

TORONTO

News & Information Hotline: 416-421-0779 (24 hours)

Web: www.cammac.ca

email: toronto@cammac.ca

December 2008 - January 2009

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FROM YOUR COMMITTEE



I Really Look Forward To **Summer....Three Camps!**

In summer I get to see some good friends from around the world and play music with them. What could be better? Our camp odyssey started with Week 6 at CAMMAC Lake MacDonald. The site is one of my favourite places on earth - beside a lake

with cabins in the birch forest for practising and music-making. The energy is wonderful with many children and young people in attendance. Wind and brass players are generally a friendly, outgoing bunch - we always have a good time. Our 20-year-old comes with us and this summer had a blast with his friends of many years. We all caught up on the exciting, or not so exciting, events of the past year.

INFORMATION

For more information on CAMMAC Toronto Region activities, please visit our Internet site at www.cammac.ca or call our hotline at 416-421-0779 or email us at toronto@cammac.ca

The great thing about CAMMAC is the variety of activities available. We are roused from our night's sleep by a musical wake-up. After a shower, dress and breakfast, there is a 5-minute concert, announcements are made, the children go off to their programme and we have our vocal warm-up and choir. We then have 3 sessions: instrumental technique, vocal groups, chamber groups, jazz combo, dancing, Latin percussion, French conversation, drawing or Orff. Of course there is the choice of taking fewer classes and going for a walk in the woods or a swim in the lake - not something we tend to do - or even practising. Both the chamber group and repertoire were a surprise since we didn't go with a pre-formed group, but the coach (who sat with us all week) did wonders with the music and we learned a lot.

After the morning sessions, lunch is followed by "quiet hour" during which the teenagers play silent baseball on the field and many people nap, others sit and chat quietly in the dining room. In the afternoon one can arrange groups to play together or practise on one's own. There's a tennis court or canoes and rowboats, if swimming doesn't appeal. Actually the very enthusiastic can go for a swim across the lake at 6:30am with a rowboat oared by the lifeguard - also not something I've ever thought of doing!!

Continued on next page

Continued from page 1

Evenings: Monday there was a dance class, week 6 it's Latin dance or Salsa, Tuesday there was a concert by the faculty, Wednesday was cabaret night where we sat at tables with our wine or other drink (normally not allowed in the beautiful new Lucy Hall) and applauded our fellow participants enthusiastically. Thursday and Friday nights were faculty concerts and Saturday was participant concerts. As Week 6 is normally such a bumper week, small ensembles performed in the afternoon before the children's concert – the highlight of the week. The rest of the participant concert was in the evening - the hotdog roast was cancelled because of rain.

At the end of an invigorating week, you may think we're ready to take a rest, but actually went to **Bennington**, Vermont, for our second camp. We haven't been going there very long – it's only our third year – but this year we decided to attend Week 2. This camp is different in two ways – the programme includes only chamber music and we receive our music ahead of time so that we can prepare. We stayed on the beautiful campus of Bennington College, in the dorms, ate in the dining hall and walked to Jennings music building, on top of a hill over a river and lake, three times a day. If we were lucky we saw birds or frogs on the lake. The walk ensures that we earn our meals!! There are those who choose or need to drive there, though.

We had four pieces to prepare. We were coached one session in the morning and one in the afternoon for three days, followed by an hour-long concert, and then the other two pieces in the second half of the week, again followed by an hour's concert. The coaching is of a very high standard and the coach sits in the room with the group for the whole time. Some were in a group working with a composer on a new piece of music. There was also the option of electing to do only two pieces, one in each half of the week, or to be an "auditor". I put this in quotes because most people don't actually go and listen to other groups, but take the opportunity to play more with others. There are coordinators who organize the groups for the day, depending on who wants to play, and who also play in some of the groups.

There was also a children's programme. Their concert followed ours on the Saturday afternoon. Again it's a highlight of the week as we see the progress of these youngsters from year to year. There are not that many children, unlike CAMMAC, and most belong to staff members.

The rest of the time we had free to practise or to get together and play to our hearts' content. Jennings is open from 6am to 2am and some people take full advantage of those long hours!! The faculty was often willing to play with us in our groups and I had a wonderful session of Brahms' *Piano Quartet Opus 26* with a world-class violinist coach, a very good violist and a wonderful cellist who sight-read the piece with amazing results.

A highlight of the week was the alphorns that some people brought with them. The horn players and even some of the children had a go, and the campus echoed with the sounds of the mountains. There was a lecture on the Tuesday evening, a talk by an expert on music-related injuries. There was a faculty concert on the Wednesday evening which not everyone attended, some preferring to do their own music-making.

