



PRO-MOZART SOCIETY
 OF ATLANTA, INC.
 P. O. Box #20373, Atlanta, Georgia 30325

OCT./NOV. 2004

PROMOTE
 PRO-MOZART!

Amadeus



Arisa Kusumi, soprano —first concert of 2004-05 season

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The accolades are voluminous: "... soprano Arisa Kusumi sang with elegant tone and beautiful phrasing." Another critic praised her for her "beauty, charming voice, and vivacious spirit." This is what Pro-Mozart has to look forward to as the opening concert for the 2004-05 season. Arisa Kusumi's American debut occurred with the South Carolina Opera, and in 2002, she debuted as Norina in Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*. It has been up hill for Kusumi right along. Aside from opera, Miss Kusumi experienced substantial training in song literature at the Ravinia Festival Steans Institute, and also at the Marlboro Music Festival. She has worked with among the finest singers of song, including Ely Ameling, Ernst Haefliger, Thomas Quasthoff, and with one of the world's most outstanding piano accompanists, Dalton Baldwin. Additionally, she has appeared in concert with orchestra in such works as Bach's *Magnificat*, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor*, and Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*. Kusumi graduated from the Eastman School of Music and is currently coaching with the celebrated soprano, Benita Valente. At 2:00 p.m., Sunday, November 7, 2004 at the Lutheran Church of the Apostles in Atlanta, Arisa Kusumi will present a recital of songs and arias by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Franz Joseph Haydn and Franz Schubert. Opera arias will be featured from Mozart's *Zaide*, *Così fan tutte*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*. Serving as accompanist to Miss Kusumi will be the noted pianist, Shirley Irek, well known to Atlanta audiences for her outstanding collaborative work with singers and instrumentalists. §



Said Herr Mozart:

"People err who think my art comes easily to me. I assure you, dear friend, nobody has devoted so much time and thought to composition as I. There is not a famous master whose music I have not industriously studied many times."

The President's Corner

by Kay Alvelda



It is hard for me to believe that I am writing "The President's Corner" for the *Amadeus*. It is with much pleasure and pride—and humility—to follow in the footsteps of Kitty Anderson and all the other talented and generous individuals who have led this wonderful organization, currently in its fortieth year. I promise to do my very best, and look to you all for suggestions and feedback. I know you all join me in thanking Kitty for her leadership during the past three years. I am so pleased that she has agreed to continue on our board of directors. I will call on her counsel often.

In the five years that Phil and I have been members of Pro-Mozart, I have grown to love and respect the organization and the people in it. We are a quality organization, offering the best classical music programs possible, given our modest financial situation. The talent in our scholarship competition gets better each year. All of this is possible because of the support of our members, and the hard work of our board of directors and committee chairs. I feel very lucky to be working with such an enthusiastic and knowledgeable executive committee.

Events are in place for the 2004-05 season through April 2005, and the "Spring Fling" concert in May, and the annual meeting/picnic in June will be finalized and announced soon. Please mark your calendars now so you can attend as many events as possible. We attempted to set the dates of our events and communicate them early so there would be few conflicts. We have also set our Sunday afternoon concerts and the scholarship competition finals to 2:00 p.m., with the anticipation that this earlier time would be more convenient for our members. Please let me know if you like this earlier time-start. Many thanks to Madonna Brownlee, VP-Programs, for all the work she has done getting our 2004-05 concert schedule in order early in the season.

(continued on page 2)

The President's Corner, continued

Our goal this year is to attract more applicants to our scholarship competition. Rather than just sending notices of the program to colleges and universities, and music teachers, we plan to advertise in local newspapers and to visit the music departments of several area colleges to spread the word of the benefits of the scholarship. Also, we ask all of you to think of potential participants. Please call **Beth Stedman**, VP-Scholarship if you need extra scholarship forms. Please join me in thanking Beth for all her work in making the competition a success.

Special thanks go to **Kevin Pritchett**, who is wearing two hats for Pro-Mozart: VP-Membership, and Co-Chair of the Gala Noël, along with **Fran Hecht**. Our Members' Party on September 26 was at the beautiful home of new member **Joyce Whatley** on West Paces Ferry Road. Thank you, Joyce, for opening your home to us, and thank you, Fran, for bringing Joyce into the Pro-Mozart family. The party was super ... great food by **Glenda Winters** (who will cater the Gala Noël event), and a beautiful musical program by **Julie Gulasy**, principal oboist of the North Georgia Symphony. Prizes were won by **Margaret Lacy**, **Betty Arden**, **Jean Robertson**, and new member, **Les Kranzberg**.

