard times and will definitely lend you a hand when they find you struggling. As of the end of first semester, I have successfully learned the fifth Bach suite, Popper study no. 6 and no. 7, Flamenco by Tagell and now I am currently working on the first and second movements of Shostakovich's sonata in g minor. I find that studio classes (basically masterclasses given by Paul every week) are really useful and insightful. If one is chosen to play for a studio class, he or she can get feedback from fellow peers and Paul on what was done well and could be improved. I have learned so much more through their structural feedback and have opened my mind to new musical ideas suggested by my peers. It really does give you a new perspective on musical ideas to consider. Now that I'm writing this on a chilly Friday in Ottawa, I realize that even though the cold is absolutely unbearable and walking to university campus to practice can be a pain, it is all worthwhile in the end. As Colin Powell once said, "A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work". I would like to thank the Vancouver Cello Club again for selecting me as the holder of the Caroline E. Riley Scholarship. I am humbled to receive this scholarship with my utmost gratitude.



Allen Zhou & Lee Duckles

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2014 / 2015 (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.....	\$ _____

ADULT ENSEMBLE CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Cello Club Adult Ensemble Class (last Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the VAM, Room 22B) held their annual Christmas play-in, this time at the home of Executive Member, Jean Ireland. A little squashed, but had lots of fun. Fifteen cellists created joyful Christmas music and new-to-us ensemble pieces brought by our President, Lee Duckles. Everyone contributed goodies and we all got right into the spirit of Christmas.



Judy Shaw, Beverley Grice
Katherine Roback



Leslie, Judy, Carl, Jon B, Judy S.
Katherine, Lee, Bettina, Paul W.



Janey, Angela, Leslie
Nick, Judy & Carl



Nick Read, Paul Westwick



Judy S, Katherine, Lee



Janey Bennett, Beverley Grice
Judy S.

Efe Baltacigil & Sung-Won Yang Masterclasses

Two Masterclasses were held at the VAM this past fall. On October 21st, **Efe Baltacigil** was co-presented by the Distinguished Artists' Series and the Vancouver Cello Club. He is currently the principal cellist of the Seattle Symphony.

Turkish cellist, EFE BALTACIGIL, made his debut with the Berlin Philharmoniker in September, 2012 with Sir Simon Rattle conducting. He also recently appeared as a soloist with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra and Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and performed the complete Beethoven Sonatas with pianist Benjamin Hochman in both Turkey and New York. After graduating from Mimar Sinan Conservatory in Istanbul, Efe studied at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia under Peter Wiley and David Soyer. Upon graduating, he won the Associate Principal Cello position in the Philadelphia Orchestra at the age of 23. In 2011, he won the principal position in the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. He has also been awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant. He plays on a Francesco Rugeri cello made in Cremona in 1680, on loan from a Turkish sponsor. Efe enjoys windsurfing, volleyball, sailing and drawing. The following students performed with Juan Wang, piano: Grace Sohn, Nicole Chung, Olivia Cho and Albert Seo.

On December 9th, SUNG-WON YANG was co-presented in the Koerner Recital Hall with the following students performing with Juan Wang, piano: Olivia Cho, Nicole Chung, Daniel Chung, Shawna Choi. Due to ferry cancellations, Ashley Green (Victoria), could not perform.

SUNG-WON YANG – An exclusive Universal Music Artist, Sung-Won Yang has appeared all over the world as a soloist and as a chamber musician. He has given highly acclaimed solo recitals and performances in prestigious concert halls such as the Musikverein in Vienna, the Salle Pleyel in Paris, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Alice Tully Hall at New York's Lincoln Center, the Terrace Theater at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., the Opera City Hall in Tokyo, the Symphony Hall in Osaka and the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing.

A native of Seoul, Korea, Sung-Won Yang graduated from the Paris Conservatory and Indiana University, where he was an assistant to Professor Janos Straker. He has served as a Juror to the Banff International Chamber Music Competition in Canada, Andre Navarra International Cello Competition in France, Cassado International Cello Competition in Japan. As a recipient of numerous awards, he is currently Professor of Cello at Yonsei University School of Music in Seoul and Visiting Professor at Royal Academy of Music in London.

