

American Liszt Society

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LISZT SOCIETY, INC.

Ovations - The 2010 Great Romantics Festival

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The 15th annual Great Romantics Festival will take place Thursday, October 7 through Saturday, October 9, 2010 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Alan Walker once again hosts this marvelous event, which is presented by the City of Hamilton in association with the American Liszt Society and McMaster University's School of the Arts. Here is a daily schedule for the GRF. (For further details and updates, go to www.artset.net/greatromantics.html)

THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 7
CONVOCATION HALL, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

9.30 - OPENING REMARKS: Dr. Alan Walker, Festival Founder and Director; Dr. Thomas Mastroiani, President of the American Liszt Society; and Dr. Keith Kinder, Director of the School of the Arts, McMaster University

10.00 - LECTURE: Mark Ainley - "Schumann: The Poet of the Piano"

11.00 PIANO RECITAL: Louis Nagel - All-Schumann program: *Widmung* (Schumann-Liszt), *Papillons*, and *Fantasy in C major*

THURSDAY AFTERNOON
CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL

14.00 ORGAN RECITAL: Ian Sadler - Reger: *Toccata in D minor*; Brahms: *Chorale Prelude on "Herzlich tut mich verlangen"*; Mendelssohn: *Prelude & Fugue in C minor*; Schumann: *Sketch in D-flat Major*; Liszt: *Fantasia & Fugue on "Ad nos, ad salutarem undam"* (from Meyerbeer's opera, *Le Prophète*)

15.00 LIEDER RECITAL: Janet Obermeyer (soprano) and Leslie De'ath (piano)
Liszt: *Im Rhein im schönen Strome* (Heine), *O quand je dors* (Hugo), and *Mignon's Lied* (Goethe); Mendelssohn: *Neue Liebe* (Heine), *Frühlingslied* (Friederike Robert), and *Auf Flügeln des Gesanges* (Heine); Schumann: *Frauenliebe und -leben*

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President's Message



Dear Members,

2011 is nearly here. There is great worldwide excitement regarding the 200th birthday celebration planned for Franz Liszt. Many exciting projects are referenced in this issue of the newsletter and on the ALS web site.

ALS takes great pride in the celebration planned for our annual festival, which will take place at the University of Georgia with Richard Zimdars as the local coordinator. Details on the festival schedule, the commissioned works, the book competition and the composition competition, the medal presentation, and the historic recording CD's are found on the web site and here in the newsletter.

A resurgence in understanding and appreciation of Liszt, his music, and his true historic worth seems abundantly present in our day. A new worldwide organization, the International Liszt Association, has been inaugurated. I recently visited Weimar to gather information on this international organization, and I will report my findings to our Board of Directors at its next meeting in Athens, Georgia. ALS already has international members and has presented festivals in Russia, China, and Brazil. In Italy, Società Liszt, our local chapter of ALS, has created an exciting marathon sponsored by Santa Cecilia in Rome, presenting the large and unmatched corpus of Liszt's works for piano (see page 10).

The importance of Liszt goes beyond the creation of individual works of beauty, a trait shared by many important composers. Liszt represents a philosophy of beauty and of humanity that is to be treasured today and in the future. His view is timeless and will endure. It points to the human ennoblement that music provides, and it specifies the extent of the mission that this ennoblement entails. Beauty indeed ennoble the human spirit. and this consequently carries the obligation of service to humanity. Liszt lived this model, and his music embodies it.

We must use the opportunity of the coming year's celebrations to renew our dedication to these ideals and to bring the spirit of Liszt to ever wider audiences. Beauty is not just diversion, it is the nourishment that strengthens human esteem, energizes what we share in common, and brings inner peace.

Viva Liszt!

Thomas Mastroianni
President, American Liszt Society
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Letter from the Editor - Milestones and Reminiscences



Dear Fellow Lisztians!

There is a saying that time goes faster as we age. I am not sure who authored that statement, or if it has simply evolved as a way of thinking. Psychologists vary in how they explain the relationship between time and aging, but from my own experience it seems as though it was only yesterday that something happened - and yet it might have been weeks or even months since the event occurred. If it were not for the fact that I have heard others comment on this, I might think there was something “wrong” with me. But I have accepted the fact that my concept of time is different than it was five years ago.