The faculty concert on Saturday evening was preceded by madrigal singing. There were binders for whomever wanted to join in and we ended as usual with *The Silver Swan*, sung very softly: a beautiful end to the day – not quite the boathouse on Lake Macdonald, but lovely nevertheless.

Our third camp was at a **Raphael Trio workshop** near Wilton, New Hampshire. The setting again was lovely and the food amazing – organically grown and beautifully prepared, including fresh bread each day.

This was the smallest camp – 35 participants, mostly strings, 3 winds and a limited number of pianists – but the coaching was again of a high standard. The coaches come around to two groups during each session, so you are coached only half the time, by a different coach each day. Again we prepared ahead, this time only three works, but we have three sessions each day of about an hour and forty-five minutes each. At the end of such an intense workday we were tired and not much was done in the way of informal music-making. We did try some, though.

Each evening at five o'clock the coaches did a "reading" of works provided by the students or a member of the faculty. The works were not new for everyone, but sometimes at least one member of the group was sight-reading on the fly with amazing results. The main organizers are the pianist and cellist of the Raphael Trio, Daniel Epstein and Susan Salm. In addition there were three violinists and two violists. In two of the years we've been they had a wind coach, but usually not.

We ended the week with concerts by the participants on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening. Not every group performed, but almost everyone played at least one piece.

The really hard thing about going from camp to camp, or from week to week, is saying goodbye to people. During one's time at camp, one spends so much time with a group, working on problems, laughing together and generally having a good time, that it's hard to stop. With each camp being so different, it's difficult to pick a favourite. We have been to Lake Mac each year since 1995, the Raphael Trio since 2004 and Bennington since 2006. We have made friends at each camp and it would be hard not to return to any one of them. I'd have to say, though, that to me Lake Mac feels like home.

Marion Wilk Treasurer, CAMMAC Toronto Region marion@wilk.tv







SINGERS

CAMMAC READING

Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Romancero gitano

Date: SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2009

Time: 2 PM SHARP. Please arrive 15 minutes early to set up.

Conductor: ISABEL BERNAUS

The Music: Romancero gitano reveals the poetry of Federico García Lorca, possibly the most important Spanish poet and

dramatist of the twentieth century, through the music of Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, an Italian composer living in America since WWII. Much of Lorca's work is infused with popular themes from Flamenco and Gypsy culture. Lorca's sometimes surreal poetry is full of images of striking intensity, drama and sorrow that translate extraordinarily well musically. *Romancero gitano* is a compilation of several of Lorca's poems in a seven movement piece for choir and guitar. Imbued with rich Spanish/Gypsy harmonies and colour, *Romancero gitano* offers many opportunities for chorus and guitar –together and separately- to display languid sensousness and

fiery virtuosity.

Born in Catalonia (Spain) and trained as a musician in both Europe and North America, Isabel Bernaus is an

accomplished conductor and music educator. She studied conducting and piano in Barcelona, Spain, Princeton, NJ, and Ontario, as well as music education in Catalonia, France and Québec, where she obtained a Master's

Degree in Music Education at Laval University.

Since moving to Toronto, Isabel has conducted two community choirs (Common Thread: Community Chorus of Toronto and Settlement Community Choir) and a chamber choir (The Jubilate Singers). She also teaches music at Sheridan College and in the Haliburton School of The Arts of Fleming College. She has participated in several choir events and workshops as guest conductor, where she often brings her love for World music. She was awarded an honourable mention at The 2006 Leslie Bell Prize for Choral Conducting, granted by the

Ontario Arts Council.

Place: Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street (2 blocks north of St. Clair Avenue) in Elliott Hall (enter from

Heath Street).

Orchestra Parts: Choir accompanied by a guitar. We encourage all singers to come and share the music.

Contact/Information: For more information please contact Kathy Gallyas, 416-925-6182, kathy.gallyas@gmail.com

Contribution: CAMMAC members \$6; non-members \$10; students free. We are asking people to show their membership

cards; so please try to remember to bring yours to readings.

Refreshments will be available for \$1 during the break.



SCHEDULE OF REMAINING READINGS, 2008-2009

All readings will be held in Elliott Hall, Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street, Toronto, from 2 pm sharp to 4:30 pm. All days are Sundays.

NOVEMBER 30, David Fallis, Bach & Handel, Christmas Choruses, singers and instrumentalists

JANUARY 18, 2009, Isabel Bernaus, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Romancero gitano, singers with guitar accompaniment.

MARCH 1, Erik Gero, Schubert Mass in A flat, singers and instrumentalists.

MARCH 22, Stephanie Martin, Bach B-minor Mass, singers and instrumentalists

APRIL 19, Roger Priddle, Healey Willan, singers with piano accompaniment.

MAY 31, Geoffrey Butler, Haydn The Seasons, singers and instrumentalists, AGM.



