En el sendero ancho

Poetry by Iraida Iturraldi

Music by Tania León

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano

The 69th Annual American Composers Update

SAI Philanthropies, Inc. Winter 2018 Digital Exclusive
Dear Reader,

Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies is pleased to bring you the newest Composers Bureau Update, the 69th in a stream of annual reports from the field. Composers are hard at work, having success in getting premieres, second and third performances, recordings, and publications. News tells of commissions and opportunities.

And, as you will read, audiences around the world hear the music of our Composers Bureau members! The American Composers issue goes not only to members of SAI, but also to libraries and schools. This magazine is listed in the MUSIC INDEX, which includes a separate entry for each composer in the “American Composer Update: Premieres, Performances, Publications, Recordings, and News.” In addition, information in the issue is used to update the information on the SAI Composers Bureau website with direct links to composers’ webpages, biographies, and annual reports; a website that is visited by performers, teachers, librettists, and composers who are interested in finding new music by American composers.

Composers Bureau members inspire through their annual updates and sharing of information with other composers. Our reports link composers to one another, to performers eager to program and commission new music, to students who crave music that is fresh and new.

Most importantly, the SAI Composers Bureau is a project of SAI Philanthropies, Inc., supported by tens of thousands of donations small and large from SAI collegiate women and alumnae members who believe it is important to support American composers by publicizing their work. So, to all who use the Composers Bureau Update, know that this is a part of Sigma Alpha Iota’s core mission: to encourage, nurture, and support the art of music. We can’t do it without you!

Cordially,
Susan Cohn Lackman, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Director, Sigma Alpha Iota Composers Bureau

COVER COMPOSER TANIA LEÓN

National Arts Associate Tania León is highly regarded as a composer and conductor and recognized for her accomplishments as an educator and advisor to arts organizations. She has been profiled on ABC, CBS, CNN, PBS, Univision, Telemundo, and independent films.

León’s opera Scourge of Hyacinths, based on a play by Wole Soyinka with staging and design by Robert Wilson, received over 20 performances throughout Europe and Mexico. Commissioned by Hans Werner Henze and the city of Munich for the Fourth Munich Biennale, it took home the coveted BMW Prize. The aria “Oh Yemanja” (“Mother’s Prayer”) was recorded by Dawn Upshaw on her Nonesuch CD, “The World So Wide.”

Commissions include works for Ursula Oppens and the Cassatt Quartet, Nestor Torres, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, New World Symphony, Koussevitzky Foundation, Fest der Kontinente (Hamburg, Germany), Cincinnati Symphony, National Endowment for the Arts, NDR Sinfonie Orchester, American Composers Orchestra, The Library of Congress, Ensemble Modern, The Los Angeles Master Chorale, and The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, among others.

Her works have been performed by such orchestras as the Gewaundhausorchester, L’Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the China National Symphony, and the NDR Orchestra. She has collaborated with authors and directors including John Ashbery, Margaret Atwood, Rita Dove, Jamaica Kincaid, Mark Lamos, Julie Taymor, and Derek Walcott.

León has appeared as guest conductor with the Symphony Orchestra and Chorus of Marseille, the Orquesta Sinfonica de Asturias, L’Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Orquesta Filarmonica de Bogota, the Gewaundhausorchester, Chamber Orchestra of Geneve, Switzerland, the Guanajauto Symphony Orchestra, Mexico, Symphony Orchestra of Johannesburg, and the WaZulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra, South Africa, as well as the Orquesta de la Comunidad y Coro de Madrid, and the New York Philharmonic, among others.

She has lectured at Harvard University and at the prestigious Mosse Lecture series at the University of Humboldt in Berlin and was the Andrew Mellon Foundation’s Distinguished Scholar at the Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg, South Africa. León was also Visiting Professor at Yale University, Guest Composer/Conductor at the Hamburg Musikschule, Germany and the Beijing Central Conservatory, China.

A founding member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, León instituted the Brooklyn Philharmonic Community Concert Series, co-founded the Sonidos de las Américas festivals with the American Composers Orchestra, and is the founder of Composers Now festival in New York City. She also served as Latin American Advisor to the American Composers Orchestra and New Music Advisor to the New York Philharmonic.

León has also received Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Colgate University, Oberlin, and SUNY Purchase College, and has served as U.S. Artistic Ambassador of American Culture in Madrid, Spain. A Professor at Brooklyn College since 1985 and at the Graduate Center of CUNY, she was named Distinguished Professor of the City University of New York in 2006. In 2010 she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Her honors include the New York Governor’s Lifetime Achievement Award, Symphony Space’s Access to the Arts, the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award, and the Fromm, Koussevitzky, and Guggenheim Fellowships. In 2012 she received both a Grammy nomination (for “Best Contemporary Classical Composition”) and a Latin Grammy nomination (for “Best Classical Contemporary Composition”) and in 2013 she was the recipient of the prestigious 2013 ASCAP Victor Herbert Award.

She was initiated by the Northern New Jersey Alumnae Chapter of SAI in 2014 and served as a Composer-Judge for the 2015 SAI National Convention in St. Louis.
ANNUAL AMERICAN COMPOSERS UPDATE

WANG AN-MING • • • • •
PERFORMANCES: Dazzling Jewels, Come My Love, Liana Valente, soprano, Sharon Guertin Shafer, piano, Old Town Hall, Fairfax, VA, 4/20/17; also, Jane Thessin, soprano, Shafer, piano, Maplewood Park Place, Bethesda, MD 2/26/17.
NEWS: Wang An-Ming’s music streamed from KHND 104.1 FM, Eugene, OR, 2/19/17.