The Gala, which, as you know, is our primary scholarship fundraiser, and will be held on Saturday, December 4, and will be the best ever in our 40th year. Kevin and his team have already done an enormous amount of work. Invitations will be in the mail shortly. You will not want to miss it!

I also want to thank our editor and publisher of *Amadeus*, **Mary Ann Hill-Meehan**, and **Lance G. Hill**. In my opinion, this newsletter is second to none. We are so fortunate to have Mary Ann and Lance and the work they do in communicating news about our organization. More than one new member has told me that a major reason they joined Pro-Mozart, in addition to the concerts and social events was to increase their knowledge of classical music, and we are grateful to Lance for sharing his expertise.

Finally, I want to remind you of the "4-in-40" program. In celebration of our 40th anniversary, any member (not on the executive committee) who brings in four (4) new members before the Gala Noël will have his or her 2005-06 basic membership dues paid. Please do try to take advantage of this one-time opportunity.

I look forward to seeing all of you on November 7 at our first concert and, as always, I do want to hear from you. Pro-Mozart is for its members, and you and your feedback are valued.

Yours in music,
Kay



CALENDAR OF UP-COMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 7, 2004 - 2:00 p.m.

ARISA KUSUMI, soprano; SHIRLEY IREK, pianist
Lutheran Church of the Apostles, 6025 Glenridge Drive, NE, Atlanta

December 4, 2004 - 7:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY GALA NOËL - Scholarship Benefit Program
Home of Maria and Chris Callas, 1141 Crest Valley Road, NW, Atlanta

Sunday, January 16, 2005 - Time TBA [tentative date]

MOZART'S BIRTHDAY PARTY CELEBRATION

For members contributing at the Patron's level

Sunday, February 13, 2005 - 2:00 p.m.

PRO-MOZART SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION FINALS
Lutheran Church of the Apostles, 6025 Glenridge Drive, NE, Atlanta

Sunday, March 13, 2005 - 2:00 p.m.

TRIO 56

Vladimir Valjarevic; piano; Stephen Miahky, violin; Ole Eirik Ree, cello
Sandy Springs United Methodist Church,
86 Mount Vernon Highway, NE, Sandy Springs

April 10, 2005 - 2:00 p.m.

PATRICK HARVEY, piano - Pro-Mozart's 2004 scholarship winner
Lutheran Church of the Apostles, 6025 Glenridge Drive, NE, Atlanta

Sunday, May, 2005 - 2:00 p.m.

FRIENDS AND MEMBERS CONCERT

Place to be determined.

June, 2005

MEMBERS ANNUAL MEETING

Date, time and place to be determined.

Majoring on



MOZART

by Lance G. Hill

If Mozart had *only* composed operas, his name would still be in the forefront of the world's greatest composers. That said, life for us would be considerably less rich without his multitudinous concertos, masses, symphonies, sonatas, and other works. What a gift he has given the world! Among that part of his repertoire that is spoken of the least is his *lieder* or songs. They simply are not performed frequently enough and, we as music lovers are missing out, unless—like me—recordings fill this void for you. Admittedly, Mozart's mortality could never be based on strictly his song literature. Nonetheless, they are a part of his wondrous musical genius. Fortunately for Pro-Mozartians, our soloist, soprano Arisa Kusumi, treats us to four Mozart songs during her recital, three opera arias, and one of the gems of Mozart's music written for the church, the "Alleluia" from the *Exsultate, Jubilate*. We will have some interesting contrasts in the song literature with music composed by Haydn and Schubert, the latter the greatest master of *lieder*.

In all, Mozart's song literature consists of approximately 37 pieces ranging in Koechel catalogue numbers 53 to 598, meaning he produced songs throughout his entire lifetime, from age 11 to the time of his death. This number, however, represents not even one percent of the output of Schubert. Mozart was not too selective in his choice of texts, either. Usually, he had the music *before* he had the text, just the opposite of most other composers. Schubert may have been a better melodist, and provided richer accompaniments, but there remains genius in each of Mozart's songs nonetheless.

