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Stanford, CA 94305-3076

phone: 650.723.1780
fax: 650.725.2686
elisef@stanford.edu
http://friendsofmusic.
stanford.edu



QuinTango Thrills Audience

"A NIGHT OF GLORIOUS Music, Dazzling Dance, Nostalgia and Joy!" was promised by Friends of Music at Stanford Friday, May 20th. They delivered all that and more to a wildly appreciative audience.

In keeping with Stanford's musical standards, Quintango is a quintet of classically trained chamber musicians who specialize in tango music. They have studied with great tango maestros and composers to achieve a completely authentic feeling and sound. Joan Singer, their dynamic director, brought the audience into her world of tango music by recounting the wonderful stories and characters that go with a century of tango music history.

Tango is music, poetry and dance, all elements of rich, complex music, that in spite of its complexity reaches right into the heart! Dancers Antón Gazenbeek and Carolina Herrera electrified the hall!

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Annual Department Awards Concert

EARLIER THIS YEAR, over 30 graduate and undergraduate students auditioned for Department of Music faculty for a chance to win an annual Department Award. After a long day of auditions and judges' deliberation, \$6,000 in scholarship awards was divided amongst eleven students:

LOUIS SUDLER PRIZE IN MUSIC: Lydia Zodda, soprano — Music major, Political Science minor, Class of 2011

ROBERT M. GOLDEN MEDAL FOR MUSICAL PERFORMANCE: Juliann Ma, piano — Music major, Creative Writing minor, Class of 2011

CAROL & PETER POLK GRADUATE MUSIC AWARD: Jieun Oh, flute — Ph.D. in Computer Based Music Theory & Acoustics

CAROL & PETER POLK UNDERGRADUATE MUSIC AWARD: Sophia Tsai, flute — East Asian Studies Major, Economics minor, Class of 2011

HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE PRIZE IN MUSIC COMPOSITION: Eric Tran, composer — Music major, Class of 2013

HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE PRIZE IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE: Aaron Garg, flute — Chemical Engineering major, Class of 2013, and Jessica Moffitt, soprano — Music major, Class of 2014

BLEW-CULLEY-LAFOLLETE PRIZE FOR PIANO PERFORMANCE: Nathan Cheung, piano — Music major, Class of 2014; and Eric Tran, piano

RITA TAYLOR PRIZE: Anne Sherman, soprano — Undeclared major, Class of 2014

DAN ROBINSON PRIZE: Deanna Badizadegan, viola — Music major, Class of 2014

PATRICK BUTLER PRIZE: Hotaik Sung, piano — Music & Biology dual degree, Class of 2012

We congratulate our award winners and look forward to following their musical development. — *Elise Fujimoto, FoM Liaison*



Department of Music Award winners with their awards and beautiful floral arrangements made by FoM member, Edie Groner. Back row, L-R: Hotaik Sung, Deanna Badizadegan, Anne Sherman, Lydia Zodda, Eric Tran, Aaron Garg, Nathan Cheung. Front row, L-R: Juliann Ma, Sophia Tsai, Jieun Oh (award winner Jessica Moffitt not shown). Photo by Gabe Groner.

The Chair's Chatter

FRIENDS OF MUSIC (FoM) has been fortunate to have Laurel Brobst-Gilbert as a board member for the last twelve years. She has served in many positions, including chair, secretary, and informal bylaws advisor. Laurel will remain a Friend, but is stepping down from her board duties. We wish her and her husband Steve well on their recent move to the Terraces in Los Gatos. Many thanks for your dedication to FoM, Laurel.

Another board member who has proved invaluable for many years is Gabe Groner, treasurer. He prepares our budget each year based on expected donations and interest from our large and growing endowment. His monthly spreadsheets keep us aware of what funds we still have available for disbursement. Gabe's lovely wife, Edie, provides beautiful floral arrangements for our special events and Annual Dinners. Thank you, Gabe and Edie for your continuing service.

I have enjoyed my tenure as chair for the past two years, but am confident in handing the gavel to newly elected Benjamin Devolet, who has served on the board for over ten years, most recently as membership chair. He has many innovative ideas for FoM and has helped implement numerous past endeavors of ours. His background in all facets of music will be a boom for our organization. Welcome, Ben!

With the support of the board members and volunteers, the mission of Friends of Music has been thoroughly advanced over the last two years. Our outreach to the community through the St. Lawrence String Quartet and Adventures in Music concerts for music students and elementary school students, the Music Faculty Showcase, and Annual Scholarship Recital definitely fulfilled our mission. In addition, we added a new element: Tango music and dance, both of which were well received by the community.