Amateur Orchestra List

- Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra / Chris Buchner, 778-895-9213 / www.vannhil.ca / Auditions required / Wed: 7:30pm - 10pm Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver Cello space available
- Ambleside Orchestra / www.amblesideorchestra.ca / Monique Wilberg, 604-880-9140 or 604-990-4404 / mwilbern@shaw.ca No auditions required / Wed: 3:30pm - 5:30pm / Highlands United Church, 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 / Bev Blinkhorn, 604-940-0998 No auditions required / Fri: 10:00am - 12:00pm Willingdon Church, Burnaby Cello space available / looking for viola and violins & double bass
- North Shore Chamber Orchestra / Jean Ireland, 604-980-3132 / ieanairlandi@hotmail.com / See Facebook for NSCO events/news No auditions required / Wed: 7:30pm - 9:30pm / Sutherland Secondary School, North Vancouver All strings welcome

continued on Page 3...



Vancouver Cello Club – Dawn Binnington, Treasurer – 979 Beatty St., Vancouver, BC V6Z 3C5

Caroline E. Riley Scholarship

I hereby apply for this scholarship to be awarded in May, 2015.

- Please check: I am a member in good standing of The Vancouver Cello Club
 I am not a member of The Vancouver Cello Club
 I propose to leave my home base for further cello study at _____ on (approx. date): _____

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

continued from Page 2... Amateur Orchestra List

- A Little Night Music / www.alnm.ca / Peter Stigings, 604-261-6891 stigs@telus.net / No auditions required / Mon: 7:30pm - 9:30pm
 - Magee Secondary School / Vancouver Cello wait list
 - West Coast Symphony / www.westcoastsymphony.ca / Nick Urquhart, 778-994-6425 / wco@westcoastsymphony.ca
See Facebook for WCS events/news / Auditions required / Thurs: 7:30pm - 10:00pm VCC Broadway, Vcr / Cello availability varies
 - Fraser Valley Symphony / www.fraservalleysymphony.org / Kathy Klassen, 1-604-854-2024 (Abbotsford)
info@fraservalleysymphony.org / Informal auditions / Mon: 7:15pm - 9:45pm / Aldergrove Community Secondary School
Cello wait list, looking for violins and double bass
 - White Rock Community Orchestra / Roger Wecker, 604-592-9180 / rwecker@telus.net / No auditions required
Sat: 9:30am - 11:30am / Masonic Hall, White Rock / Looking for cellos and other strings
 - Brock House 55+ Orchestra / Ernie Fiedler, 604-736-5878 / erniefiedler@telus.net / No auditions required
Wed: 10:00am - 12:00pm / Brock House, Vancouver / Cello and winds space available, looking for bass
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Upcoming Events Winter/Spring 2015

Please visit the respective web sites for additional concert information

- **Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra** / www.vanphil.ca
 - Saturday February 21, 8pm at Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
 - Saturday April 11, 8pm at Capilano University Theatre, North Vancouver
 - Sunday April 12, 3pm at Capilano University Theatre, North Vancouver
 - Saturday May 30, 8pm, at Shaughnessy Heights United Church, Vancouver
 - **Ambleside Orchestra** / www.amblesideorchestra.ca
Main Stage Concerts:
 - Friday January 30, 8pm at Mount Seymour United Church, North Vancouver
 - Friday March 27, 8pm at Highlands United Church, North Vancouver
 - Friday May 22, 8pm at Mount Seymour United Church, North Vancouver
 - **A Little Night Music Orchestra** / www.alnm.ca
 - Monday March 2, 7:00pm at Magee Secondary School Theatre, Vancouver
 - Monday June 1, 7:00pm at Magee Secondary School Theatre, Vancouver
 - **West Coast Symphony** / www.westcoastsymphony.ca
 - Friday February 13, 8pm at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver
 - Sunday February 15, 2pm at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Richmond
 - Friday March 20, 8pm at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver
 - Saturday March 21, 7:30pm at Queens Avenue United Church, New Westminster
 - Friday May 1, 8pm at SFU Woodward's Wong Experimental, Vancouver
 - Saturday May 2, 7:30pm at Queen's Avenue United Church, New Westminster
 - Friday June 5, 8pm at Canadian Memorial United Church, Vancouver
 - Sunday June 7, 2pm at Bowen Island Community School, Bowen Island
 - **Fraser Valley Symphony** / www.fraservalleysymphony.org
 - Sunday February 1, 3pm at Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford
 - Sunday April 12, 3pm at Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford
 - Sunday June 7, 3pm at Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, Abbotsford
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Vancouver Cello Quartet Dates

(Lee Duckles, Olivia Blander, Cristian Markos, Brian Yoon)