Eva (Vica) Sebök died recently. Those of you who recall that I studied with her husband, György, in Bloomington will know that for me this concludes a chapter in my life that related directly to my love of Liszt. Mrs. Sebök - out of respect, I never called her by her first name - was elegance personified. A highly intelligent person, she was well read in many subjects. Her husband once told me she could sing almost any opera by memory - in Hungarian. Her culinary skills were legendary in my mind, and we still find an old recipe here and there with the simple acknowledgment, Sebok. She had the joy of seeing her husband honored on the 10th anniversary of his death last fall, and I was privileged to speak at the event and to touch her hand for the final time. So many wonderful memories. Kaddish.

Charles Webb played a beautiful recital at the most recent ALS Liszt Festival in Lincoln. Like the Sebök's, Charles has been a significant influence in my life, as he has in the lives of countless thousands of musicians. As assistant and then associate dean in Bloomington, Charles taught me things about academic integrity and honesty when I faced the prospect of failing a piano student who was a brilliant cellist. He taught me about responsibility and meeting deadlines. He was and is a wonderful role model, maintaining a high degree of excellence as a pianist, continuing to work for the betterment of young musicians, and staying “with it” as a performer, whether at the Steinway or the pipe organ in church. Thank you, Charles, for what you have done for so many of us, and for your beautiful performance a few months ago.

Alan Walker turned 80 earlier this year. You could have fooled me - if at 80 I can be half as active mentally and physically as Alan is, I will consider myself lucky. If you are fortunate enough to have heard Alan speak about Liszt or any of the many subjects on which he is truly an authority, you can appreciate how much he knows and how convincingly he can explain things and keep one at the edge of his or her seat, learning about music history or whatever. The recent book on Hans von Bülow is a case in point - thoroughly researched, beautifully written, and compelling one to want to read more every day. In Lincoln, we sang “Happy Birthday” to him and ate birthday cake with this great man and superb friend. Once more: Happy Birthday, Alan!

In 2006, I used this column to talk about the opening of the Liszt Concert Hall in Raiding (now Austria). Now, nearly five years have passed, and we are now approaching the bicentennial of our Society's namesake. Five years seemed like a long time then, but the time has passed so quickly. Likewise, the past 22 years of my life have passed by quickly, too, and it is with mixed emotion that I announce my retirement from full time service to the University of Illinois. What a wonderful opportunity I have had to mingle with some of the greatest minds in performance, scholarship, and pedagogy. Friends and colleagues like ... there are too many to name, but I have had the privilege of working with some of the greatest musicians on behalf of some of the greatest students.

There's another adage about time, that it “flies when you're having fun.” It has been a joy, but I now look forward to having time to practice the piano again - at least for a while, but the time at the Steinway will go quickly, too, and I look forward to assuming part-time administrative assignments at UI beginning September 1.

Edward Rath, Editor

American Liszt Society

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This newsletter is published twice annually, with a circulation of approximately 600 per issue.

An official publication of the American Liszt Society, Inc.
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UPDATE: 2011 LISZT BICENTENNIAL ALS CONFERENCE IN ATHENS, GEORGIA

The American Liszt Society Festival celebrating the bicentennial of the birth of Franz Liszt is scheduled for February 17-19, 2011 at the University of Georgia in Athens. With the theme, "Liszt and the Future," the 2011 Festival will be one of the most notable of its kind in the world. Sessions include 10 lectures, 12 concerts, and a master class on Liszt songs by Metropolitan Opera baritone Thomas Hampson. Orchestra, string, wind, and vocal performances will be offered in addition to contributions by 40 pianists.

Franz Liszt had a profound effect on the musical minds and culture of his time and into the future. His inspiration, genius, and generosity influenced the development of music well into the twentieth century. Says Dr. Richard Zimdars, Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia, "Later in his life, Liszt complained, 'Pianists are like sheep. Whenever one jumps in, all the others jump in after!'" Zimdars, 2011 Festival director, adds "Liszt deplored falling into a rut and remaining in one's comfort zone."

The headline event of "Liszt and the Future" is the world premiere of William Bolcom's song cycle, *Laura Sonnets*, based on five Petrarch sonnets. Bolcom's cycle, commissioned by the ALS, shares a common source of inspiration with Liszt's masterful *Petrarch Sonnets*. Thomas Hampson and pianist Craig Rutenberg will perform the cycle as part of their evening recital on February 18.

Zimdars noted that "ALS hopes this commission provides an enduring contribution to the repertoire and to the memory of Liszt."