ELIZABETH R. AUSTIN • • • • •
PERFORMANCES: Litauische Lieder (Lithuanian Songs), Bobrowski, poet, Wolfram Tessmer, baritone, Frank Goldschmidt, piano, Akademie des Kunstes, Berlin, Germany, 4/5/17. A Woman’s Love and Life (Frauenliebe und -leben), Chamisso, poet, Lydia McClain, soprano, Austin, piano, American Composers Alliance Vocal Concert, New York City, NY, 10/21/17. Scene 12 from I am one and double too, opera by Elizabeth and Gerhard Austin, Lydia McClain, soprano, Christopher Grundy, baritone, Amelia Peterson, chamber orchestra conductor, Women Composers Festival of Hartford, CT, Wadsworth Atheneum, 4/7/18.

CAROL BARNETT • • • • • • • • •
NEW PUBLICATIONS: Music, Dei donum optimi, Galaxy Music Corporation, ECS Publishing Group.

ROBERT BOURY • • • • • • • • •
PERFORMANCES: Alma Mater, University of Arkansas at Little Rock Concert Choir, Spring and Fall commencements, Bevan Keating, director. Boury performs weekly at the Cancer Research Center, University Med Center; his piano performances include his own Nocturne, from Portrait of Chopin, and Oasis.
NEWS: Robert Boury has completed three sections of a never to be completed, “Dialogue” (Divine and Human) for various instruments including saxophone and piano. He considers this to be his opus ultimatum. On February 7th, Boury hosted his 31st Annual Songwriters Showcase featuring his student composers as well as songwriters from the Little Rock community. For Boury, 2017 was also a year of research at the Arkansas Center for Arkansas History and Culture. The archives have received a complete collection of the manuscripts of choral composer Bob Ashton. Boury researched and organized the manuscripts for a performance by The UALR Concert Choir and Community Chorus on November 30th.

ALLEN BRINGS

CAROLYN BURTON
PREMIERES: Viola Solo, Bob Marcus, Unitarian Universalist Church, Brewster, MA, 5/21/17. Viola Thinks, Lary Chapian, Unitarian Universalist Church, 6/18/17.
NEWS: Burton has been very busy with “A Mass for US”. She worked on it all of 2016-17. She has planned a GoFundMe campaign for next year and has another piece for singer, piano, and banjo (yes, banjo) just about ready to start shopping. The woman who wrote the words said, “What we have here is a one aria opera.” Another odd ensemble: Alto Sax, piano and flute. James Pellerite, the foremost performer of the Native American flute, took one of her songs and adapted it to his flute; the piece was renamed Sound at Dusk and has been performed three times.

HOWARD J. BUSS
ANDREA CLEARFIELD • • • •
PREMIERES: Hvatt for tuba and piano, commissioned by Froydis Ree Wekre, premiered by Oystein Baadsvik, Linköping, Sweden, February 2017; Cinammoran Press. Round for Three Muses, percussion solo and percussion trio, commissioned and premiered by Yun Ju Pan Ensemble, Michigan State University, 4/22/17; also, Soochow University in Taipei, Taiwan, 6/16/17.
PERFORMANCES: Rabsong Shar (Eastern Room of the Palace), University of Arkansas commission, University of Arkansas New Music Ensemble, Jamai Deon Duncan, artistic director, Moon-Sook Park, soprano, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; also, University of Texas New Music Ensemble, Dan Welcher, director, Suzanne Lis, soprano, UT Austin 4/28/17. “Miriam’s Dance” from Women of Valor oratorio, Ellen Frankel and narrator, Chamber Ensemble, Michigan State University, April 13, 2017.
RECORDINGS: You can learn more about the music and publications of Andrea Clearfield by visiting www.brixtonpublications.com. 2017 marks the 42nd consecutive year that her concert activity has been published in the Composers Update issue of Pan Pipes magazine.


NEWS: You can learn more about the music of Howard J. Buss on Wikipedia at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_J._Buss and on his website at http://www.brixtonpublications.com/howard_j_buss-2.html. During 2017 Howard J. Buss received an AscaPlus Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers in recognition of significant performances of his music. He was commissioned by classical guitarist Robert Phillips to compose “Dances and Interludes” as part of his central Florida composers recording project. He is founder and editor of Brixton Publications (ASCAP) and Howard J. Buss Publications (BMI), which publish concert music by American composers. You can learn more about the music and composers represented in the Brixton catalog by visiting their website at www.brixtonpublications.com. 2017 marks the 42nd consecutive year that his concert activity has been published in the Composers Update issue of Pan Pipes magazine.
By Jane Ellen

Temple Emanuel of Great Neck, NY was the scene for what attendees quickly began calling the Party of the Century, as National Arts Associate James Cohn celebrated his 90th birthday with a gala concert and celebratory dinner. As a crowd of more than 150 guests and performers made their way inside the synagogue, they were met with hors d’oeuvres and a hot soup bar. A receiving line quickly formed so that guests might greet the Maestro and his wife Eileen, after which the concert promptly began at 1 pm.

