

Dear Friends and Music Lovers,

March was the month of conferences. After many great encounters in Mexico City, Tokyo, Paris, and Vancouver, we are now looking ahead to the next conference and to meeting you there. But also the farther future is tantalizing: it brings us a 50th anniversary, a 200th birthday, and a musical view of 21st century. What does Latitude45 have to do with this? Read on and find out!

Best regards,
Barbara Scales
Director of Latitude45 Arts

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News

Les Percussions de Strasbourg celebrates 50 years

When six percussionists of renowned French orchestras in 1962 founded Les Percussions de Strasbourg, the ensemble was the first and only of its kind. The aim: to free percussion instruments from their traditional roles and give them a more modern repertoire. Today, Les Percussions de Strasbourg has built a repertoire of more than 250 works, many of which were written specially for them.

To celebrate their 50th anniversary, Les Percussions de Strasbourg will tour the world from 2011 to 2013. We are proud to be their partner in North America again, after their successful tour here in 1999. Their jubilee tour features "Le Noir de l'Etoile" by Gerard Grisey, in which the six percussionists are accompanied by the recorded sound of a pulsar, a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star. The piece was premiered in 1990 by Les Percussions de Strasbourg and has shown great success among critics and audiences alike. A recent performance under the stars in Mexico City attracted more than 5000 people.

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=24
www.percussionsdestrasbourg.com

Two Latitude45ers Nominated for BC Touring Awards

Latitude45 has proven to not only have great artists, but also great agents. Canadian agent Brian Harman recently has been nominated for the BC Touring Awards of the BC Touring Council in the category "agent/manager of the year". Furthermore, among the nominees in the "touring artists" category is the Nathaniel Dett Chorale who gave an impressive performance on the occasion of Barack Obama's inauguration at the Canadian embassy in Washington in January as well as a fabulous tour of Western Canada in February.

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=47
www.brianharman.ca
www.bctouring.org

Vladimir Mischouk Artistic Director of International Chopin Festival

In February 2010, the musical world will celebrate the 200th birthday of Frederic Chopin. As one of the most esteemed Chopin pianists in Russia, Vladimir Mischouk has been appointed artistic director of the International Chopin Festival in St. Petersburg. The festival is organized by the State Hermitage, the St. Petersburg House of Music, and the International Chopin Society in Warsaw. Invited pianists from France, Poland and Russia will show the magnitude and importance of Chopin's heritage.

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=64

New Artist: Brian Current

A Guggenheim Fellow and recipient of the 2003 Barlow Prize, Brian Current has established himself as one of North America's leading young composers. Toronto's Esprit Orchestra has commissioned him to compose a new work to present the 21st century approach to orchestra music. "This is Not Silence II: A Young Person's Guide to New Music for Symphony Orchestra" will surely appeal not only to the young, but to audiences of all ages. Latitude45 is representing Brian as both a composer as a conductor, a co-operation made possible in part by support from the Canada Council for the Arts Career Development Program.

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=90

www.briancurrent.com

BC Scene Festival with Alain Trudel and François Houle

A newcomer and a veteran on Latitude45's roster participate in this year's BC Scene Festival in Ottawa, the National Arts Centre's celebration of Canada's most western province. Clarinetist and composer François Houle, renowned for his rich and flexible sound as well as for his improvising skills, holds a recital on April 27 with works by Milhaud, Piazzolla, and the world premiere of his own composition "Aerials XIX". Conductor Alain Trudel leads the NAC Orchestra in a concert on April 30 that includes world premieres of works by Jocelyn Morlock and Douglas Smith, along with works by Rodney Sharman and Benjamin Britten.

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=84

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=13

www.bcscene.ca

Meet Latitude45 in Luxembourg

Another chance to get in direct contact with Latitude45, this time in Europe: we will attend the 19th IAMA International Conference at the Philharmonie Luxembourg from 23-25 April 2009. Come and meet us there!

www.iamaworld.com/179

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Artist of the Month: Jenny Lin

The New York Times praise her “assertiveness” and “muscularity”, the Washington Post her “deeply felt performances” and her “graceful musicmaking” – Jenny Lin is one of the most respected young pianists today. She likes to draw attention to lesser known repertoire, and she is a fervent advocate of the music of our time, not only from the Americas, but also by lesser known European and Asian Composers. Her impressive discography includes works by Ruth Crawford Seeger, Chinese composers Guan Xia and Ma Yo-Dao, Valentin Silvestrov, Ernest Bloch, to name just a few. And there’s more to come: her recording of Shostakovich’s Preludes and Fugues will be released this month by the Hänssler label; and later this year she will release another CD with Koch, featuring the Catalan composer Federico Mompou.