As a memento of the occasion, the first sales of the score of *Laura Sonnets* will occur immediately after the premiere at a reception for Mr. Bolcom, Mr. Hampson, and Mr. Rutenberg."

Festival presentations will address several approaches toward the "future." As Liszt's most important teacher, Carl Czerny had a major effect on Liszt's future. One session presents Czerny's *Variations brillantes* for one piano, six-hands on a theme from Bellini's *Norma*, followed by Liszt's *Réminiscences de Norma*, one of 17 Liszt works programmed for the Festival. Other sessions offer music by and lectures about composers whose futures were influenced by study with, help from, or the influence of Liszt: Hector Berlioz, Anton Rubinstein, Edward MacDowell, Sergei Liapunov, Arthur Bird, Heinrich Schmid, Jenő Takács, Jeanne van Appledorn, and, of course, Richard Wagner.

Mentioning Wagner brings to mind Liszt's transcriptions of opera, song, and instrumental works. Liszt aided the future of many composers by presenting their works in his transcriptions. A session titled "Liszt and the Future of Russian Music" (Jonathon Kregor) features songs by Anton Rubinstein followed by Liszt's transcriptions thereof. A lecture on Liszt, Wagner, and *Parsifal* (William Kindermann)

is framed by performances of Liszt's transcription of music from *Parsifal* and a new transcription of Siegfried's "Funeral Music" from *Die Götterdämmerung* (Jura Margulis).

In keeping with "the future" as the theme, the festival offers two other "firsts." The premiere of a work for solo piano chosen as the winner of the American Liszt Society's Bicentennial Composition Competition takes place on February 19, followed by the presentation of a \$4000 prize provided by Steinway & Sons. Later that day, the Alan Walker Book Award, a \$2000 prize named for the world's leading biographer of Liszt, will be conferred by Dr. Walker. The award presentation is followed by the closing event of the festival, a lecture by Dr. Walker.

On the first day of the festival Marston Records, with the sponsorship of ALS, will release a two-CD set of previously unreleased performances by former ALS medal recipients Claudio Arrau, Jorge Bolet, and Gunnar Johansen. The set is available at a discount for those registering in advance for the Festival.

Dr. Rena Mueller, distinguished musicologist, ALS Board of Directors member, and Editor of the *Journal of the American Liszt Society*, will be awarded the Medal of the ALS on February 17.

For more information and to register for the 2011 ALS Festival, select Conferences and Workshops at this website: www.music.uga.edu

Member News

New ALS member **Tihamér Hlavacsek** writes that he made his New York debut in Carnegie Hall in 2003. He has performed in such prominent venues as the Gewandhaus (Leipzig), Konzerthaus (Berlin), Théâtre du Châtelet (Paris), and at prestigious festivals such as the Cliburn Piano Institute, Europa Musicale, European Piano Forum, Budapest Spring Festival, and in many concert venues elsewhere in Europe, America, and Asia. He has collaborated with conductors Zoltán Kocsis, Peter Csaba, Izaki Masahiro, and Domonkos Héja. He was named "Outstanding Young Artist of the Year" by Gramofon in 2006. His "World Premiere" recording of the complete piano works of Karl Goldmark (Hungaroton) was nominated "best solo recording" at MIDEM, Cannes. Tihamér has been a first prize-winner in international piano competitions and a soloist of the Hungarian Radio. As an outstanding Hungarian artist, he was awarded the Annie Fischer Scholarship. Tihamér graduated with honors from the Liszt Academy in Budapest and received his MM from Yale University as a member of Peter Frankl's class. He currently holds a doctoral teaching assistantship at Shenandoah University, and his doctoral mentors are Prof. Elizabeth Temple and Prof. John O'Connor.

In Memoriam

ALS member **Judy Sullivan** died in early July. In the words of Justin Kolb, "she had limitless energy, a deep understanding of world affairs from Havana to Weimar, and an impressive perspective on world history. She was an enthusiastic ALS supporter, close friend of Friedland Wagner, mother of one child, retired NY City school teacher, world traveler, and passionate lover of music. There was no memorial service; Judith wanted no fanfare when she died. I have asked her daughter to write a notice for a future issue of the ALS Newsletter."