When it comes to concert- and opera arias, Mozart was certainly in his element. His rarely performed opera, *Zaide* (K. 344), was not given its name by Mozart, nor was it ever completed. In two acts, the opera is called *asingspiel* (comic opera), originally written in 1799. It wasn't heard for the first time until 1866 (75 years after Mozart's death). Miss Kusumi will perform "Ruhe sanft mein holdes Leben," one of the few performed arias from the opera. The other arias programmed are "In uomini, in soldati" from *Così fan tutte* (K. 588), composed in 1790, and "Deh vieni, non tardar" from *The Marriage of Figaro* (K. 492), composed in 1786, and certainly one of the greatest arias of the soprano literature in Susanna's act four aria where she invites her departed lover to join her in the garden.

Mozart concludes this recital with the famous "Alleluia" the final segment from the *Exsultate, Jubilate* (K. 165/158a), composed in 1773, and one of Mozart's most jubilant nonoperatic works for the human voice in a coloratura soprano vein. ■

The Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta
cordially invites you to the
Fortieth Anniversary Gala Noel Scholarship Fundraiser

Saturday, December 4, 2004

7:00 o'clock to 10:30 p.m.

at the magnificent home of
Chris and Maria Callas
1141 Crest Valley Road, North West
Atlanta, Georgia

Delicious Dinner Buffet
Musical program includes: string quartet, vocalists,
harpist, and concert pianist

Black Tie

For information and reservations: call Kevin Pritchett at
(770) 736-2156 or (770) 925-1870 or Fran Hecht at (404) 262-7193

Parking will be at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church, corner of
Northside Drive and Mount Paran Road for to-and-from shuttle service.

New or Rejoining Members

Jerry Costa • Janice Cook • Sally Horntvedt
Les Kranzberg • John Lemley • Deborah Manassee
Gregory Pritchard • Linda Quass • Luther Rollins
Don and Barbara Sherbourne • Morton Sherzer
Charles and Kathy Sills • Hanna Sills
Joyce Whatley • Kevin and Cathy Wilson
Janet Joiner • Maria and Chris Callas

**VISIT US
on the web**
www.promozart.org

*It will be music
to your ears!*

Please address comments to:

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~Editor~
Mary Ann Hill-Meehan
~Publisher~
Lance G. Hill

Pro-Mozart in Review: **Members'/Prospective Members' Party at the home of Joyce Whatley, Sept. 26**



[l-r] Kevin Pritchett, Joyce Whatley, and Kay Alvelda



Seated [l-r], Janet Gibson and Joyce Whatley
Standing [l-r], Kay Alvelda and Kevin Pritchett



Joyce Whatley, our gracious hostess



Group photo of members enjoying the beauty of the Whatley home



Oboist Julie Gulasy (center) providing members with music, with Kay Alvelda and Mary Ann Hill shown at far right.

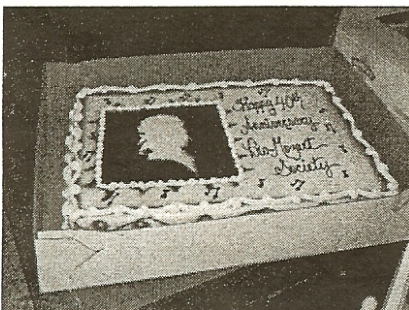
... and some shots from the "Spring Fling" concert at the Jimmy Carter Center, May 23



Mary Ann Hill, soprano, one of the soloists of the evening



Participants in the musical program include, [l-r], Tony Barneman, Ellen Foster, Madonna Brownlee, Mary Ann Hill, and David Mitchell



Pro-Mozart's 40th anniversary cake



Kitty Anderson receives a plaque recognizing Pro-Mozart's 40th anniversary. Atlanta City Council member, Mary Norwood, is making the presentation.

- Pro-Mozart Society's Executive Committee, 2004-05*
- Kay Alvelda, President**
 - Nancy Clark, Executive Vice President**
 - Kevin Pritchett**
Vice President, Membership
 - Beth Stedman**
Vice President, Scholarship
 - Janet Gibson**
Vice President, Publicity
 - Madonna Brownlee**
Vice President, Programs
 - Edward White and Phil Alvelda**
Vice President, Systems
 - Phil Alvelda, Treasurer**
 - Kitty Anderson, Recording Secretary**
 - Jennifer Ham, Parliamentarian**
 - Betty Arden, Historian**
 - Stan Chervin, Legal Counsel**
 - Mary Ann Hill-Meehan and Lance G. Hill**
"Amadeus" Editor and Publisher
 - Mary Ann Hill-Meehan, Member-at-Large**
 - John Selvage, Member-at-Large**
 - Committee Chairs:**
 - Kevin Pritchett and Fran Hecht**
Holiday Gala
 - John and Fay Selvage, Patrons Circle**
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