- Saturday, Jan 24, at 8:00 pm, for the Maple Ridge Concert Society, 23575 124th Ave., Maple Ridge, BC V2X 4K3
- Sunday, Jan 25 at 3:00 pm, Mary Olsen Room, Vancouver Academy of Music - sponsored by the Vancouver Cello Club.
Admission by donation.
- Monday, Jan 26 at 10:30 am at Yaletown House, 1099 Cambie - (corner of Pacific and Cambie)
- Monday, Jan 26 at 7:00 pm at Crofton Manor, 2803 W. 41st, Vancouver
- Tuesday, Jan 27 at 10:00 am, Hycroft Mansion, 1489 McCrae (near 16th and Granville). Admission by prepaid tickets.
- Tuesday, Jan 27 at 7:00 pm, Hollyburn House, 2095 Marine Drive, West Vancouver - (corner of Marine and 21st)

I should point out that the care home concerts (Yaletown, Crofton Manor, and Hollyburn House) are free to the residents and feature a different program

THE VANCOUVER CELLO QUARTET

LEE DUCKLES

Formerly the Principal Cellist with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Lee received his early training in the San Francisco Bay Area and a degree in performance from the University of Illinois. An active soloist and chamber musician, he has performed in festivals in BC, Ontario, Alaska, Washington, California, Colorado, and South Korea. For the past 35 summers, he has been the Principal Cellist of the Cabrillo Music Festival of Contemporary Music in California. In Vancouver, Mr. Duckles has enjoyed an association with the Vancouver Academy of Music, The University of British Columbia, the Vancouver New Music Society – (a founding director and performer), the Masterpiece Music Series, and The Vancouver Chamber Players. He has recorded for the CBC, both as a performer and arranger, the Musical Heritage Society of America, Heliodor, Polydor, and Skylark Records. He is currently the Co-Director of the Vancouver Chamber Players and President of the Vancouver Cello Club.

OLIVIA BLANDER

Originally from Ottawa, Olivia completed her Masters of Music degree at Yale University in the studio of professor Aldo Parisot. She received her Bachelors degree from the Harid Conservatory (Boca Raton, Florida) where she studied with Canadian cellist Johanne Perron. Olivia has appeared frequently as a soloist and chamber musician on CBC radio, including the nationally broadcast "Debut Series". She has been a participant in several major summer festivals including classes at the Banff Centre for the Arts, and the fellowship program of the Tanglewood Music Centre. Olivia is currently a member of the VSO.

CRISTIAN MARKOS

Romanian-Canadian cellist Cristian Mats earned his B.Mus in Music Performance from the Music Academy in Bucharest, Romania. He went on to the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee for postgraduate studies with Mr. Wolfgang Laufer, late cellist of the renowned Fine Arts Quartet. For the 2012-2013 concert season, Cristian joined the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra as Associate Principal Cellist. As an accomplished symphony and chamber musician, he has toured with the Mont Blanc Symphony Orchestra under the baton of the late Maestro/cellist Mstislav Rostropovich, and as a soloist Cristian has performed on stages in Romania, France, Germany, Austria, Greece, Italy, United States, and Canada.

BRIAN YOON

Born in South Korea, Brian studied with Judith Fraser at the Vancouver Academy of Music, where he was awarded the Certificate in Music Performance. He has attended the international Morningside Music Bridge Program and the NAC's Young Artists Program, as well as participating in master classes at Banff, Domaine Forget and Orford. He completed a Bachelor of Music at the University of Ottawa studying with Paul Marleyn, and a Master of Music at Rice University with Desmond Hoebig. Recently, he completed a 10-concert tour across Canada as the Eckhart-Gramette Competition Winner, presenting a program focused on Canadian works. In the summer of 2013 he returned to Italy as part of Incontri Musicali, a three-week chamber music festival in Spoleto. Brian is currently the principal cellist of the Victoria Symphony where he recently performed the Schumann Cello Concerto to great critical acclaim.