ALS members **Nancy Roldán**, pianist, and **José Cueto**, violinist, whose collaborative performances have been praised as "... full blooded ... superb ... and ... exciting," invite you to join them at any of the following solo, duo, and chamber music recital performances for the 2010-2011 season: Music at Penn Alps Summer Series, Maryland, August 7 at 7:30pm; the 2010 Great Romantics Festival in Hamilton, Canada on October 9; Music at CND, Baltimore, October 30 at 7:00pm; Music at the Mansion, sponsored by Concert Artists of Baltimore, February 27, 2011 at 2:30pm; and Noche de Tango, Music at CND, College of Notre Dame of MD, May 21, 2011 at 7:00pm. Recent performances include the Italian Embassy for the Alba Music Festival, Washington, DC, and benefit concerts for Modern Muse Theatre in Denver, CO. Other upcoming performances include a cameo appearance for the 2011 ALS Festival in GA, and a duo evening recital for Música de Cámara, New York, TBA. For additional information visit www.nancyroldan.org or the sponsoring organizations' websites.

Justin and Barbara Kolb are serving respectively as Artistic Director/Director of Education and Bookkeeper for the The Phoenicia Festival of the Voice, a three-day (August 13-15) "extravaganza of vocal and spoken voice: concerts, recitals, and theatrical presentations. The 'centerpiece' of the ambitious programming will be the production of Verdi's *Falstaff*. The Festival opens on August 13 with a gala concert by Elizabeth Futral of the Metropolitan Opera. The operatic concert will be held under the stars on the main stage in the Phoenicia (NY) Parish Field. Saturday evening's program presents a concert version of Verdi's much loved opera, *Falstaff*, starring baritone Louis Otey, who recently performed the title role to great acclaim at the MET. It will be conducted by MET maestro, Steven White. On Sunday afternoon, the mountains will resound with the combined voices of choirs from the Hudson Valley and beyond in a stunning grand choral finale with the festival's principals participating. Justin will also bring his pianistic artistry to the stage with a program that combines piano as a solo instrument and piano with spoken

voice, with actor and local favorite Jay Braman, Jr. collaborating with Justin.

At the University of Miami this past year, **Frank Cooper** offered a semester-long graduate seminar on Liszt covering all three volumes of Alan Walker's biography of the composer. As well, Frank presented a five-part series on the life and works of Liszt oriented for those who are "lovers of music and learning." He also presented a similar five-part series for the public on "Chopin and the Romantic Tide," with 70 registrants. All the presentations were video-taped with three cameras and with live performances for, "we hope," eventual release via some medium or another. Next January, Frank will present two Chopin lectures and two Liszt lectures for the Naples (FL) Philharmonic.

Alexandre Dossin writes that his newest publication - Tchaikovsky's *Album for the Young, op. 39* (Schirmer Performance Editions, published and distributed by Hal Leonard) - is available for purchase online. This is a combination of a score and a CD recording of Tchaikovsky's cycle. The 24 pieces included are great for beginners, with lots of performance notes, fingerings, and Alex's own performance included. "I was fortunate to work directly with the facsimile of the autograph, and made the edition as close to Tchaikovsky's initial creation as possible. This is the first American edition based on Tchaikovsky's autograph - you will notice some differences in the order of pieces and in the musical text, when comparing it to other available editions in the US." Alexandre also shared the news that he was recently promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with Indefinite Tenure at the University of Oregon. (*Editor's note:* Congratulations from all of us!!)

Chapter News

New York/New Jersey Chapter

(Gila Goldstein, Founder-President, David Whitten, Vice-President)

The next NY/NJ chapter concert is on Thursday, October 7, 2010, at 7:00pm.

Filipino pianist Jovianney Cruz will play a recital at the chapter's regular host venue, the Yamaha Piano Salon at Yamaha Artists Services, 689 Fifth Avenue, New York, third floor.

Mr. Cruz is an alumnus of the Manhattan School of Music in New York and a faculty member at the University of the Philippines in Manila.

He is one of the leading pianists in his country. Cruz will perform works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Liszt, and Copland. To RSVP, please e-mail yasi@yamaha.com. Further information about the Chapter's 2011 Liszt bicentennial concerts will be posted in the next edition of the ALS Newsletter in early 2011.

Baltimore-Washington Chapter

(Nancy Roldán, President)

Plans for the 2010-11 season are underway to secure funding for the 2011 Liszt-Garrison Festival and International Piano Competition, scheduled for October 12-16. Please visit the chapter's website at www.lisztgarrisoncompetition.org to check updated rules and regulations for the competition. The postmark date for applications is May 6, 2011. The Board of Directors urges all ALS members in the Baltimore-Washington area to join in support of what is itself sure to be a memorable event, as will be events leading up to the Festival/Competition.