As if recording were not enough to keep her busy, Jenny also is an active performer, continuously expanding her already vast repertoire. In only the month of April, she will play Messiaen, Ligeti, Bach, Liszt, Freeman, Schnittke, Isaÿe, Villa-Lobos, Bernstein, Ortiz, DeLilo, jazz pieces, and many more; she will perform as a soloist, with an orchestra, and with a small ensemble.

Indeed, an impressive young pianist!

www.latitude45arts.com/en/artist.php?artist_id=82

www.jennylin.net

Events

See our full events calendar on www.latitude45arts.com/en/calendar.php.

April 3, 8 pm, West Point Grey United Church, Vancouver (Canada)

François Houle, clarinet, and fellow musicians present a trio version of Stravinsky's "L'histoire du soldat" and a new piece by François Houle, "Because She Hoped"; recorded by the CBC

April 5, 2 pm, Newmarket Theatre, Newmarket/Ontario (Canada)

Bellows & Brass are Guy Few (trumpet, piano), Joseph Petric (accordion) and Eric Vaillancourt (trombone): a powerful and engaging trio of three of Canada's most successful soloists

April 5, 3 pm, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, Toronto (Canada)

Alain Trudel conducts the Hannaford Street Silver Band and Joe Alessi, trombone, in "Slide Show"

April 5, 4 pm, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. (USA)

Pianist Jenny Lin and the Verge Ensemble play Schnittke, Weck, DeLio, Freeman and more

April 6, 7:30 pm, Renwick Gallery, Washington D.C. (USA)

Mark Fewer, violin, and the Smithsonian Chamber Players perform chamber music by Berwald, Bartok and Mendelssohn

April 6, 7:30 pm, Symphony Space, New York (USA)

Pianist Jenny Lin performs at the Cutting Edge New Music Series

- April 7, 7:30 pm, Morgan Library & Museum, New York City (USA)
Makoto Nakura and ensemble perform "Double Take: Obsession", featuring works by Bach, Isayë, and jazz improvisations
- April 7, 8 pm, Colara Hall, Belgrade (Serbia)
Pascal Gallet plays piano works by Chopin, Debussy, Messiaen and Jevtić
- April 8, 8 pm, Cathedral, Novisad (Serbia)
Pascal Gallet plays piano works by Chopin, Debussy, Messiaen and Jevtić
- April 9, 8 pm, Redpath Hall, Montreal (Canada)
Mark Fewer, baroque violin, performs works by Locatelli, Boccherini, Haydn, and Vivaldi, with the McGill Baroque Orchestra under the direction of Hank Knox
- April 11 and 12, 8 pm, Palais des Congrès, St. Malo (France)
Pascal Gallet performs Chopin's piano concerto No. 1 and the concerto in F minor by J. S. Bach, accompanied by the Orchestre de St. Malo
- April 16, 8 pm, Royal Conservatory Theatre, Toronto (Canada)
Brian Current conducts the New Music Ensemble of the Glenn Gould School in "Maniac Star", featuring contemporary music by Canadian and Japanese composers
- April 17, 7:30 pm, MacMillan Theatre, Toronto (Canada)
Alain Trudel conducts the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra in a concert featuring Beethoven, Stravinsky, and a commissioned Canadian new composition
- April 18, 8 pm, Le Poisson Rouge, New York City (USA)
Jenny Lin performs "Wordless Music" together with Toumani Diabaté's Symmetric Orchestra
- April 20, 8 pm, Cellar Jazz Club, Vancouver (Canada)
Persian jazz fusion and improvisations, presented by the Ensemble SAFA, featuring François Houle, Amir Koushkani and Sal Ferreras
- April 24, time tba, Tirana (Albania)
Alain Trudel conducts the Radio Television Symphony Orchestra of Albania in a program of Haydn, Bruckner, and Trudel
- April 27, 12 pm, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (Canada)
François Houle, clarinet, with Jane Hayes, piano, on the BC Scene Festival
- April 30, 8 pm, National Arts Centre, Ottawa (Canada)
Music from Sea to Sky: Alain Trudel conducts the National Arts Orchestra in a 20th century music program, featuring violinists Jonathan Crow and Karl Stobbe
- May 1, 8 pm, Bargemusic, New York City (USA)
Jenny Lin presents "Here and Now: From the Americas": piano music by Villa/Lobos, Kampela, Schwendiger, Sanchez-Guitierrez, Bernstein, Copland, and Ortiz
- May 1, time tba, Sao Paulo (Brazil)
Klezatory perform their emotionally charged klezmer at Sao Paulo's cultural festival "Virada Cultural"
- May 6, 7 pm, Spencer Museum of Art, Kansas (USA)
Percussionist Makoto Nakura performs "The Wood and Forests Project" within the museum's "Trees & Other Ramifications: Branches in Nature & Culture" exhibition
- May 6, 8 pm, Conciertodromo Ollin Kan, Mexico City (Mexico)
Klezatory play klezmer at Ollin Kan, Mexico's festival of musical and cultural encounters