We have committed to donating a new Steinway Concert Grand piano for the Bing Concert Hall, opening in 2013. Toward that end, we are sponsoring our largest fundraiser in recent history this September 17th in Dinkelspiel Auditorium. Stanford's own marvelous St. Lawrence String Quartet and superstar pianist Jon Nakamatsu are collaborating for our program. I hope to see everyone attend!

My admiration for the Stanford Music Department and the excellent students they train couldn't be higher. Our recent Scholarship Recital was of professional caliber. The many chamber groups and musical organizations make Stanford a campus rich in musical life. We wish the three traveling ensembles well on their summer tours: Wind Ensemble to Italy, Taiko to Hawaii, and the Chamber Chorale as they embark for Japan. I am glad that FoM was able to assist in subsidizing these trips for very deserving students.

Last of all, I would like to thank Elise Fujimoto, our Music Department liaison for her wonderful first year with us. She was integral to all our events with behind-the-scenes preparations. Bravo, Elise!

— Sue Larson, *Outgoing Chair*

Jon Nakamatsu, alumnus and world-renowned pianist, to perform with St. Lawrence String Quartet

ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011, at 8:00 p.m., the Friends of Music at Stanford will present a rare musical collaboration of pianist Jon Nakamatsu and the St. Lawrence String Quartet. The artists are generously donating their performance toward fund raising for a grand piano, which will be donated to the new Bing Concert Hall—scheduled to open early in 2013—by the Friends of Music. This spectacular concert will be held in the Dinkelspiel Auditorium on the Stanford campus.

All of the funds raised from the concert will go directly to the purchase of a 9-foot Steinway concert grand piano for the Bing Concert Hall. The cost of the piano, transportation, and maintenance is approximately \$150,000.



Jon Nakamatsu, a graduate of Stanford University, was the winner of the 10th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. One of the most sought-after pianists of his generation, he is a frequent concerto soloist, chamber musician, recording artist, and solo recitalist throughout the United States, Europe, and

Japan. He enjoys a continuously expanding career based on a deeply probing and illuminating musicality as well as a quietly charismatic performing style.



The St. Lawrence String Quartet (SLSQ) is Stanford University's ensemble-in-residence. SLSQ has established itself among the world-class chamber ensembles. Its mission: to bring every piece of music to the audience in vivid color, with pronounced communication and teamwork, and great respect for the composer.

We hope you can join us for this wonderful concert. We recommend purchasing your tickets early, as we expect that the house will be sold out. Watch for news about ticket availability at music.stanford.edu.

— Ben Devolet, *Incoming Chair*, and
Helene Zimmerman, *Development Chair*

LOOK OUT SOON FOR YOUR 2011–2012 FRIENDS OF MUSIC MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!

FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT STANFORD

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Student / Graduate: \$20+

Individual: \$40+

Family / Dual: \$60+

Soloist: \$100+

Concertmaster: \$500+

Maestro: \$1000+

Virtuoso: \$1500+

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES go towards costs for FoM programming like our recent

Tango Night concert, community outreach programs such as *Adventures in Music* and the St. Lawrence String Quartet Outreach Concert, and scholarship assistance for students touring with Department of Music ensembles.

Any additional donations above your specified donor level go towards our Annual Scholarship Fund, which helps provide financial assistance to students towards the above tuition

cost of music lessons. For some students, the cost of lessons can be up to \$1,800 over the course of a year!

If you'd like to renew your membership or make a donation today, please visit music.stanford.edu/FOM/fom.html, or send a check to:

Friends of Music at Stanford
541 Lasuen Mall
Stanford, CA 94305-3076

For more information about FoM membership, please email FoM liaison Elise Fujimoto at elisef@stanford.edu.

A Trip to the Opera

THIS FALL, FORTY-FIVE RESIDENTS from Stanford's Italian Language Theme House, La Casa Italiana, were treated to a unique introduction to Italian-style *opera buffa* of the highest quality. Thanks to generous grants from the Friends of Music, the Stanford Institute for Creativity in the Arts (SiCa)'s Off the Farm fund, the Italian Department, and Residential Education, we were able to incorporate a trip to San Francisco Opera's production of *Le nozze di Figaro* into our fall quarter seminar about Italian Comedy.