Upcoming fundraising events include the now-traditional Noche de Tango, an enthralling night of music, theatre, song, and dance, scheduled for May 21, 2011. The concert will take place in LeClerc Auditorium at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. The chapter appreciates the continued support of Dr. Mary Pat Seurkamp, President of CND/MD, and "Music at CND," directed by Dr. Ernest Ragogini. An additional fundraiser recital will take place in September, with the duo Kaczorowska-Lavandera, winners of the 2009 Collaborative Artists Competition.

The chapter is glad to officially announce that the 2011 Festival/Competition will be dedicated to the theme of "Fellowship of Music, Arts, and the Community." The theme was chosen to honor Franz Liszt's life and times, his generosity, and his vision of today's musician and the role s/he plays in the community. The 2010-2011 events are inspired by Liszt's motto, "génie oblige." 2011 also marks the Festival/Competition's fifth anniversary!

The chapter welcomes all members who joined in 2010. And to the entire membership of ALS, we encourage you to send us your ideas - and contributions. Visit our website often, or call 410/833-5782.

Indiana University Chapter

(Karen Shaw, President, **David Cartledge** reporting)

This past March 11, the Indiana University Chapter's annual celebration, organized by chapter president Karen Shaw, featured ALS members and guests performing paraphrases and original works. The event was hailed by the Bloomington *Herald-Times* as "a sort of keyboard Cirque du Soleil," with "plenty of bravura" and "nuanced finesse." Karina Avanesian opened with a triumphant version of the "*Rigoletto*" Paraphrase. Matthew Gianforte performed both together with Anthony Webb in the too-little heard tenor version of *Sonetto No. 104 del Petrarca*, and as soloist in selections from the Chopin/Liszt *Chants Polonais* - both performances of great beauty. Maxim Bernard presented a virtuoso performance of the Schubert/Liszt *Ave Maria* and the *Valse-Caprice No. 6* from *Soirées de Vienne*. Two of the transcendental etudes were performed: *Wilde Jagd* by Luke Norell and *Chasse-neige* by the 15-year-old Yihan Chen, with this pair of pianists capturing both the subtlety and fire of these two works. Kazuha Nakahara presented a moving performance of *Widmung*, and Michael Hanson closed with the *Reminiscences from Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor* in a tour-de-force finale. The concert was well attended by the School of Music community and the public, and successfully raised further awareness of our young chapter.

Announcements

The Schumann Bicentennial Festival-Conference at the University of Maryland will take place October 19-22, 2010 in College Park (MD). It will include numerous lectures, concerts, and panel discussions by "Schumannians" and "Lisztianers". Details concerning the event may be found on the web by going to http://www.music.umd.edu/special_programs/schumann_festival/

Jude and John Lubrano are pleased to announce their New Antiquarian Music Catalogue and Lists, which may be found at <http://www.lubranomusic.com>

The Netherlands Music Institute has proposed a research undertaking entitled, "2011 Franz Liszt Complete Correspondence Project." You may read the proposal by going to the American Liszt Society website at www.americanlisztsociety.net and clicking on the link, 2011 Liszt Correspondence Project. To find out more about the Institute, please go to <http://www.nederlandsmuziekinstituut.nl/nl/actueel/nieuwsbrief/>

Also of interest will be the growing list of world-wide celebrations of the Liszt Bicentennial that will be found on the ALS website. While the original intention was to include such information in the Newsletter, it is likely to be more helpful - and up to date - to be able to click on a site or event that is of interest to you and be taken there immediately. Just go to www.americanlisztsociety.net and click on Liszt Bicentennial Celebrations.