Serving as Master of Ceremonies, Tris Willems provided a humorous monologue which covered set and ensemble changes, keeping the audience entertained. The celebrated ensemble Quintet of the Americas (Queens, NY) book-ended the program, opening the afternoon with a spirited rendition of Cohn’s *Arkansas Reel* and concluding the concert with the third movement of the composer’s *Quintet #1*, an accelerated adaptation for woodwind quintet of the Jewish wedding march written for his wife Eileen.

In between those selections arrived a steady stream of musicians, eagerly awaiting to pay their musical (and often spoken) tributes to their host, resulting in an eighty minute non-stop festival of works by James Cohn. Argentine-American pianist Mirian Conti, whose powerful solo performance of Cohn’s *Americana* brought some audience members to their feet, served also as accompanist for Amadi Azikiwe’s breathtaking rendition of the final movement of the *Sonata for Viola and Piano*, as well as for Quintet of the Americas’ hornist Barbara Oldham’s emotional rendition of the third movement from the *Sonata for Horn and Piano*.

The Grossman Piano Trio (Eric Grossman, violin; Cecilia Grossman, cello; Lida Grossman; piano) presented the alternately fiery and poignant third movement of *Trio #1*, while New York guitarist David Galvez was on hand to provide an evocative performance of Cohn’s *Toccata for Guitar Alone*.

Soprano Yolanda Johnson and pianist Nina Siniakova joined forces in one of the humorous selections from Cohn’s musical theatre comedy *KATrina*, entitled “The Catnip Song” (lyrics by Jeffrey Fites). Siniakova was also on hand to participate in the composer’s delightful *Variations on a Boogie*, along with clarinetist Joseph Rosen and cellist Sonna Kim. At the conclusion of the variations, Siniakova gave an impassioned solo jazz rendition of “You Light Up My Life”, in special tribute to the love shared by the Cohns across the decades.

In spite of the absolutely phenomenal combined talents of those present, it was fifteen-year-old piano prodigy Maxim Lando who stole the afternoon. His first appearance was as soloist for the whimsical piano work *Strutting Butterflies*, followed by a turn as accompanist for oboist Matt Sullivan in the understated yet deeply moving second movement of the *Sonata for Oboe and Piano*. After the final performance by the Quintet of the Americas, Maxim returned in a surprise encore at the personal request of James and Eileen, to perform the only piece of the afternoon not written by Mr. Cohn. The young pianist then proceeded to work his way through *Islamey: an Oriental Fantasy* (1863), a concert work regarded as “unplayable” by its composer, Mily Balakirev.

At the work’s fiery conclusion the audience found themselves on their feet not only in tribute to the young musician’s phenomenal gifts, but in honor of the Cohns who came forward to give their thanks to all of those in attendance.

Their personal remarks included a reading of the names of those dear to them...
who had passed away, in order to include them in the afternoon's festivities. Those in attendance were then treated to an elegant four-course meal, which concluded with the cutting of a multiple layer, musically-themed birthday cake.

James Cohn has a busy year ahead of him; his major commission in 2016 was the *Concerto for English Horn and String Orchestra* for Pedro Diaz, currently serving as Principal English Horn of the New York Metropolitan Opera Orchestra; the work will be premiered this year in Costa Rica, and will be repeated at the International Double Reed Society Convention in Granada, Spain.

During 2017 the composer received nine new commissions: *Dance Suite for Violin and Guitar* (Romulo Benavides, David Galvez); *Clarinet Quartet* (Brownstone Quartet, NY); *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra* (Amadi Azikiwe); *KAM Trio* honoring Korean, American and Moldavian musicians for clarinet, cello, and piano (Joseph Rosen Sonna Kim, Taisya Pushkar); a new work for the Claribel Clarinet Choir (Oostende, Belgium); *String Quartet #4* (Johnson Quartet, Philadelphia, PA); *Three Portraits for Voice and String Quartet* (soprano April Armstrong); *Serenade* for flute, harp, violin, viola and cello (Cante Libra Chamber Ensemble); and a new work for clarinet and piano based on Klezmer themes for Caroline Hartig, President of the International Clarinet Association.

Composer Jane Ellen is an initiate of Alpha Sigma at the University of New Mexico, a past member of the Albuquerque Alumnae Chapter, and current member of the International Chapter. A Ruby Sword of Honor recipient, she served as Composers Bureau Director for 12 years.

SAIs in Attendance as Composer Celebrates 90th Birthday

National Arts Associate and SAI Composers Bureau member James Cohn had several members of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity surrounding him at the celebration, both as performers and as attendees. His wife, Eileen, is an SAI Patroness member, and she was the inspiration for the wonderful concert. The former Director of the SAI Composers Bureau, Jane Ellen, flew in from Albuquerque, NM, and former SAI National President Ginny Johnson, with her husband Friend of the Arts Bill Johnson came from Fort Wayne, IN. SAI Executive Director Ruth Sieber Johnson arrived by train from Asheville, NC where the SAI National Headquarters is located.

Mirian Conti, Argentine/American pianist, is an SAI Honorary Member, having been initiated by the New York Alumnae chapter. A Yamaha Artist, she has served on the faculty of the Evening Division at the Juilliard School since 2007.

Presenting the selection from Jim’s musical theater piece *KATrina* was Yolanda Johnson, an initiate of the Sigma Gamma Chapter at the University of Tulsa. Since moving to the NYC area she has created a program called “Music She Wrote” which is a collaboration with soprano Brooke Bryant, featuring works by the most celebrated women composers throughout music history.