THE PROGRAM:

❖ Barber of Seville Overture	Gioachino Rossini (arr. Moore) (1792 - 1868)
❖ Adagio	Tomaso Albinoni (arr. Thomas-Mifune) (1671 - 1751)
❖ Konzertwalzer, Op.31	Wilhelm Fitzenhagen (1848 -1890)
❖ Fratres (1982)	Arvo Pärt (born 1935)
❖ Sarabande	Claude Debussy (arr. Varga) (1862 - 1918)
❖ Polonaise de Concert, Op.14	David Popper (1843 - 1913)
❖ Concerto Grosso, Op. 3, No. 11	Antonio Vivaldi (arr. Varga) (1678-1741)
❖ Pavane	Maurice Ravel (arr. Birtel) (1875-1937)
❖ Por una cabeza	Carlos Gardel (arr. Johnstone) (1890-1935)
❖ Oblivion	Astor Piazzolla (arr. Drabkin) (1921-1992)
❖ Muerta del Angel	Astor Piazzolla (arr. Colon)
❖ Washington Post March	John Phillip Sousa (arr. Moore) (1854-1932)

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- **Koerner Quartet "Notes of Love & Protest"** - Sunday, February 15, 2pm VAM Koerner Recital Hall
Jocelyn Morlock String Quartet, *Vermillion*
Elvis Costello, *The Juliet Letter*, Alan Macdonald, baritone Britten String Quartet No. 2
 - **Koerner Quartet "Summer Serenade"** - Sunday, June 14, 2pm VAM Koerner Recital Hall
Puccini *Crisantemi*
Janacek Quartet No. 1 "Kreutzer Sonata"
Tchaikovsky "Souvenir de Florence"

THE PRO NOVA ENSEMBLE

2014-2015 Season Concerts

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

▪ SERIES ONE

- Sunday, November 2nd, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)
- Sunday, November 9th, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver)

Featuring:

Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel: String Quartet

Erwin Schulhoff: String Quartet No. 1

Franz Schubert: String Quintet in C Major, with Finn Manniche, cello

▪ SERIES TWO

- Wednesday, January 28th, 7:30 p.m. (at North Shore Unitarian Church* - 370 Mathers Ave, West Vancouver)
- Sunday, February 1st, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)

Featuring:

Haydn: String Quartet, Op. 54, No. 1

Beethoven: "Harp" String Quartet, Op. 74

David Stone: First Miniature String Quartet featuring talented students of the Pro Nova Ensemble

▪ SERIES THREE

- Wednesday, April 8th, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver)
- Sunday, April 12th, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)

Featuring:

The 30th Anniversary Concert featuring the Mendelssohn Octet

▪ SERIES FOUR

- Sunday, May 31st, 7:30 p.m. (at Mount Seymour United Church - 1200 Parkgate Ave., North Vancouver)
- Wednesday, June 3rd, 7:30 p.m. (at Kay Meek Centre - 1700 Mathers Ave., West Vancouver)

Featuring:

Pianist Rosemary O'Connor

This season, the West Vancouver evening concerto will be held at the above two locations.

Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra Dates

- ❖ **Senior Orchestra "Rising Stars"** – incl. Tate Zawadiak, cello (last mv't Shostakovich Concerto No. 1 in E^b Op. 107)
 - Sunday, Feb 15, 2015 – 7:30 p.m. / Kay Meek Centre West Vancouver
- ❖ **Junior Orchestra "Rising Stars" and Debut Orchestra**
 - Sunday, Mar 8, 2015 – 2:30 p.m. / Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver
- ❖ **Intermediate Orchestra "Rising Stars"** – incl. Constantine Yannakoulis, cello (JC Bach Concerto in C Minor)
 - Sunday Mar 8 – 2015 – 7:30 p.m. / Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver
- ❖ **VYSO 85th Anniversary Gala Concert – All Orchestras**
 - Sunday, May 17, 2015 – 2:30 p.m. / Chan Centre, UBC Vancouver

Scalés and exercises are essential for all string players, says Heinrich Schiff

Not all players regard exercises as important, but without a sound technical basis you cannot achieve your expressive potential, writes the cellist

Monday, 01 September 2014

Some 25 years of teaching have taught me that we players must always define what each of our motions at the cello represents - this is essential in order for us to be efficient artists capable of technical ease, great stamina, physical power and musical depth. To have control I must develop the ability to use my physical gestures economically and unconsciously. Craftsmanship - the non-musical aspect of playing, such as finger velocity, bowing technique, shifting and so on - should be studied separately from musical expression. Expressive possibilities are limited if the player is not at home with the instrument, and the further one goes away from 'home' the more the basics are needed.



This is why I believe in etudes and studies - and I still play scales - as Heifetz emphasised. I don't find this technical work pleasurable, but I do it anyway. A wonderful part of instrumental fitness can be found in exercises by Feuillard and Cossman for example..