RECORDER PLAYERS' SOCIETY (RPS)

a branch of CAMMAC

The Recorder Players' Society meets on intermittent Friday evenings at the Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. E., between Yonge St. and Mount Pleasant Rd. We play from 7:30 pm until approximately 10 pm, with a short break. For registration and/or information please contact John Ferth at the Recorder Centre, 984 Dovercourt Rd., or by phone at 416-534-7931. The fee structure is a yearly fee of \$80 for members of CAMMAC. For those who prefer to pay per session, regular meetings are \$10 for CAMMAC members and \$12 for others, while coached sessions are \$15 and \$20 respectively. Please bring your own music stand. Also, bring your CAMMAC membership card with you on your first visit, which is free for newcomers. For further information call Ricci Balogh at 416-694-9266.

Remaining dates for the 2008-2009 season:

Dec. 5 (coach, Colin Savage), Jan. 9, Feb. 6, Feb. 27 (c), March 20, April 17; Sunday, April 26 (Spring Workshop), May 8 and May 29. (Other coaches tba.)

SCHEDULE OF REMAINING WORKSHOPS & ACTIVITIES, 2009

LOCATION: Please check location carefully, as it can vary for each workshop.

FEBRUARY 21 & 28, Chamber music, faculty p12, 9:20 am - 1:30 pm, location #2. SIGNUP BY DEC.31.

FEBRUARY 22, OMC Participants Concert, 2-4:30 pm, location #1

MARCH 7, Spanish Dance, Esmeralda Enrique, 2:30 - 5 pm, location #3

APRIL 25, Winds Workshop, Fran Harvey, 1:30 - 4 pm, location #1

APRIL 26, OMC Participants Concert, 2-4:30 pm, location #1

LOCATIONS

Northern District Library
 40 Orchard View Blvd.,
 block north of Eglinton & Yonge)

2. Private Home York Mills and Bayview area

3. Trinity St. Paul's Centre 427 Bloor St. West (Bloor St. west of Spadina)

ADVERTISING RATES

toronto.news@cammac.ca or CAMMAC Newsletter Editor, 83 Bellefair Avenue, Toronto, Ont., M4L 3T7

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Copy deadlines for the next issues in 2008/09 are:

Issue Copy Deadline

February/March, 2009 January 15, 2009

April/May/June March 15

Please make a note of these deadlines!!

Please send submissions by email to:

toronto.news@cammac.ca or by regular mail to CAMMAC Newsletter Editor, 83 Bellefair Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M4L 3T7, phone 416-694-9266



SINGERS & INSTRUMENTALISTS

CAMMAC READING

Schubert: Mass in A flat

Date: SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2009

Time: 2 PM SHARP. Please arrive 15 minutes early to set up.

Conductor: ERIK GERO

Music: This mass can be regarded as the Missa Solemnis of Schubert. He spent three years, an unusually long time for Schubert, composing it. He planned to dedicate the piece to the Emperor in the hope of obtaining the position of court composer. On the advice to the Emperor by the leader of the court orchestra that "The Mass was good,

but not composed in the Style which the Emperor likes", Schubert's application was declined and he decided not to dedicate the mass at all. This ended his hopes for a position for life. Schubert considered the work as one

of his finest.

Biography: Erik Gero was born in Budapest, Hungary. He first studied engineering, then attended and graduated from the

Franz Liszt Music Academy in Budapest. As a member of the *Franz Liszt Chamber Choir* he was involved in several recording projects, festivals and tours, amongst others a North American tour and participation in the *International Choral Festival* at Yale University in New Haven, CT. For a five year period, he was assistant conductor with the *Népszínház Opera Company* in Budapest where he conducted over 200 performances. In 1989, he moved to Canada and settled in Toronto with his family. Here, he worked as music director and organist at various churches. In 1998, he won first prize with his choral compositions at the *International Amadeus Choral Competition*. Erik moved to the Niagara Region, and from 2004 - 2007, he directed the *Peninsula Symphony Orchestra*. At present, he is conducting the *Scola Cantorum Chamber Choir* in Toronto.

Place: Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street (2 blocks north of St. Clair Avenue) in Elliott Hall (enter from

Heath Street).

Orchestra Parts: The orchestration of the A flat major mass is for full orchestra: flute, oboe I & II, clarinet I & II, bassoon I & II,

horn I & II, trumpet I & II, trombone I, II, & III and a pair of tympani, strings, organ, four soloists and a choir

(SSAATTBB).

All players of above instruments are welcome. We encourage you to come and share the music.

Instrumentalists: Please register in advance with Kathleen Mackenzie, 416-283-7659, k mackenzie@sympatico.ca so we can bring

enough copies of the parts!