JAMES COHN  •  •  •


NEWS: “Shut the door – they’re coming through the windows.” This is a very old saying known to me through my (almost) 90 years of life. Since last year when I received many commissions and fulfilled them all – I didn’t think that my musical life could get any better – but it has. Nine new commissions have come in – in 2017 – I have already fulfilled 7 of them and am now working on the 8th. Two of my commissions (and premieres, as noted above from 2016) were performed in summer of 2017 at Music Conventions in Wisconsin and Florida, and many young musicians in both states were interested in my music after hearing these performances. My health continues to be excellent as I approach my 90th birthday in February of 2018. I am more than grateful for this blessing from our Creator and I look forward to each new day with enthusiasm.

DINOS CONSTANTIDES  •  •  •  •  •

PERFORMANCES: Concerto No. 2 for Soprano Saxophone and Orchestra, LRC106d, Theodoros Kerkezos, saxophone; Athens Symphony, Gina Bachauer International Festival, Athens Megaron, Athens, Greece, 12/19/16. Theme and Variations for Piano, LRC001, Andreas Kerkezos, piano, Gina Bachauer International Festival, Athens Megaron, Athens, Greece, 12/18/16. Homage – A Folk Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, LRC110a, Iwona Glinka, flute, Vlad Conta, Conductor Constantza Symphony Orchestra, Teatrul National De Opera Si Balet, Thalassa Film & Music, Constanta, Romania, 09/30/16; also, Midnight Fantasy for Orchestra, LRC121, Constantza Symphony Orchestra; Music for Two Saxophones and Orchestra, LRC257, Athanasios Zervas, saxophone, Jeremy Justeson, saxophone, Constantza Symphony Orchestra; Piano Concerto No. 2 (Grecian Variations), LRC261, Maria Asteriadiou, piano, Constantza Symphony Orchestra; Storytelling for flute and string orchestra, LRC191, Iwona Glinka, flute, Constantza Symphony Orchestra, all Vlad Conta, conductor. Family Triptych for violin, viola, and strings, LRC182j, Kasia Kosmala-Dahibe, violin, Jerzy Kosmala, viola, Fresco Sonare Chamber Orchestra, Monika Bachowska, conductor; also, Grecian Variations for solo viola and strings, LRC106a, Jerzy Kosmala, viola, Fresco Sonare Chamber Orchestra, Inaugural Concert of Il Attovola Forum, Main Building, National Museum of Krakow, Poland, 8/28/16. Reverie II for double bass and piano, LRC081b, Yung-chiao Wei, double bass, National Recital Hall, Taipei, Taiwan, 7/10/16.


NEW RECORDINGS: Dinos Constantides: Songs for Euphros, Centaur Records, Inc (CRC 3547). A Little Song for Solo Flute, LRC212a; Celestial Musings for Flute Alone, LRC231; Ballade for Flute and Guitar, LRC013f; Fantasia for Solo Flute, LRC064; Hellenic Dance for Flute, Cello and Guitar, LRC015a; Songs for Euphros for Flute and Piano, LRC264c; Tale for Flute, Clarinet and Piano, LRC151c; The Oracle at Delphi (Study III) for Flute, Clarinet and Piano, LRC146c; Trio No. 2d for Flute, Cello and Piano, LRC043d. The Operatic Works of Dinos Constantides. Centaur Records, Inc (CRC 3550). Intimations: One Act Opera, LRC039; Threnos of Creon for English Horn and String Orchestra, LRC218; Rosanna: One-Act Opera, LRC241b. Musical Potpourri: Works by Dinos Constantides. Magni Publications (MP-21005). New Orleans Divertimento II for Saxophone and Orchestra, LRC224; Evangeline II for Voice and Woodwind Quintet, LRC048b; Reverie for Double Bass and String Orchestra, LRC259a; Tale for Two Clarinets and Piano, LRC151b; Fantasia for Solo Saxophone, LRC080; Grecian Variations for Solo Viola and String Orchestra, LRC106a.

NEWS: Constantides was named Composer-in-Residence at the LSU School of Music and a new LSU ensemble was named after him: Constantides New Music Ensemble. DCINY (Distinguished Concerts International New York) has commissioned a piece, Concerto for Flute, Harp, and Orchestra, for its 10th anniversary to be premiered at Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium, in June 2018. The Festival Alfredo de Saint Malo in Panama has commissioned two new orchestral works, Symphony No. 7 and Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Orchestra, to be premiered by the National Symphony Orchestra of Panama. Constantides’ music is the subject of three doctoral dissertations at Greek universities.
NEW RECORDINGS: A Bach Diadem, a set of three orchestrated pieces, has been recorded by the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, and is to be released by Parma/Navona in the coming year. The Croatian Camber Orchestra, conducted by Miran Vapotic, has recorded the 1997 CLARINET CONCERTO, Op.186, to be on the above mentioned Parma/Navona CD.


PERFORMANCES: Disciple Variations, from opera The Wonderful Witch of Oz, Daniel Boyle, organ, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, in Maumee, Ohio, on Sunday, 1/22/17.

NEW PUBLICATIONS: Animal Fugue, in “Chor aktuell basis” (BE 2338), Trennheuser, Bianca (Germany).