2010 LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL LISZT COMPETITION

The eleventh biennial Los Angeles International Liszt Competition will be held on November 20-21, 2010 at Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA and Trinity United Methodist Church, Pomona, CA. The competition is open to pianists and vocalists ages 35 and under. There are eight piano divisions and two voice divisions. Applications are due by October 10, 2010. Rules, regulations, and application forms can be found on the Competition's web site at <http://www.liszt-competition.com>

The distinguished panel of judges for the Piano Divisions includes Yun Ha Hwang, President of the Korean Liszt Society; Thomas Mastroianni, President of the American Liszt Society; Alan Chow, Northwestern University; Alexandre Dossin, University of Oregon; Jay Hershberger, Concordia College; Jay Mauchley, University of Idaho; Sandy Mauchley, University of Idaho; Ksenia Nosikova, University of Iowa; Robert Roux, Rice University; Jeffrey Shumway, Brigham Young University; Steven Spooner, University of Kansas; and Richard Zimdars, University of Georgia. Adjudicators for the Voice Divisions include Gary Glaze, University of Southern California, and another adjudicator to be announced. As an honored guest, the competition organizers have invited Dr. András Batta, Head of the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, to attend.

Over \$15,000 in cash prizes, plaques, CDs, and Alan Walker's Liszt biography will be awarded. In addition the Budapest Concert winner (piano) will be awarded an all-expense paid trip to present a solo recital at the prestigious Liszt Museum in Budapest on May 28, 2011 (the 200th year of Liszt's birth). The New York Concert winner (voice) will present a solo recital in New York City in spring 2011. Other winners will also be presented in concerts.

We encourage our ALS colleagues to enter their students in this wonderful competition. We also encourage all ALS members to come and hear two days of non-stop Liszt music – about 200 contestants performing in five competition rooms. Come and hear some of our age 12-and-under contestants, and then go next door and hear some of our Budapest Concert contestants, etc. The level of performing is incredible.

The Los Angeles International Liszt Competition is funded by a variety of sources. Our individual donors are particularly crucial. Whether or not you can attend the competition, we invite your financial support in one of the following categories: Commandeur Liszt (\$500-\$10,000), Abbé Liszt (\$150-\$499), Franzl (\$100-\$149) and Le petit Litz (\$25-\$99). All donors will be acknowledged in the printed program and will receive a copy of it. Any contribution you can make will be deeply appreciated. Please make your check payable to Los Angeles International Liszt Competition and send to Geraldine Keeling, 8260 Youngdale St., San Gabriel, CA 91775.

Visit our web site, of course, but if you would like to call us, please contact Geraldine Keeling, Founder/Co-Director, at 626/286-4593, or Judith Nesléný, Co-Director, at 626/798-1562.

Upcoming ALS Festivals

October 7-9, 2010
Great Romantics Festival
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

February 17-19, 2011
Liszt Bicentennial Festival
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia

2012
University of Oregon

2013
San Francisco Conservatory

If you are interested in hosting an ALS Festival beyond 2013, please contact ALS President Thomas Mastroianni. As you can see, the reservation of a location needs to be planned two or three years in advance. President Mastroianni will visit your campus or other location to work with you in making preparations adequately in advance of the event!!!

Deadline for Next Newsletter

Please check the ALS website for upcoming deadlines and publication dates. Click on Newsletters, and you will be able to obtain the information you need!!!

New Recipients of ALS Medal Announced

At its most recent meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, the Board of Directors of the American Liszt Society voted to award the Medal of the American Liszt Society to **Dr. Elyse Mach** and **Dr. Rena Mueller**. The medal is the Society's highest honor, given to those who have distinguished themselves in their professional field as outstanding advocates for the music and ideals of Franz Liszt.

Dr. Elyse Mach will receive the medal on Thursday evening, October 7, 2010 during the Great Romantics Festival in Hamilton, Ontario. The citation submitted to the board regarding Dr. Mach reads:

"It is both a privilege and a pleasure to nominate Dr. Elyse Mach as a recipient of the ALS Medal. Dr. Elyse Mach has published ten books in the course of her scholarly career, some of which occupy honored places on our bookshelves, and have meanwhile brought her to international attention. Among them are:

"Great Contemporary Pianists Speak for Themselves (2 volumes, 1980). This major publication has done yeoman service across the years, has appeared both in hardback and in paperback, and also in Japanese and Korean translations. Sir Georg Solti wrote the introduction to the Dover paperback edition of 1991.

"The Liszt Studies: Essential Selections from Liszt's Own Technical Studies, which includes the first English edition of the Lesson-Diary kept by Mme. Auguste Boissier as a record of her daughter Valérie's

lessons with Liszt (1831-32), translated here by Elyse Mach, 1973.

"Franz Liszt: Rare and Familiar, with an Introduction by Liszt's great-granddaughter, Blandine Ollivier de Prevaux, 1982.

