



A m a d e u s

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Newsletter

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

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Special Welcome to our New Members

Michael Cunningham
George Johnson
Morris Steward
Dr. Elizabeth Mehlman
S. Angelic Moore
Doris C. Squires
Janet B. Weaver
C. Ulrich Weiss
Mary Ann Wilson
Nancy F. Jones
Timothy Jones

Facts about Mozart:

 **Mozart and Beethoven** On April 4, 1787 a 16 year-old Ludwig van Beethoven arrived in Vienna to get two weeks worth of musical lessons. from Mozart.

Members and Prospective Members Party

We're opening our 48th season with our annual Members and Prospective Members Party Sunday, September 18, at Brandon Hall School, 1701 Brandon Hall Drive, Atlanta, GA 30350-3706, from 4-6 p.m. The casual event will feature food, fun, beverages and, of course, music.

"Our current members will renew their memberships, if they have not done so already and make themselves available to talk about the organization with anyone interested in joining," says Pro-Mozart Atlanta President Herbert Buffington. He also notes that Pro-Mozart Atlanta board member Randy Elkins, Vice President of Programs, is on staff at Brandon Hall and was instrumental in securing this great venue for the event.



Members and friends will hear the glorious tones of harpist, Nella Rigell who is sure to send beautiful music wafting across the halls to caress your heart and soul.



The Members and Prospective Members Party is free, but does require an RSVP to Buffington: hbuffington@habershamsfunding.com or 678-488-3591. See you there!

Nella Rigell has enjoyed an active career as an orchestral harpist, chamber musician, recording artist, and teacher, performing in concert halls from Carnegie Hall to the Grand Ole Opry. As principal harpist with the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra for twenty-seven years, her orchestral experience also includes having played second harp with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and principal harp with the Atlanta Opera Orchestra for eleven years.

Ms. Rigell has performed with many diverse orchestras and regularly performs with touring Broadway show orchestras playing dozens of shows through the years including *Phantom of the Opera*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Sound of Music*, *Camelot*, *Evita*, *A Chorus Line*, *Peter Pan*, *The King and I*, and *The Producers*. She has twice been featured on television on Georgia Public Broadcasting playing the concert grand and Celtic harps and numerous times on WABE radio.

Active as a concerto soloist with orchestras throughout the Southeast, performing the works of Handel, Mozart, Debussy, Ravel, Reinecke, and Zaerr, critics have praised her performances as having "provided expressive delivery and superior technique," (The Huntsville Times) "played with clarity and sweetness," (The Atlanta Journal Constitution) and "harpist Nella Rigell held a large chamber concert audience in her spell" (Mississippi Business Journal). In concert, Ms. Rigell has backed a wide variety of artists, including Celine Dion, Stevie Wonder, Yanni, Josh Groban and toured with Johnny Mathis. She has had the honor of playing for President Jimmy Carter, Coretta Scott King, Princess Anne of England and former Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu.

Pro-Mozart in Review: Members and Friends Spring Fling Concert



Performer Sheenan Hanrahan, violinist with parents and sister



Members and guests enjoying meet the artist reception



Piano performer Edward Plott with daughter



Society guest, Shirley Ebert and Marilyn Dietrichs displaying Scholarship Competition runner up award



Edward Blazer, vocalist performer Mary Ann Hill and Claire Hanson

Annual Meeting and Picnic



Marilyn Dietrichs helping President, Kevin Pritchett with an outgoing Presidents gift



Randy Elkins, Claire Hanson and Lance Solaroli



Members and guests enjoying the gathering



Members and guests enjoying the music of the String Quartet and having a wonderful time at the home of incoming President, Herb Buffington



A Message from Our President



Greetings to all of our members and friends,

I am honored to serve as the Society's new president and look forward to a wonderful 48th season ahead. We have an exciting lineup of events that I know you will want to attend. Included in this newsletter is an insert containing a calendar of upcoming events. Also be sure to visit our Website: www.MozartAtlanta.com for the most up-to-date information.