NEWS: All of his music efforts were cancelled this year, so that he could concentrate on completing his grand opera, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. In 1974, when Wallace De Pue, Sr. (a doctoral graduate from Michigan State University), was a professor at Bowling Green State, in Ohio, he was asked to compose an opera that would cost next to nothing to produce. “The choices I made were most fortunate. My opera was deemed a total success by Boris Nelson, critic of the Toledo Blade. Aside from the premiere, there were two more performances in high schools near to Bowling Green, Ohio. The four main lead singers, a tenor, two baritones, and a bass were highly rated by the critic. Personalities in the opera are of mixed genders. Small parts are covered by different singers. There is one major aria for a soprano. Thus, any opera department could afford to produce it. There is a single set, optional dancing, optional use of an organ, a string quartet, a piano, and piano interior; the percussion includes four timpani, a slide whistle, a medium-size gong, and a large tam-tam. Costumes and props may come from homes. In 2015, I began revising and engraving the original score, so that more attention might be given to the opera. It may be completed in 2017. The book, The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by Robert Louis Stevenson, was intended to include murders, and other evils, and my opera pulls no punches, so those who see it may wish to close their eyes during certain scenes. My opera includes several different styles of music, not just a single contemporary style. My choice of styles is determined by Stevenson’s text.”


NEW RECORDINGS: Klavier, University of North Texas Symphonic Band, Dennis W. Fisher, conductor. CD TITLE undetermined. Release date November, 2017. All titles on the CD by Giroux. The CD includes all brand-new works, three of which will have optional video
accompaniments. No click track. Live Video playback will be manned by 1 technical person who will sit in the performing ensemble and must follow the conductor. He must be a music reading musician and must follow the conductor like the other musicians.

**NEWS:** Currently being composed: Symphony No. 5, Symphony of Elements, I. Sun in C, II. Rain in D, III. Wind in Eb, estimated duration 25 minutes. Premieres June 8-10 by Eastern Wind Ensemble, Todd Nichols, conductor. Will be the most difficult work for wind band by the composer, and features fantastic orchestration and composition elements and techniques.

**In My Father’s Eyes,** Solo Virtuoso Cello and Female Children’s Voices, premieres at The Midwest Clinic; Composed for The Alabama Winds, Randall O. Coleman, conductor; Dedicated to the 1963 bombing victims of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

**ARTHUR GOTTSCHALK**

**PREMIERES:** Four New Brothers, Briccialdi Sax Quartet, Reno Galleria Wind Orchestra, Antonio Remedio, Director, Teatro II Celebraciones, Bologna, Italy, 4/24/17. Mr. Ellison’s Curiosity Shop, Hunter Capocciolo, solo contrabass, Chapman Welch, PowerPoint, Rice University, Houston, TX, 9/14/17.


**NEW PUBLICATIONS:** Sonata for Horn and Piano, IHS Online.

**NEW RECORDINGS:** Sonata for Bass Clarinet, Igor Urruchi, bass clarinet, Mario Molina, A Long Wave in Common, Itinerant Records. Five Songs of Love, Karol Bennett, soprano, the Gotham String Quartet, Modes, Navona Records.
Interrogations, also, Gone to Gone Madrigal Singers, Karyl Carlson, conductor, Kemp Recital Hall, Illinois State University, Normal, IL; also, Vignettes, Lauren Hunt, horn, Mark Babbitt, trombone; also, Drawings, Set No. 9, ISU Perc. Ens., David Collier, conductor; also, Stolen Goods, John Orfe, piano; also, String Quartet No. 7, Jupiter String Quartet, Kemp Recital Hall Illinois State University, Normal, Ill., 3/28/17. Kerberos, Larry Snider, solo percussion, University of Akron, Ohio., 9/24-25/16.


NEWS: Ivy Plus Libraries has selected Hodkinson’s web site for inclusion in its Contemporary Composers Web Archive. The Archive is a newly launched initiative developed by music librarians at Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale Universities, and the Universities of Chicago and Penna. The project aims to preserve websites belonging to notable contemporary composers in order to assure the continuing availability of these important, and potentially ephemeral, documents for use by researchers and scholars.


NEWS: 2017 commissions include a new multimovement solo organ work (from Rebecca Neff) for the 2017-2018 Duke Organ Series and a commission from WDAV 89.9 Classical Public Radio for the creation of the station’s first audio logo, along with many variants of it for a variety of instruments and ensembles. The new logo and variants will be introduced over WDAV beginning in December of 2017 as a part of the WDAV’s 40th anniversary year as a professional classical music radio station. Dan Locklair is Composer-in-Residence and Professor of Music at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. His primary publishers are Ricordi and Subito and his website is at www.locklair.com. He is represented by Jeffrey James Arts Consulting in New York.

SAMUEL MAGRILL • • •

PREMIERES: Concerto fantastique, Mira Magrill, flute, Chelsea Symphony, Mark Seto, conductor, German Lutheran Church of St. Paul, NY, 4/21/17.