When Alessandra Aquilanti (La Casa Italiana's Graduate Theme Associate), Ned Henningsen (fellow undergraduate Assistant Theme Associate), and I planned our seminar curriculum for the year, we decided to commit fall quarter to Italian *Commedia dell'arte* and its legacy. Lectures spanned from Danté to Roberto Benigni, with a healthy preparation period for our foray into *opera buffa*. During the seminar, we asked residents to act out Figaro's racy and confusing plot, and we listened to all the most famous portions of the opera together during class. Many of the residents were shocked

to discover that opera singers never use microphones, and that the opera track heard in the prison yard in the movie *Shawshank Redemption* is actually the letter aria ("Sull'aria") from *Figaro*. We also learned about the careers of the SF Opera cast, focusing on their international backgrounds and, somewhat predictably, the absurd aggregate attractiveness of Luca Pisaroni and Danielle De Niese.



Susie Lape

four hours of the performance — they laughed at all the jokes, and I definitely wasn't the only one who cried at the "Pace, pace mio dolce tesoro" resolution in the fourth act. *Figaro* has always been one of my favorite operas, but to successfully transfer this adoration to my peers was an incredibly joyful experience

While the performance was stunningly memorable in its own right, what was most gratifying for me about this evening was how engaged the students were throughout all

of a new variety. I hope our class and this opera trip has helped to counteract the ever dwindling population of young opera-goers and to preserve the eternal relevance of Mozart's comic genius.

This never would have been possible without the generous contribution of the Friends of Music, and this trip to the opera has undoubtedly been the highlight of our year.

— Susie Lape, Class of 2011
Casa Italiana Theme Coordinator

DID YOU KNOW?

Frédéric Chopin was laid to rest in the Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris. In accordance with his wishes, his heart was taken to Poland and placed in an urn in the Holy Cross Church in Warsaw.

— U.E. Kongsgaard,
Tidsskr Nor Legeforen;
Nr. 7–8, April 2011

Congratulations Graduates!

THIS JUNE, the Department of Music at Stanford awarded 15 undergraduate diplomas and 12 graduate diplomas to a new class of Stanford University alumni. FoM would like to congratulate these students on their momentous achievement, and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

— Elise Fujimoto, Undergraduate Student Services Officer

B.A., Music

Sarah Chan, *Concentration in Piano Performance*

Charlie Forkish, *Concentration in Music, Science and Technology*

Susie Lape, *Concentration in Vocal Performance*
(with Honors)

Anne Levitsky, *Concentration in Vocal Performance and Music History and Theory* (with Honors)

Juliann Ma, *Concentration in Piano Performance*
(with Honors)

Tyler Maue, *Concentration in Music, Science and Technology*

Linden Melvin, *Concentration in Composition and Music, Science and Technology* (with Honors)

Reuben Moss, *Concentration in Composition*

Maria Romanovsky, *Concentration in Piano Performance*

Chris Rorke, *Concentration in Saxophone Performance*
(double major with B.S., Physics)

Dan Rorke, *Concentration in Piano Performance*

Hotaik Sung, *Concentration in Piano Performance*

Adrien Wagner

Chris Weil, *Concentration in Music, Science and Technology*

Lydia Zodda, *Concentration in Vocal Performance*
(with Honors)

M.A., Music

Marc Evans, *Music, Science and Technology*

Yinyi Guo, *Music, Science and Technology*

Nicholas Kruge, *Music, Science and Technology*

Oriol Nieto-Caballero, *Music, Science and Technology*

Mofei Zhu, *Music, Science and Technology*

Ph.D., Music

Jessica Balik, *Musicology*

Kiri Heel, *Musicology*

Heidi Lee, *Musicology*

Craig Sapp, *Computer-Based Music Theory and Acoustics*

Gregory Sell, *Computer-Based Music Theory and Acoustics*

Ph.D., Music and Humanities

Kaneez Munjee

Sebastián Ernesto Salvadó

QUINTANGO continued from page 1



Seeing the music visually expressed in dance seared an indelible memory into our minds and hearts. The musicians made their instruments sing, mourn, tease, sigh, laugh, long,

and rock! The audience shared a lovefest of pure joy with a bravura performance from the hearts of the musicians and the dancers. There seemed to be no separation between the audience and the performers. Thunderous applause and cheers kept the performers on stage for an encore and more sharing of joy! The party went on, as the dancers and musicians stayed to meet and greet the many Friends of Music members for whom the backstage event was a membership benefit.

Although they perform as a quintet, each musician in QuinTango is a soloist in his or her own right, and they proved it with many solo moments throughout the concert. Director Joan Singer was joined by virtuoso violinist Machiko Ozawa, cellist Kerry van Laanen, bass player Libby Blatt, and pianist Phil Hosford.

