

Amadeus

February 2010 Volume 2, Issue 3

Newsletter

A publication of the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta, Inc.

Pro-Mozart Society Competition

St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church 3110 Ashford Dunwoody Road, Atlanta, GA 30319 Sunday, February 7, at 2:00 PM



Sally Rose Clement, Mezzo-Soprano



Joan Estep, Soprano



Alexis Lundy, Soprano



Laura Peacock, Soprano



Diliana Slavova, Pianist



Evgenia Sverdlova, Violinist



Tiffany Tieu, Violinist



Mitchell Yaksh, Flutist

The nine contestants shown here are competing for the prestigious 2010 Pro-Mozart Scholarship. The winner will receive a \$4,000.00 scholarship for study at the Summer Academy of the Mozarteum Institute in Salzburg, Austria.

Each finalist will perform a Mozart composition of his or her choice, and then perform selections requested by the judges. After spending the summer at the Mozarteum, the winner will be presented in concert sponsored by the Pro-Mozart Society in the spring of 2011.

Jenny Ham and Michael Knight, Co-VP's of Scholarship, urge all members to bring friends and future scholarship applicants to the competition finals since the level of talent this year is outstanding.

Following the competition, there will be a "Meet the Artists" reception in Gable Hall at which time the winner will be announced.

Our five competition judges are: Madonna Brownlee, Herb Buffington, Marilyn Dietrichs, Mary Ann Hill-Meehan, and Chris Sarzen.



Jennifer Zuiff, Soprano



Christopher Sarzen, 2008 scholarship winner, and pianist Robert Levin, his professor at the Mozarteum having lunch at Tamarind Thai in Atlanta.



The great Mozart scholar and interpreter, Robert Levin, performed with the ASO 10 days ago. Mr. Levin is world renowned as one of the few pianists in the world who improvises Mozart cadenzas to the concertos, and true to form, he improvised three wonderfully unique cadenzas in the style of Mozart during his ASO performances. Mr. Levin, who among other distinctions has completed a frequently performed version of Mozart's unfinished Requiem, is Professor of Music at Harvard University and Professor of piano at the Sommerakademie Mozarteum. Christopher Sarzen, who studied with Levin at the Mozarteum summer 2008 as Laureate of the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta's competition, had the joyous opportunity of reuniting with his mentor during this time. As always, Levin's keen and incisive musical intellect and human warmth abound in his words of wisdom and music making. I highly recommend his class to any pianist attending the Sommerakademie.

PAST SCHOLARHIP WINNER HIGHLIGHT:

Laura English-Robinson was our scholarship winner in 1980, and will be featured in a joint concert sponsored by Pro-Mozart, The Atlanta Music Club, and Spelman College, Sunday afternoon, November 7, at Sisters Chapel. This concert will begin at 4:00 and is free and open to the public.

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Laura English-Robinson received her B.A. degree from Spelman College and M.M. degree from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. She has been a scholarship recipient and vocal fellow at the Berkshire Music Center (Tanglewood), the Brevard Music Center, the Mozarteum in Salzburg and the AIMS summer study program in Graz, Austria. She has toured Italy, the United States, and South America performing in chamber, solo, orchestra, and opera performances. She was also the winner of Italy's Golden Puccini Vocal Competition and recipient of the Sullivan Foundation Awards, Pro-Mozart Society Music Scholarship, Mayor's Fellowship in the Arts (City of Atlanta) and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Artistic Achievement Award.

Mrs. English-Robinson has performed on numerous occasions with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with Robert Shaw, Yoel Levi and Robert Spano. She made her New York debut at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and later returned for performances at Alice Tully Hall. She has performed in recitals throughout the United States, at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., Spivey Hall in Atlanta, Piccolo Festival in Charleston, SC, and as soloist with the Chattanooga, Montgomery, Lexington, DeKalb, and Albany Symphonies and Orchestra Atlanta. Equally at home with opera as with recitals, oratorio, and chamber music, she has

performed operatic roles from standard to contemporary operas, including the title role for the world premiere of the opera *Zabette* by composer Curtis Bryant and librettist Mary Bullard. Mrs. English-Robinson recently completed a six-week summer performance tour of *Porgy and Bess* in Paris (France), Granada (Spain), Caen (Normandy) and returned in October 2008 for additional performances in Luxembourg.

Mrs. English-Robinson is presently on the voice faculty at Spelman College, a member of Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honor Society, The National Association of Teachers of Singing, Delta Omicron Music Fraternity, National Coordinator of *Collegiate Young Artists Concerts* for the National Association of Negro Musicians, and a member of the Buckhead/Cascade City Chapter of the Links, Inc. She is a lifetime member of the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta where she serves as Founder/Director of the *Singing Sisters*, a thirty-five voice women's ensemble.

A Message from Our President



We are in for a REAL TREAT as we begin our 2010 programs! Our first concert is our SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION, February 7th beginning at 2:00 PM. This, as well as our other concerts this season, will be at St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church, 3110 Ashford Dunwoody Road, Atlanta 30319

We are most grateful to Ingrid Siegert and St. Martin's for allowing us to be their guests for our next 4 concerts!

I was Madonna Brownlee's "Proxy" for our preliminary judging; and I assure you that I am glad that I'm NOT a judge for our competition. The talent is so amazing and outstanding that it will NOT be easy to choose a winner this year. We received 12

applications and 9 finalists were chosen to compete for the \$4,000.00 Scholarship to study at the Mozarteum this summer. I will not list them here, since you can read about each one on the front pages of this Amadeus. We welcome our two new judges: Herb Buffington and Chris Sarzen, who will be joining Madonna Brownlee, Marilyn Dietrichs, Mary Ann Hill-Meehan who have been outstanding judges for the past several years

Please make your plans NOW to be with us for Marlissa Hudson's concert, March 21st, Kristin Centers concert, April 18th, and our Members and Friends concert, May 2nd.

We are pleased to announce A BIG FIRST for Atlanta! Pro-Mozart, The Atlanta Music Club, and Spelman College will sponsor a Joint Concert, Sunday afternoon, November 7th beginning at 4:00 o'clock at Sisters Chapel. This special concert will be free and open to the public; so make a note of it now. This is one that you WILL NOT WANT TO MISS! (More about it later). I look forward to seeing you at the competition, and please arrive on time in order to get the best seats.

Yours for great music, Kevin Pritchett

Musical Entertainment at the Gala



Raymond Schutt. Pianist, and Jane Nauman, Gala Chairman



Christmas Carolers



Karla Henriquez, Violist



Sandra Taylor, Chela Sullivan, Elsa LeBlanc at the Gala



June and Derrell Ray with host gift of huge diamond



Kudos to Amanda and Larry Price for the lovely and delicious food.



Rex and Joy Sims



Don and Marilyn Dietrichs



June Ray, Chris & Kathryn Sarzen





Page 4

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Madonna and Ken Brownlee



Shirley Ebert & Lance Solaroli



Denise DeChamplain & Adrienne Anderson, Artist



Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta, GA, Inc.

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