PERFORMANCES: Song of the Seasons, of group sestina by Daniel Ling, Talia Magrill, Bailey Schreier, Michelle Quintara, Kendra Farve, Pamela Richman, soprano, Dawn Marie Lindblade, clarinet, Tess Remy-Schumacher, cello, Sallie Pollack, piano, “Hong Zhu and Friends” Faculty Arts Concert, UCO Jazz Lab, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK, 8/29/17. Odyssey Etude, Mira Magrill, flute, Samuel Magrill, piano; also, Stone Poems, Mira Magrill, flute, Samuel Magrill, piano; also, Tango Flauto, Mira Magrill, Kimberly Boross, Kelsey Glenn, Emily Butterfield, flutes; Bagatelle” Mira Magrill, flute; Concerto fantastique, Mira Magrill, flute, Samuel Magrill, piano; all on series on “M&M: Dr. Sam Magrill and Dr. Mira Magrill,” University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK.

NEW PUBLICATIONS: Concerto fantastique, solo flute and chamber orchestra (Lynn Morse Publishing). Both the full orchestral score with parts and the piano reduction are available.

NEWS: Samuel Magrill is a Professor of Music, Graduate Coordinator for Music and Composer-in-Residence at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) School of Music in Edmond. Almost all of Samuel Magrill’s works are available through Lynn Morse Publishing, 1725 Westwood Lane, Edmond, OK 73013. He is an SAI National Arts Associate.

BRUCE P. MAHIN • • •

PREMIERES: Piano Variations, Martin Jones, piano, Covington Center for the Performing Arts, Radford University, 11/12/17.

PERFORMANCES: Prelude de Paris, Martin Jones, piano, New England Conservatory, Boston, MA, 11/5/17; also, Jamestown Piano Association, Jamestown, RI, 11/5/17; Portland Conservatory, Portland, ME, 11/7/17; St. Anselm College, NH, 11/8/17; also, by guest pianist, Western Illinois University New Music Festival, 3/6/18.


MICHAEL MAULDIN • • •

PREMIERES: Silence, Peggy Pond Church, poet, Ariacelia DeiGrande, soprano, Mauldin, piano, Albuquerque Academy, 4/22/17.


NEWS: Several chamber works from the CD “Earth Spirit” were included in a revised video about DH Lawrence Ranch, “Rananim,” released February 23, 2017. David Grandis and the William and Mary Orchestra took “Petroglyph for Strings” with them on tour to Paris in May, 2017.

KIRKE MECHEM • • •

PREMIERES: Great Is the Truth, commission, Unitarian-Universalist Church of San Francisco, Dr. Mark Sumner, conductor, September 2017.

PERFORMANCES: Songs of the Slave, scene from John Brown, Marlissa Hudson, soprano, Donnie Ray Albert, bass-baritone, Masterwork Festival Chorus, Manhattan Concert Orchestra, directed by Eliza Rubenstein, Carnegie Hall, NY, 6/24/17; also, Boston University Chorus and Orchestra, Boston Symphony Hall, 4/9/18. The Rivals, University of Montana Opera Theater, Anne Basinski, conductor, Missoula, MT, 4/6-7/18. Tartuffe, Sacramento State University Opera Theatre, Dr. Ernie Hills, director, 5/5-7/17. Symphony No. 2, Redwood Symphony, Dr. Eric Kujawsky, conductor, Redwood City, CA, 2/10/18. Five Centuries of Spring, Phoenix Chorale, Peter Rutenberg, conductor, 4/27-29/18. Seven Joys of Christmas, SATB or SSA and orchestra (or keyboard or solo harp), hundreds of performances in December 2017.


MARGARET SHELTON MEIER

PREMIERES: Rachel, the Strong, the Delightful, Rachel Vetter Huang, violin, Tatiana

**PERFORMANCES:** *Petronella*: a musical fable, text by Jay Williams, Eleanor Legault, narrator, Sara Larsen, flute, Madeleine Duncan, Bb clarinet/bass clarinet, Zoey Lin, piano, Lafayette College, Madison, WI, 3/3/17.

**MAGGI PAYNE**


**NEW PUBLICATIONS:** Crystal LP, Aguirre Records (*White Night, Scirocco, Crystal, Solar Wind)*.

**SCOTT PENDER**

**PREMIERES:** *In the Time Before*, Amy Thomas, flute, Phyllis Crossen-Richardson, clarinet, Kunie Devorkin, violin, Taka Ariga, cello, Rich O’Meara, vibraphone, Scott Pender, piano *“Listen Local,”* Kensington Concerts, Kensington Baptist Church, Kensington, MD, 7/16/17; also, repeat performances in the DC area, fall 2017.


**RECORDINGS:** *Music for Woodwinds*, music for woodwinds that I have written over a 30-year period. Featured performers include Peabody Conservatory bassoon professor Phillip Kolker, University of New Hampshire faculty members Margaret Herlehy and Rob Haskins, and Scott Pender et al. 11/10/17. This album marks Pender’s 4th release on the Navona Records label.

**NEWS:** He is delighted to present his newly redesigned website (by ycArt Design Studio): www.scottpender.net.

**STEVEN L. ROSENHAUS**

**PREMIERES:** *Tangled Tango*, Wydown Middle School 7th/8th Grade Orchestra, Ann Geiler, conductor, Missouri Music Educators Association Annual Conference, 1/27/17. *JKF: A Profile*, Rita Gei, narrator, Carson City Symphony (NV), David Bugli, music director, Rosenhaus, conductor, 4/23/17; also, *The Virginia Grand Military Band*, Loras John Schissel, conductor, 9/23/17; also, *Ezekiel*, Andrew Foster, baritone, Scott MacPherson, Director of Choral Studies; also, *A Neapolitan Theme*, for Pauline Oliveros, a musical fable, text by Jay Williams, Eleanor Legault, *No Fairer Isle on Which to Dwell*, Margaret S. Meier, piano, Margaret Herlehy and Rob Haskins, and Scott Pender, et al, 11/10/17. This album marks Pender’s 4th release on the Navona Records label.