Contact/Information: For more information please contact Kathy Gallyas, 416-925-6182, kathy.gallyas@gmail.com

CAMMAC members \$6; non-members \$10; students free. We are asking people to show their membership

cards; so please try to remember to bring yours to readings.

Refreshments will be available for \$1 during the break.



Please bring your music stand!!

CONCERTS

cantemus*, Sing We and Chant It, a program of 16th c. madrigals & sacred choral music. Beach United Church, 2 Bellefair Ave. \$15, sr/stu \$10. 416-578-6602 or www.cantemus.ca

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29, 8 pm

OAKHAM HOUSE CHOIR*. 'Hymn of Praise', a symphonic cantata by Mendelssohn. Christmas carol sing-along. With the Toronto Sinfonietta and soloists Eunsil Choi, Chantelle Grant and Cory Knight. Conductor Matthew Jaskiewicz. Bloor Street United Church, 300 Bloor St. W. between Spadina and St. George. \$25 at door, \$20 in advance, students \$15. 416-214-0183 ext 13.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29, 7:30 pm

SCARBOROUGH BEL CANTO CHOIR*, "A Bel Canto Christmas" director Virginia Gallop Evoy. St. Dunstan of Canterbury Church, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Tickets are \$15 at the door. 416-699-4585, www.belcantochoir.com. SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2:30 and 7:30 pm

ALL THE KING'S VOICES, Cathedral Carols, Songs of the Season, David King, Artistic Director. Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd. \$15, children under 12 free. 416-225-2255.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30, 4 pm

THE UPPER CANADA CHORISTERS*, Christmas Classics, with Cantemos, director Laurie Evan Fraser, featuring La Parranda. St. John's York Mills Anglican Church, 9 Don Ridge Dr. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, children under 12 free. Please bring non-perishable food items for the food bank, 416-256-0510.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5, 8pm

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF MISSISSAUGA "Footsteps From Our Past" Premiere performance of Barbara Croall: *Songs of the Coyote*, for string quartet, aboriginal flute and percussion. Narrator, Jeff Legacy. The Great Hall of the Unitarian Congregation of Mississauga, 84 S. Service Rd (E of Hwy 10, S of the QEW). \$30, sr \$25, st \$12, family (2 adults+ 2 ch) \$80. 905-848-0015

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6, 8 pm

*COUNTERPOINT COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA WITH FORTE MEN'S CHOIR, director Terry Kowalczuk. Sibelius: Karelia Suite, Copeland: Quiet City, Williams: Raiders of the Lost Ark, Offenbach: Orpheus in the Underworld, Mussorgski-Rimsky-Korsakov: Night on Bald Mountain, etc. St Luke's United Church, 353 Sherbourne St. \$15 in advance (at Lettieri on Church St) or \$18 at the door. 416-925-9872 x 2066, or 416-802-1082, www.ccorchestra.org.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6, 8 pm

MCMICHAEL GALLERY, Glynis Ratcliffe, Soprano. Aria from the opera, Maria Chapdelaine, and other vocal selections. Free with admission to gallery, Kleinburg. 416-421-4184.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 1:30 pm

THEATRE ORGAN CONCERT AT CASA LOMA, Dave Wickerham, Southern California. 1 Austin Terrace. \$20 in advance or \$21 at the door. 416-499-6262, www.theatreorgans.com/toronto/.

MONDAY DECEMBER 8, 8 pm

ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL, A Christmas Overture. Conductors: Jerzy Cichocki, Caton Daley, Teri Dunn. Special Guests: True North Brass. Massey Hall. \$36.50-\$22.50. 416-872-4255, www.masseyhall.com/.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12, 8 pm SATURDAY DECEMBER 13, 3 pm

NYCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS "Christmas Choral Concert". Excerpts from Handel's Messiah and a selection of holiday carols. Grace Church-on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road, Toronto (St Clair and Spadina). Adults \$15, children under 12 free. 416-628-9195. www.nyco.on.ca SUNDAY DECEMBER 13, 3 pm

THE EAST YORK CHOIR*, "Winter's Night". Seasonal and sacred choral and instrumental selections. Artistic director Jenny Crober, accompanist Elizabeth Acker, special guests Daniel Rubinoff saxophone, Ray Dillard percussion and Charlie Roby guitar. Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave. (W. of Chester). \$20, sr \$15, st \$10. www.eastyorkchoir.ca. 416-463-8225 or 416-425-3812 SATURDAY DECEMBER 13, 7:30 pm

*FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT. Vocal and instrumental solos and ensembles, sing-along carols. St.Paul's Lorne Park Anglican Church, 1190 Lorne Park Rd. Mississauga. 905-278-4765. Donations at the door support The Compass Food Bank and Drop-In-Centre, Port Credit SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 3 pm