Please be sure to mark your calendar for this coming Sunday afternoon, September 18, as we kick off our season with the Members and Prospective Members Party in the Great Hall of Brandon Hall School in Sandy Springs. This marvelous building (Brandon Hall) was built in the 1920's by noted Atlanta educator Morris Brandon as his summer estate and is

architecturally stunning with granite walls and beamed cathedral ceilings.

The party will begin at 4:00 p.m. and go until 6:00 p.m. Our host for the occasion is Vice President for Programs, Randy Elkins, who is on the faculty at Brandon Hall. Driving directions may be found on the back of the events calendar insert.

Please bring your friends, neighbors, business colleagues and anyone from other organizations in which you are involved. Encourage them to become members. And if you have not already done so, remember that this is a perfect opportunity for you to renew your membership, or even to renew and upgrade your membership to one of the Patron levels.

Becoming a member at the Patron level helps your Pro-Mozart Society continue to present the highest quality musical artists in performance; and as a way of showing our appreciation for your generosity, you would be invited to the annual Patrons' dinner celebrating Mozart's birthday (this January marks his 256th).

Also plan on joining us for the annual Gala Noël, Saturday, December 3, at Glenridge Hall (another of the great summer homes built by a prominent Atlantan of a bygone era). Again, be thinking of who you can invite to join us that evening to share the fun at our primary annual fundraiser for Pro-Mozart Atlanta's scholarship.

I look forward to this great season and to seeing each of you at these events. I appreciate your past and continued support of this great organization, and thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the year to come.

Yours for great music,

Herbert Buffington

Notes on Mozart

Taken from the book "Mozart's Women, His Family, His friends, His Music" by Jane Glover. Edited by Marilyn A. Dietrichs for Amadeus newsletter. In 1763 the trip to Europe began. Leopold Mozart called on various members of his own network, among aristocracy to write letters of information to friends and colleagues to blaze a trail of publicity, booking concerts for his children. As well as concertizing, the children did much sight-seeing and, therefore, received a wonderful added education. They were learning and speaking new languages, hearing and absorbing more new music such as ballets and operas and learning to appreciate beauty in art and architecture and often the historical and mythological basis for them. The children were also developing and discerning tastes for elegant clothes, fine fabrics, jewels and hairstyles. While Nannerl and her mother shared information on fashion and ornament, Wolfgang would confess to female friends, "I should like all my things to be of good quality, genuine and beautiful". The children were constantly given gifts by their public admirers such as snuff-boxes, watches, other jewelry, gold rings with precious stones, knives with golden blades, bottle holders, toothpick boxes and writing tables.



Remembering

Theodora "Teddy" Charvat Thomas passed away July 18, 2011. Teddy and her first husband, Frank Charvat were a driving force in the creation of the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta and she remained active in the Society until her death. Donations in Teddy's name may be made to the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 76171, Atlanta, GA 30358.

The Pro-Mozart Society Up-Coming Events

Sunday, September 18, 2011, 4:00 pm, **Members and Prospective Members Party**, Brandon Hall School, 1701 Brandon Hall Drive Hall Drive, Atlanta, GA 30350-3706

Sunday, October 9, 2011, 4:00pm, **Lecture and Presentation on the life of W. A. Mozart**, Dr. N. Lee Orr, Professor of Music History, Georgia State University, Christian Church, Stew Wood Hall, 1580 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30309



Save the date:

Holiday Gala
December 3, 2011
Glenridge Hall

Special Celebration of Mozart's 256th birthday

At the Members and Prospective Members Party or when you send in your membership form, re-new at the **Patron** level or higher and you will be invited to the special event, **Mozart's Birthday Party**, January 29, 2012. The party will be held at the beautiful home of Mary Ann Hill-Meehan.

Browse our Website at www.mozartatlanta.com to keep abreast of Pro-Mozart concerts and events.



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First Class Mail
Change of address requested