"In addition, Dr. Mach has given us more than 100 articles in the course of her career, many of them dealing with aspects of the life and work of Franz Liszt. She has also done considerable service as a musical journalist, particularly through the columns of *Clavier Magazine* [now *Clavier Companion*]. Nor should her considerable achievements in the field of piano pedagogy be overlooked, to whose literature she has made significant contributions.

"It calls for a special literary gift to present Liszt to the world as the significant and attractive personality that he was, a gift that Dr. Mach possesses in abundance, and which she has been able to demonstrate through her writings, through her personal presentations, and through her work in film biography."

Dr. Rena Mueller will receive the medal on Thursday evening, February 17, 2011 during the American Liszt Society Bicentennial Festival. The citation submitted to the board regarding Dr. Mueller reads:

"In the last decade, Dr. Mueller's essays and chapters on various aspects of Liszt research have been published in books from Editio Musica Budapest and the university presses of

Cambridge, Princeton, and Rochester. Since 1986 she has presented 22 papers on topics pertaining to Liszt at conferences in Berlin, Budapest, Vienna, Eisenstadt, Stockholm, London, Bristol, Guildford, Dublin, Angers, New York, San Francisco, Cleveland, Washington (DC), Baltimore, Arizona State University, Rutgers University, and Bard College. To this must be added her three editions of major works of Liszt for Editio Musica Budapest and G. Henle Verlag.

"Dr. Mueller's greatest professional achievement, a joint effort with Maria Eckhardt (ALS Medal recipient, 1985), is found in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* (2001) - "Franz Liszt: List of Works." These 87 pages are an indispensable, fundamental tool for researchers and performers throughout the world. The value of this work should not be measured by the number of pages, but by the almost two decades of research preceding its publication.

"After considering the totality and indisputably major impact of Dr. Mueller's scholarly contributions, we find her worthy of strong consideration for the ALS Medal."

Congratulations to these two outstanding Lisztians on this honor!

(Editor's note: If you consider a scholar or performer to be a potential candidate for the ALS Medal, please contact ALS President Thomas Mastroianni for details.)

Great Romantics Festival (continued from page 1)

THURSDAY EVENING
HAMILTON PLACE

20.00 CONCERT: National Academy Orchestra
Boris Brott (conductor) and Valerie Tryon (piano)
Liszt: *Symphonic Poem "Les Préludes"*; Chopin: *Piano Concerto No. 1 in E minor*; Liszt: *Totentanz*; Schumann: *"Manfred" Overture*

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8
MACNAB PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10:00 PIANO RECITAL: Miriam Gómez Morán
Chopin-Liszt: Two Polish Songs (*Meine Freuden* ["My Joys"] and *Mädchens Wunsch* ["The Maiden's Wish"]); Liszt: Two Pieces from *Harmonies poétiques et religieuses* ("Andante lagrimoso" and "Cantique d'Amour"), and *Grand Solo de Concert* (1849)

11.00 LIEDER RECITAL: Lenard Whiting (tenor) and Brett Kingsbury (piano)
Brahms: *Die Mainacht* and *Botschaft*; Schumann: *Dein Angesicht, Lehn' deine Wang'*, **Es leuchtet meine Liebe**, and *Mein Wagen rollet langsam*; Mendelssohn: Four Songs (*Der Tag, Reiterlied, Abschied, and Der Bettler*); Schumann: *Dichterliebe*

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

14.00 LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION: William Aide (piano)
"Regarding Robert Schumann's *Kinderszenen*"

15.00 CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT: Stephen Pierre (clarinet), Mark Skazinetsky (violin I), Jayne Maddison (violin II), Chau Luk (viola), Jack Mendelssohn (cello)
Wagner (attributed): *Adagio for Clarinet and String Quartet* and Brahms: *Clarinet Quintet in B minor*

FRIDAY EVENING
CONVOCATION HALL, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

20.00 PIANO RECITAL: Lukas Vondracek
(First Prize winner, 2010 Hilton Head International Piano Competition)
Grieg: Four Lyric Pieces (*Heimweh* [Homesickness], *Takk* [Gratitude], *Bekken* [Brooklet], *For dine føtter* [At your feet]); Mendelssohn: *Variations sérieuses*; Smetana: *Three Czech Dances*; Chopin: *Four Waltzes* (C-sharp minor, A-flat Major, A minor, and F Major); Chopin: *Polonaise in F-sharp minor*; Rachmaninov: *Cinq Etudes-Tableaux, op. 33* (F minor, E-flat minor, E-flat Major, G minor, and C-sharp minor)

(continued on page 10)

Ian Hobson to Give All-Chopin/Schumann Series in NYC

ALS member Ian Hobson will perform a series of 10 concerts in New York City beginning in August as a tribute to two of the world's greatest composers. The concert series, entitled "The Heritage and Legacy of Fryderyk Chopin and Robert Schumann," to be held at the DiCapo Opera Theatre, will celebrate the bicentenary of Chopin's and Schumann's births. David Dubal, the noted author, radio host, and pianist who is on the faculties of the Julliard School and the Manhattan School of Music, will provide historical commentary.