TORONTO MASS CHOIR: A Gospel Christmas, Choir & Organ Concert, Karen Burke, conductor; Christopher Dawes, organ; Joy Brown, piano. Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. Toronto - FREE Admission. 416-872-4255. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 12 Noon

MCMICHAEL GALLERY, Pat Collins, jazz ensemble. Free with admission to gallery, Kleinburg. 416-421-4184. SUNDAY JANUARY 4, 1:30 pm

MCMICHAEL GALLERY, Abbey's Meltdown. Free with admission to gallery, Kleinburg. 416-421-4184. SUNDAY JANUARY 18, 1:30 pm

MCMICHAEL GALLERY, Bethune Flute ensemble. Free with admission to gallery, Kleinburg. 416-421-4184. SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1, 1:30 pm

* CAMMAC member(s) involved in this concert.

NYCO SYMPHONY CHORUS

NYCO Symphony Chorus invites new members of all voice types to join - no audition is required. Rehearsals are Monday evenings from 7:00-9:30 pm at Davisville Jr. Public School with Music Director, David Bowser.

Performances with the NYCO Symphony Orchestra are held at Grace Church on-the-Hill. This season's repertoire includes Handel's Coronation Anthems and Faure's Requiem. For further information call 416-628-9895 or email chorus@nyco.on.ca

JUBILATE SINGERS

The JUBILATE SINGERS is welcoming new sopranos and tenors to join during the season. We have a thrilling program coming up, "An Evening in Spain", with Spanish music and dance (including Castelnuovo-Tedesco's Romancero gitano). And to end the season, some chamber jazz for choir accompanied by a jazz quartet. Visit www.jubilatesingers.ca/join.html.



MUSICAL CHAIRS

Are you looking for a music mate, someone with whom to make some music? We keep a list of others also looking! Please get in touch with our Musical Chairs group. Call 416-962-4847.

EMAIL AND/OR ADDRESS CHANGES

PLEASE: Whenever your contact information changes, please remember to notify CAMMAC headquarters. We receive our mailing lists from them, so - please - keep us current by keeping HQ informed!!

Toll free: 1-888-622-8755 or national@cammac.ca

SEASONAL SIZZLE PUZZLE!

In this word search puzzle you should be able to find all the listed words below. None appear more than once. They are written horizontally, vertically or diagonally, forward or backward. Some letters may be part of more than one word. After finding all the words, you should have 21 letters left over. Theses letters form our secret message. Enjoy!

In alphabetical order, the thirty-one words hidden in this puzzle are:

Bells, Carol, Christmas, Elves, Fir, Hanukkah, HoHoHo, Holly, Hopes, Ice, Life, Lights, Look, Mistletoe, Or, Peace, Pure, Rapt, Reindeer, Rooftops, Santa, See, Share, Shining, Sing, Sit, Sleigh, Snowflakes, Still, Thrill, Tree

Good luck!

E
RLE
IEVTR
FCIESIT
ENSST
RTDHNEH
USHESSOEG
PEACEHHSWAI
ORKNAROCIEFIL
KSTRHPHNNOL
UKBAONERGTITA
NEOTELTSIMRPNOK
ABEOYLLOHSHAREGJE
HGIELSOLLLTROOFTOPS

LSM IYA

TIS

SEE

SCARBOROUGH BEL CANTO CHOIR

Scarborough Bel Canto choir is looking for new members! We are a 40 voice, community based SATB choir. New members are auditioned to determine voice range and suitability. Repertoire includes folk, movies, swing, Broadway and classical selections. This year we welcome Virginia Gallop Evoy as choir director. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 7:30 until 10 pm at St. Nicholas Anglican Church near Warden and Kingston Roads. Website: www.belcantochoir.com Contact Elaine Joly at 416-699-4585 for further information.

ONTARIO MUSIC CENTRE, AUGUST 2-16, 2009

Greetings from Artistic Director Michael Occhipinti:

The two weeks of music camp we ran at Lakefield in 2008 were great fun for everyone who attended, including my own family and the faculty, also. I can't believe that 3 months have passed already! I'm pleased to say that most of last year's faculty and programming received enthusiastic, positive feedback and that many of you made helpful suggestions for improving the camp in 2009. The OMC committee and I have been reviewing all of the feedback forms and the opinions offered up at the two focus groups that were held, and we are working very hard to act on the suggestions or criticisms that came up. One comment we heard many times was that continuity in the faculty and programming is important to many participants.