MOUNTAINSIDE CHAMBER MUSIC



JEFF FARAGHER, Cellist & Director of Mountainside Chamber Music is Inviting **Violinists, Violists, Cellists and Bass Players** to join our expanding strings program (ages 12 +). Jeff brings his coaching and conducting experience as Artistic Director of the Symphony of the Kootenays to our growing musical community. Jeff enthusiastically collaborates with other professional instructors to enrich the program experience.

- String Players with previous training.....LISTEN... for the sound of your instrument calling you from the closet! Polish it up and join one of our fun and enriching ensembles in the New Year!
- Current String Students/Players.....consider expanding your musical horizons in 2015

NOW OFFERED IN NELSON AND NORTH SLOCAN VALLEY (Jan -June):

CEDAR HALL- Nelson: weekly on Tuesdays -begins January 27

*Large String Ensemble (5:00-6:30)
Cello Ensemble (6:30-8:00)

FAULKS STUDIO- Hills: bi-monthly on Wednesday - begins February 4, 2015

*Large String Ensemble (3:30-5:20)
Cello Ensemble (5:45- 7:15)

*Large Ensemble plays the same music pieces in Nelson and Hills. As part of tuition, registrants can attend either or both ensembles and once per month there are suggested (but optional) meetings in Nelson for the whole group. Final performances will be held at end of semester in both locations and both groups are strongly encouraged to participate with the whole group at both locations.

REGISTRATION for Winter/Spring Semester begins January 5, 2015

Contact **Sue Mistretta** for information on tuition and experience criteria for the programs at

mountainsidechambermusic@gmail.com or 250-358-2177.

Check out our website at: www.mountainsidechambermusic.com for calendar and details. Visit: www.jefffaragher.com

Mark your calendar! SUMMER CAMP dates are scheduled:

CELLO FOCUS: July 9-11 / CHAMBER STRINGS: July 13-17. More info to come.



The Toronto Music Garden — A Cellist's Oasis

By Bruce Townsend, with excerpts from the City of Toronto website.

How many public gardens are there in the world that are designed around a single work of music for cello? Until recently, I would have thought none. But there is at least one, and that not far from home.

I had recently read Eric Soblin's marvelous book "The Cello Suites" that had been lent to me by an acquaintance who knew I was an enthusiastic and earnestly optimistic adult cello student.

I was arranging with him for the book's return when he asked whether I knew about the Toronto Music Garden. I didn't, and so he told me about this wonderful little landscaped oasis along the Toronto waterfront that was inspired by these same Bach Cello Suites I had just been reading about.

Shortly after that, I had some work done on my cello in Toronto and so one fine Saturday in July, I drove there to pick up my instrument, planning to drive straight back to Ottawa that day. But once I was heading out on the road with my cello, it seemed far too nice an afternoon not to do something useful with. However, it had to be something I could do while lugging a cello case around with me. So the roller coasters at Canada's Wonderland were out. My friend's mention of the Toronto Music Garden came to mind, and on an impulse I pointed the car towards the lakeshore area. I had mistakenly thought it was a short walk from the Harbourfront Centre, but once I got straightened out (it's about a kilometer further west at 475 Queens Quay West) I found it, parked the car and went for a walk accompanied by my cello.

This really is a marvelous and quirky little spot. Set incongruously in a rather industrial setting, it's tucked along the lakeshore between a busy city street and a marina. But once inside the garden, the city sights and sounds for the most part disappear. The garden has six distinct sections, each named for and inspired by a movement from the first suite for unaccompanied cello by J. S. Bach. Rather self-consciously carrying my cello I strolled through the place, trying hard not to look like I was about to set up for a full performance of the Cello Suites. I did encounter one group on a guided tour who, on spotting the cello case I was carrying into the garden, seemed hopeful an impromptu Bach concert was about to break out. It was the sort of day and the sort of setting that, were I competent to do so, I rather think I would have. I'm not, and I didn't, but I wish I could have. It's a very inviting and peaceful setting, the kind of place that should invite cellists to spontaneously snap open the case and play for the sheer fun of it.

So, aspiring cellists take note: not many instruments get their own commemorative public garden. The fact that there is one dedicated to the cello says something about your chosen instrument and its ability to inspire art and architecture that transcends music.

If you ever have an hour, or an afternoon, to spend on a pleasant day in Toronto you could do worse than stroll through this oasis for cellists. And if you have the mastery of the first cello suite, please take your instrument with you, set up in some quiet corner, and treat the Music Garden to its source of inspiration. But call me first – I'll do my best to get there and hear what was missing from my first visit.