**PERFORMANCES:** Cinematic Escapades, percussion and string orchestra, Strings in the Schools, Carson City, NV, Laura Gibson, conductor, 4/20/17. *Prayer*, Sacred Heart University Concert Band, Keith Johnston, music director, Rosenhaus, conductor, Trinity Church Wall Street, NYC, 4/28/17; also, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT, 4/30/17. *Variations on a Neapolitan Theme*, LaGuardia High School Symphonic Band, Richard Titone, Music Director, Rosenhaus, conductor, 5/19/17.


**JAMES SCLATER**


**PERFORMANCES:** Christmas Gift, Mississippi College Opera Workshop, Clinton MS, Kristen Gunn, director, 11/17-20/2016. *Sweet Swingin’ Suite*, Mississippi College Choir, Mississippi College; also, Sclater Chamber Series, Clinton MS, February 2017.

**NEW RECORDINGS:** *Sweet Swingin’ Suite*: Mostly Mississippi, The Argot Trio, Centaur Records CRC3540.

**NEWS:** James Sclater was awarded the 2017 award for Classical Music from the Mississippi Institute for Arts and Letters for his song cycle *Carmine Natura Creature*: this is the 7th time he has won the award since 1981. Sclater’s *Celebration Fanfare* was commissioned to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Mississippi statehood. Sclater is presently completing a Requiem for chorus, soloist, and orchestra, *Upon This Solemn Hill*. It will contain texts from the Latin mass and texts by the composer.

**MARILYN SHRUDE**

**PREMIERES:** *Quiet Hearts: A Kaddish*, Gail Levinsky, solo alto saxophone, Music by Women Conference, Columbus, MS, 3/3/17; also, NASA Region 8 Conference, Bridgewater.

**PERFORMANCES:** Marilyn Shrupe, as composer-in-residence, Kent State University Vanguard Series, Fantasmi, Arctic Desert, Shadows & Dawning, Secrets, Trope, KSU New Music Ensemble, Noa Even and Frank Wiley, directors; also, Silent Night, KSU Chorale, Scott MacPherson, Director of Choral Studies; also, Into Light, KSU Orchestra, Katherine Kilburn, Music Director; also, master classes, 12/2-4/16. *Memorie di luoghi*, Lacyrmosa, *Within Silence*, John Sampen, saxophone, Maria...
ANNUAL AMERICAN COMPOSERS UPDATE

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News:

Sampen, violin, and Marilyn Shrude, piano and composition, Piano Trio Con Spirito (Yu-fang Chen, violin, Hyerim Jeon, cello, Soojin Kim, piano) and Alea Duo Paul (Mizzi, flute, Chi Him Chik, saxophone, with Arata Kaku, piano); 3 universities in New Mexico, 3/7-9/17. Sotto Voce, Notturno: In Memoriam Toru Takemitsu, Piano Trio Con Spirito (Yu-fang Chen, violin, Hyerim Jeon, cello, Soojin Kim, piano), Alea Duo Paul (Mizzi, flute, Chi Him Chik, saxophone), Arata Kaku, piano, 47th Festival of New Music, Ball State University, March 2017. Trope, John Sampen at Drake University, Wichita State University and the University of Nebraska at Kearney, September-October 2017. Kantada, Masks, Quiet Hearts: A Kaddish, Visions in Metaphor, members of the Frederick L. Hemke Saxophone Institute, Snow Pond Music Festival, New England Music Camp, June 2017.

New Publications:


NEWS:

Marilyn Shrude served as a guest composer for the Summer Composition Intensive July 2017 at St. Mary's College, Dr. Zane Munn, director. The music of Marilyn Shrude was featured as part of the radio broadcasts New Music from Bowling Green, WGTE Public Media, Brad Creswell, producer, and Women in (New) Music Marathon – Second Inversion in honor of International Women's Day – Classical King FM-Seattle, Maggie Molloy, producer. Marilyn Shrude was featured in the publication “ Saxophone Music by American Composers with Polish Roots” by Dariusz Samol, a monograph from the Akademija Szutuki w Szczecinine: 2016. The publication also featured chapters on Bielawa, Hyla, Jaziwinski, Maslanka, Rwzezki, and others. “EAR | EYE. Listening and Looking, Contemporary Music and Art” began its 3rd season of concerts at the Toledo Museum of Art in September 2017. The series of 5 concerts, curated by Shrude, features students in the DMA in Contemporary Music degree program at BGSU. The concerts are presented in the museum galleries; music is paired with works of art.

Faye-Ellen Silverman

Premieres: Strings, Daniel Mihai, violin, Colegiul National de Arte “Regina Maria”, Constanta, Romania, 6/22/17.