Most of last year's faculty has informed me that they would love to come back, and we're also inviting back some beloved long time instructors such as Barry Peters (choir Week 2) and Colin Clarke (percussion). Instructors including Elinor Frey (cello), Louis Simao (accordion, bass, piano), Barry Romberg (jazz combo, drums, percussion ensemble), Angela Rudden (viola), Dominique LaPlante (violin), Les Allt (flute), Maryem Tollar (Arabic vocals), Ernie Tollar (saxophone, world music), Erna Van Daele (orchestra), John Kraus (woodwinds), Jenny Crober (piano, choir) have told me they would like to return in 2009 (If your favourite faculty member isn't on this incomplete list, don't despair as a few people are just waiting to resolve their summer schedules, and I'm still in the process of confirming everyone).

I am hoping to add to or improve upon the courses we offered last year, and have a few ideas aimed at singers in particular. For example, in Week 1 we'll have a jazz combo aimed at vocalists and instrumentalists together called The Billie Holiday/Ella Fitzgerald songbook, exploring the great jazz standards performed by the two famous singers alongside some of the great instrumentalists in jazz. In Week 2 I'd like to have a flute or woodwind choir. Other new courses I'm developing are a Joni Mitchell/Leonard Cohen songbook repertoire class for singers interested in Canadian content, a Portuguese Fado vocal class (the very haunting and emotional sentimental songs of Portugal), a jazz theory or music history class, and Barry Peters will offer a sight singing/ear training class. We're also working very hard to create a better space for informal night time jamming.

In short, my impression is that most people left last year's camp feeling great about the music they were able to perform and hear, and my goal is to retain much of what we did while offering a few variations this coming summer. Please circle August 2nd and August 9th in your 2009 calendars, and more news, an updated website, and confirmed faculty and courses will be coming your way soon.

I look forward to making music with you again this summer. Let's keep reminding everyone that "ordinary" Canadians make great music!

Michael Occhipinti

OTHER OMC NEWS

Share your pictures and chat with OMC friends. Join our Facebook site:

Search CAMMAC-Lakefield. Request to join the group (below Michael Occhipinti's name).

We would like to inform you that Leah Bell has resigned from her position as Administrator for the Ontario Music Centre. We have valued Leah's dedication and commitment to our organization over the past 2 years. We will miss her warm smile and welcoming presence. We wish Leah all the best as she moves on to other endeavours.

We are currently looking for a new Administrator for OMC and would ask that you circulate the following advertisement among individuals you feel might have an interest in the position:



ADMINISTRATOR POSITION, OMC

Administrator Position: CAMMAC Ontario Music Centre The Ontario Music Centre (OMC) is currently seeking a part-time Administrator for its summer music program in Lakefield, Ontario. The successful candidate will be a positive team player with excellent organizational and communication skills. The ideal candidate is at ease dealing with the public and has proven skills in office administration. Computer literacy is essential (Word, Excel and data base programs). Familiarity with the world of amateur music making would be a strong asset. This position is based on a twenty-one hour work week on average from September through July and full time on-site attendance at the music centre at Lakefield College School for the last week of July and the first three weeks of August. A letter expressing your interest and your CV should be emailed to joy.simmonds@sympatico.ca by December 1, 2008. We will acknowledge receipt of all applications.

PARTICIPANTS' CONCERTS 2009

COME AND JOIN US!!! PARTICIPANTS'CONCERTS Sunday February 22 and Sunday April 26.

Participants' Concerts have provided enjoyable occasions for performers to show their stuff, sometimes to their own amazement, while the audience has a good time as well. The Concerts give us a chance to refresh our memories of summer music camp and in particular, offer the pleasure of performing for others, whether solo or as a group, in our favourite, accepting CAMMAC atmosphere. In the late winter and early spring we'll have the chance of getting together again. If you are anywhere near the Toronto area on the afternoon of February 22 or April 26, do plan to join us for one or both of the CAMMAC OMC participants' concerts for 2009, either to perform or to listen to the concert, and especially to participate in the social time afterwards.

While you are enjoying refreshments you can catch up on all the news, and plan musical collaborations for this summer at Lakefield

There's no charge to perform or just to attend, but OMC incurs costs in putting on the concerts, and donations to defray those costs are very welcome.

The concerts will be from 2 to 4:30 pm at the Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd. upstairs (handicapped accessible by elevator). It is one block north of Yonge and Eglinton (Subway station), and for those who come by car there's a new pay and display parking lot immediately to the west of the library.

The performance rules are very simple. Play or sing whatever you love, with as many others as you like, as long as your performance doesn't exceed 8 minutes. One member of each group must be a CAMMAC member but do gather others as ensemble members or audience. We are looking forward to an afternoon of shared music-making with old and new friends.

The concert will be great fun BUT ONLY if everyone remembers to send in their performance information by February 8 for the first Concert, April 11 for the second. You don't have to be a virtuoso to perform. You and your group just have to enjoy making music.

Please contact Pat Agnew at 416-694-9848 or agnewpat@hotmail.com with the following information: your name, phone number and e-address; the title of the work,

the composer, the name and instrument/voice of all performers,

ACCURATE timing, and whether you have any special requirements/wishes for the performance. If you use e-mail, please put "OMC" in the subject line of your message.