Hobson is commemorating Chopin's birth with other projects as well, including a 16-volume set of recordings comprising Chopin's complete works.

Hobson has served as a juror for many competitions, including the U.S. National Chopin Competition and the Schumann International Competition in Germany, and he chaired the jury for the June 2010 New York International Piano Competition.

The recital series opens August 24 and continues through November 18. Tickets, which will be available through Smart Tix at www.smarttix.com, are \$30 for a single performance, \$75 for a series of three, or \$150 for all 10 recitals. The DiCapo Opera Theatre is at 184 E. 76th St. in New York City.

Great Romantics Festival (continued from page 9)

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 9
MACNAB PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10.00 VIOLIN AND PIANO: José Cueto (violin) and Nancy Roldán (piano)
Strauss: *Sonata in E-flat Major*; Brahms: *Sonata in D minor*; Kreisler-Rachmaninov:
Liebesleid ("Love's Sorrow") and *Liebesfreud* ("Love's Joy")

11.00 LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION: Donald Manildi (piano)
"Chopin: The Voice of the Piano"

SATURDAY AFTERNOON
MACNAB PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

14.30 PIANO GALA: Homage to Fryderyk Chopin
"Hats off, gentlemen, a genius!" - Robert Schumann

Douze Études, Op. 10

Nos. 1-4 -- Matthew Cameron (USA)

Nos. 5-8 -- José Ramos Santana (Puerto Rico/USA)

Nos. 9-12 -- Valerie Tryon (Britain/Canada)

Trois nouvelles Etudes (Op. posth.)

Miriam Gómez Morán (Spain)

Douze Études, Op. 25

Nos. 1-4 -- William Aide (Canada)

Nos. 5-8 -- Steven Spooner (USA)

Nos. 9-12 -- Alexei Gulenko (Canada/Moldova)

SATURDAY EVENING
HAMILTON CONVENTION CENTRE

19.30 FESTIVAL BANQUET

For the complete menu, go to the website at

http://www.artset.net/greatromantics2010/GR2010_Banquet.html

The Sheraton Hamilton Hotel has reserved a number of rooms for Festival guests, at a discounted rate. When booking, please request the Great Romantics Festival discount. Sheraton Hamilton Hotel, 116 King St. W., Hamilton, ON L8P 4V3. Great Romantics Festival rate is \$144 CDN per night. Reservations: 905/529.5515.

The Admiral Inn, 149 Dundurn St. North, Hamilton, ON L8R 3E7. Great Romantics Festival rate is \$95 CDN per night (Wednesday, Thursday are \$89; Friday and Saturday are \$109, with a blended rate of \$95 for all 4 days). Reservations: 905/529.2311.

Italian Chapter Sponsors Marathon Concert Series

The Italian Chapter of the American Liszt Society (Michele Campanella, President) is sponsoring a series of marathon concerts featuring the entire corpus of piano compositions written by Franz Liszt!! The series, which takes place at the National Academy of Santa Cecilia in Rome, began on May 16, 2010 and will conclude on October 23, 2011, the day after the 200th anniversary of Liszt's birth in the small city of Raiding, then in Hungary, now Austria. The series includes seven days of three concerts each - morning, afternoon, and evening. Included among the performers are ALS Board members Ksenia Nosikova and Steven Spooner, and University of Oregon Chapter President Alexandre Dossin, to name but a few.

For more information about the Italian Chapter of the ALS, go to the website

<http://www.lisztsocieta.it/ita>

If you are unable to read Italian, you should be able to find a Google translation prompt at the top right of your computer screen. Click on the word "Translate," and you will obtain a reasonably good translation into English or numerous other world languages. For more information about the marathon itself, click on the words MARATONE LISZT found at the upper right portion of the website.