Tango Night! was the crown jewel of a weekend of festivities. Preceding the concert, FoM presented a lecture in the Braun Music Center on “History and Insights into the World of Argentine Tango” by dancer Antón Gazenbeek, a specialist on the history of tango. The room was filled to capacity and chairs were added in every available space. Altogether, it was a memorable and exciting weekend of music and dance!

— Ann Gazenbeek, FoM Board

Max Mathews, Remembered

AT THE END OF APRIL, Stanford University's Department of Music said goodbye to a valued faculty member, creative innovator, and pioneer of computer music. Max Mathews passed away at age 84 in San Francisco. A musician at heart, Max's approach to his research was best described by composer and artist R. Luke DuBois, "...it was vitally important to him that we, the musicians of the computer age, understood the computer for what it was: an instrument for enabling our creative acts, not replacing them."

While working as an engineer for Bell Labs in the 1950s, Max was given the task of researching ways to get computers to listen and speak. He let his passion for music guide his research, ultimately developing powerful computer programs to create and process music and speech. One of his renderings was "Daisy Bell" from 1961, which became famous when Kubrick used it in the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*.



In the early 1980s, Max published an article titled RTSKED: A Real Time Scheduled Language for Controlling a Musical Synthesizer. The article described a system allowing a computer to produce musical sounds and phrases in real time situations when prompted by a performer or on its own. This technology would be the precursor to Max's famous Radio Baton instrument and

to the popular Guitar Hero and Rockband video games, as well as the Nintendo Wii game controller.

Max retired from Bell Labs in 1987, but hardly slowed down. At the invitation of John Chowning, for whom Max had provided the initial support in building the computer music program at Stanford in 1964, Mathews began his career as a professor at CCRMA. During his time here, he touched the lives of many students, staff, and fellow faculty members, despite a second retirement from teaching in 2004.

Max continued his research and was a continuous presence at CCRMA and across the Stanford campus up to a week before his death in April of 2011, often doing research in his office at the Knoll or having lunch with a group of students. Across the globe, he will always be known for his contributions to the world of computer music, but here at Stanford, he will be forever remembered as a member of our extended family.

— John Chowning, Professor Emeritus, and
Elise Fujimoto, FoM Liaison

A Year of Magical Musical Memories

WHO CAN FORGET the beautiful Holiday Musicale in Memorial Church last December? With the Stanford Chamber Chorale and Symphony Orchestra performing music both moving and entertaining, ranging from "Hallelujah" to "Sleighride," it was a wonderful way to begin the joyous holiday season.

Next on our trip down Memory Lane: "Adventures in Music," with Dawn Harms as tour guide to a bunch of clapping, laughing third graders in a completely full Dinkelspiel Auditorium. Dawn began this year's show with her string quartet, teaching the students how each instrument worked while keeping it all a barrel of laughs. Familiar pieces like the theme from *Mission Impossible* and audience participation activities for all thoroughly entertained the audience! The finale featured Harms striding in as Billie Bob, the fiddler, in a gigantic red cowboy hat, as the room exploded with laughter. The kids clearly loved her.

Back in March, we were privileged to hear scholarship students perform in the annual Friends of Music Scholarship Recital. This event is the students' way of showing their appreciation to their benefactors. What an array of talent! The future of music is in good hands with these musicians.

April brought on our first revival of the Faculty Showcase, featuring astounding talent from the Department of Music Faculty. It was a lovely evening of music. Ten works were featured, from Handel, Brahms, and Prokofiev to Johnny Green and an original computer music composition by Fernando Lopez-Lezcano. Participating faculty included:

- Marie-Louise Catsalis, harpsichord
- Laura Dahl, piano
- Debra Fong, violin
- Stephen Harrison, cello
- Dawn Harms, violin
- Nova Jiménez, soprano
- Mary Linduska, soprano
- Fernando Lopez-Lezcano, keyboard controller
- Robin Sharp, violin
- Rick Vandivier, jazz guitar



Some of the Department Faculty at this year's Faculty Showcase: (L-R) Rick Vandivier, Laura Dahl, Mary Linduska, Robin Sharp, and Fernando Lopez-Lezcano. Photo: Sue Larson

Any way you look at it, this was definitely a year of music to remember!

— Rita Taylor, Friends of Music Board



SLSQ OUTREACH CONCERT!

**A CONCERT FOR STRING STUDENTS, AGES 10-18
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 2011 AT 4:30 P.M.
DINKELSPIEL AUDITORIUM — FREE ADMISSION!**

Please contact Elise Fujimoto for reservations.
phone: 650-725-1932 / e-mail: elisef@stanford.edu



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Access our current newsletter online:
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- and St. Lawrence String Quartet
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QUARTER NOTES

Summer 2011