[Please note: tax receipts are available for donations of \$20 or more.]

Hymn of Praise

A symphonic cantata by Felix Mendelssohn

Suite of Carols – Leroy Anderson Christmas carol sing-along

Oakham House Choir

of Ryerson University

Toronto Sinfonietta

Music director: Matthew Jaskiewicz Soloists: Eunsil Choi, Chantelle Grant, Cory Knight, Jacqueline Hung

Saturday, November 29, 2008, 7:30 p.m. Bloor Street United Church

300 Bloor St. W. between Spadina and St. George

\$25 at the door | \$20 in advance | students \$15

Tickets and information: 416-214-0183 x13

PLAYING / SINGING OPPORTUNITIES

RPS, See page 4 for dates and times of recorder players' meetings and workshops.

TEMPO: Seasonal Frolics - A festive party of singing and playing of seasonal music, and feasting on home-baked goodies. Linda Deshman with Chris McClymont; Linda is a skilled viol player and all-round musician; both Linda and Chris are singers with the Toronto Chamber Choir. Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Avenue, Toronto. 705-653-5480, 416-537-3733. \$20.*

SUNDAY DECEMBER 7, 1: 30 - 4 pm.

TEMPO: Recorder or Hurdy Gurdy? Tobie Miller, hurdy gurdy and recorder teacher and performer with Ensemble La Rota, Skye Consort; studied early music at McGill University and is pursuing advanced studies in medieval recorder. Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Avenue, Toronto. 705-653-5480, 416-537-3733. \$20* Sunday SUNDAY JANUARY 4, 1: 30 pm. - 4 pm.

TEMPO: Recorder Virtuosity – Music of Scotland and Scandinavia. Alison Melville, performer with the Toronto Consort and Tafelmusik; teaches recorder and flute at Oberlin College and University of Toronto. Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Avenue, Toronto. 705- 653-5480, 416-537-3733. \$20*

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1, 1: 30 pm - 4 pm.

*Bring your early instruments and stand; music available at the door.

SYMMETRICAL SUDOKU SOLUTION

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PRIVACY NOTICE

If you do not want your name and personal information known to other CAMMAC members, please make sure that next time you renew your membership, you mark the appropriate box at the bottom of the application form.

CAMMAC TORONTO REGION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2008 - 2009

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^{*}Toronto Region representative to the National Board

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^{* *}RPS (Recorder Players' Society) representative

^{***}OMC (Ontario Music Centre) representative





HOORAY FOR AMATEURS!

WHY should real musicians - the ones who can actually play their instruments - have all the fun?

Some years ago, a group of frustrated people in Scotland decided that the pleasure of playing in an orchestra should not be limited to those who are good enough to do so, but should be available to the rankest of amateurs. So we founded the Really Terrible Orchestra, an inclusive orchestra for those who really want to play, but who cannot do so very well. Or cannot do so at all, in some cases.

My own playing set the standard. I play the bassoon, even if not quite the whole bassoon. I have never quite mastered C-sharp, and I am weak on the notes above the high D. In general, I leave these out if they crop up, and I find that the effect is not unpleasant. I am not entirely untutored, of course, having had a course of lessons in the instrument from a music student who looked quietly appalled while I played. Most of the players in the orchestra are rather like this; they have learned their instruments at some point in their lives, but have not learned them very well. Now such people have their second chance with the Really Terrible Orchestra.

The announcement of the orchestra's founding led to a great wave of applications to join. Our suspicion that there were many people yearning to play in an orchestra but who were too frightened or too ashamed to do anything about it, proved correct. There was no audition, of course, although we had toyed with the idea of a negative audition in which those who were too good would be excluded. This proved to be unnecessary. Nobody like that applied to join.

Some of the members were very marginal musicians, indeed. One of the clarinet players, now retired from the orchestra for a period of re-evaluation, stopped at the middle B-flat, before the instrument's natural break. He could go no higher, which was awkward, as that left him very few notes down below. Another, a cellist, was unfortunately very hard of hearing and was also hazy on the tuning of the strings. As an aide-mémoire, he had very sensibly written the names of the notes in pencil on the bridge. This did not appear to help.

At the outset, we employed a professional conductor, which is a must for anybody who is reading this and who is already planning to start a similar orchestra.

Find somebody who is tolerant and has a sense of humor. The conductor also has to be sufficiently confident to be associated with something called the Really Terrible Orchestra; after all, it does go on the résumé.

Our initial efforts were dire, but we were not discouraged. Once we had mastered a few pieces - if mastered is the word - we staged a public concert. We debated whether to charge for admission, but wisely decided against this. That would be going too far.

So should we go to the other extreme and pay people to come? There was some support for this, but we decided against it. Instead, we would give the audience several free glasses of wine before the concert. That, it transpired, helped a great deal.

We need not have worried. Our first concert was packed, and not just with friends and relations. People were intrigued by the sheer honesty of the orchestra's name and came to see who we were. They were delighted. Emboldened by the rapturous applause, we held more concerts, and our loyal audience grew. Nowadays, when we give our annual concert at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the hall is full to capacity with hundreds of music-lovers. Standing ovations are two-a-penny.

"How these people presume to play in public is quite beyond me," wrote one critic in The Scotsman newspaper. And another one simply said "dire." Well, that may be so, but we never claimed to be anything other than what we are. And we know that we are dire; there's no need to state the obvious. How jejune these critics can be!

Even greater heights were scaled. We made a CD and to our astonishment people bought it. An established composer was commissioned to write a piece for us. We performed this and recorded it at a world premiere, conducted by the astonished composer himself. He closed his eyes. Perhaps he heard the music in his head, as it should have been. This would have made it easier for him.

There is now no stopping us. We have become no better, but we plow on regardless. This is music as therapy, and many of us feel the better for trying. We remain really terrible, but what fun it is. It does not matter, in our view, that we sound irretrievably out of tune. It does not matter that on more than one occasion members of the orchestra have actually been discovered to be playing different pieces of music, by different composers, at the same time. I, for one, am not ashamed of those difficulties with C-sharp. We persist. After all, we are the Really Terrible Orchestra, and we shall go on and on. Amateurs arise - make a noise.

By ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH, Published: March 9, 2008.

Alexander McCall Smith is the author of the forthcoming novel

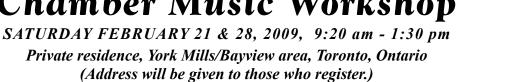
"The Miracle at Speedy Motors."

www.alexandermccallsmith.co.uk/



NEW PRICE! torontdartscouncil Chamber Music Workshop

Private residence, York Mills/Bayview area, Toronto, Ontario (Address will be given to those who register.)



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31, 2008

CAMMAC Toronto Region will be holding a chamber music workshop on Saturdays February 21st and 28th, 2009 from 9:20 am to 1:30 pm. The venue will be at a private residence in the York Mills/Bayview area. The workshop is for pre-formed string, wind or mixed ensembles, with or without piano, from 2 to 8 people each and will be in a masterclass format. You are expected to prepare a work of your choice and will be coached for about 50% of the time (i.e. there will be one coach for every two ensembles). The other 50% of the time you will be able to observe another group being coached.

The workshop comprises both sessions and you will have the opportunity to perform a movement from your coached work after the workshop (at 2 pm on February 28th) if your ensemble so wishes. The price per ensemble is \$250 \$200 (\$150 for ensembles comprised only of students). Auditors are welcome at \$15 for one session and \$25 for both sessions. There is an

additional charge of \$20 for every member of an ensemble that is not a CAMMAC member (\$10 for students).

Please register early, as the number of ensembles that we can accommodate is very limited. We will accept registration on a first come first served basis. Registrations are subject to availability of accommodation (and piano or harpsichord) and will only be accepted with payment in full.

Registrations close on December 31st, 2008. Please indicate a) the names of the participants and b) whether a piano or harpsichord is required. Please make a note to bring music stands as well as a score for your coach.

The coaches for the workshop will, depending on enrollment, be Rona Goldensher (violin) of the Windermere String Quartet, Leonie Wall (flute) of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Jenny Crober (piano) of North 44.

For more information please contact Roland Wilk, 416-356-2303, roland@wilk.tv. Detach and mail form to: CAMMAC CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP, 57 York Road, Toronto, Ontario, M2L 1H7

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31, 2008

Chamber Music Workshop

S	aturday February 21 8	. 28, 2009, 9 am -	1:30 pm
Name (main contact):			
Address:			
	Evenings		
Group members: (Name &	phone for each please)		
WORKSHOP FEE: per gro	oup, both Saturdays, \$200; surch	arge for each non-CAMM	AC member, x \$20 =
Per student group, both Sat	urdays, \$150; surcharge for each	h non-CAMMAC membe	er, x \$10 =
Auditor(s) x \$15 (one	session); x \$25 (both sess	ions).	Amount paid: \$
METHOD OF PAYMENT:	cheque money	order VISA	Piano/harpsichord needed:
For VISA payment: card n	umber		YN
	Expiry of		
Cheque: Please make cheq	ue payable to CAMMAC Toron	o Region.	
	DETACH AND M	AIL THIS FORM TO:	

CAMMAC CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP, 57 York Road, Toronto, Ontario, M2L 1H7