Performances: Percussion, Movement II Of Wood and Skins (for two percussionists), Heartlands Marimba Ensemble Spring Tour, Des Moines, IA, Ottumwa, IA, Grinnell, IA, St. Paul, MN, Rosemount, MN, 3/8-13/17. Excerpts from The Mercerularist, Oren Fader, guitar, Composers Concordance Generations VII, Goddard Riverside Center, New York, NY, 4/22/17. Fleeting Moments, Ana Cervantes, piano, Mexico and New York summer/fall tour, De la luz, del aire/ Of light, of air, Guanajuato, Mexico, 6/26/17, 7/1/17, 9/13/17; Museo Iconografico del Quijote (MIQ), Guanajuato, Mexico, 7/6/17; Casa Cuatro, Guanajuato, Mexico, 7/15/17: Christ & St Stephen's Church, New York, NY, 9/19/17; Union College, Schenectady, NY, 9/25/17. Edinboro Sonata, Daniel Burdick, tuba, Donna Amato, piano, Blasco Concert Series: Edinboro Chamber Players, Erie PA County Public Library, 6/26/17. Custom-made Shades, Nicole Abissi, trombone, Susan Snyder, piano, Artists from Interlochen, Kirkbridge Hall, Traverse City, MI, 9/7/17.

NEWS:

For the IWBC 2017 Conference (International Women’s Brass Conference) held June 7-11, 2017 at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey, I led the Composers Forum panel and, as a Board member, introduced several events at the Conference. I also served on the Composers Commissioning Committee, and as a judge for the composition prize. I served as a judge for the Composers Concordance composition competition. Radio broadcasts: I was chosen Artist of the Week for Radio Arts Indonesia in late December, 2016. Works from my CDs Manhattan Stories and Transatlantic Tales have been repeatedly broadcasted repeatedly throughout the year on Radio Arts Indonesia. I have had multiple radio performances on Richard Beckman’s Worldwide Classical Music Show on KNHD (104.1FM) in Eugene, Oregon, and have been included in Marvin Rosen’s Festival of American Music, Part I on WPRB in Princeton, NJ. I was chosen for the Ayuntamiento de Mojacar Artist-in-Residence Grant to cover my stay at the Fundacion Valparaiso in July, 2017. (This is a scholarship from Mojacar Town Hall as part of the Fundacion’s Artist-in-residence program). In return for this full scholarship I conducted a musical workshop at Mojacar Summer School in Mojacar, Spain on July 12, 2017. Ivy Plus Libraries selected my website for inclusion in its Contemporary Composers Web Archive.

Halide K. Smith

Performances: Field of Bluebonnets, Vicki Hedger, piano, “Sensory Friendly Concert,” Central United Methodist Church, Kansas City MO, 4/22/17.

Recordings: October 9, 2016: KC Midwest Chamber Ensemble Concert’s YouTube recording of “Song of Tajako” Trio by Halide K. Smith, Christina Choi, flute, Kim Kossett, oboe, Jessica Koebe, piano. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDs62FHG9Dw

Jared Spears


Publications:


Greg A. Steinke

Northwest Regional Conference, Fir 113, Capilano University, North Vancouver, BC, Canada, 4/28/17. Toccata Fantasy I, Yuanfan Yang, piano, Portland Piano, Rising Star Series, Marylhurst University, 2/2/17; Terwilliger Plaza 2/3; Pacific Northwest College of Art, 2/5; Portland Piano Company, 2/6; Lewis & Clark College, 2/7/17.

PERFORMANCES: From Armgart, Amy Foote, soprano, Paul Dab, piano NACUSAs Composers’ Performance Ensemble Concert, Foothills Congregational Church, Los Altos, CA; also, Performance Ensemble Concert, Foothills Congregational Church, Los Altos, CA; also, Performance Ensemble Concert, Foothills Congregational Church, Los Altos, CA.

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NEW RECORDINGS:
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NEW PUBLICATIONS:
Howard J. Buss
Athens, 2/20/17.
Hartenberger, conductor, University of Georgia,
University of Georgia Trumpet Ensemble, Jaclyn
Illuminations in Brass
Stone, bass trombone, University of Georgia,
Lights
Solar
Tuba Euphonium Conference at the University
and Dianne Frazer, piano, at the International
Roman Festivals
percussion, University of Georgia, 2/20/17.
voice, Nathan Tingler, percussion, Taylor Lents,
perussion, University of Georgia, 2/20/17.
Roman Festivals, Athens Flute Choir, Lisa
Bartholow, conductor, State Botanical Garden,
Athens, GA, 4/30/17.

PERFORMANCES:
The Devil’s Songbook by Sandra Moon, voice, Joseph Skillen, tuba,
and Dianne Frazer, piano, at the International
Tuba Euphonium Conference at the University
of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 6/1/16. Solar
Lights, Josh Bynum, tenor trombone, Jordan
Stone, bass trombone, University of Georgia,

PERFORMANCES:
Drumming Up America!
West Point Band, 200
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 3/8/17.  Trio
in Worthington, Ohio with Chelsea Melcher,
for soprano and orchestra will be premiered on
Day on June 12th. Music
included eight compositions by Wiegand, as well as music by Bach and Franck. The DVD is available through SAI National
Headquarters, with proceeds going to SAI Philanthropies, Inc.

JAMES WINN
PREMIERES: Miniature
Invention, 2 saxophones, UNR
Contemporary Music Ensemble, Nightingale Hall, University of
Nevada, Reno, 3/15/17. Trio
No. 2, Argenta Trio, Nightingale
Hall, University of Nevada, Reno,
3/4/2018. Psalm Cycle, Dr. Nicholas Provenzale, baritone,
University of South Dakota Symphony, Dr. Luis
Viquez, conductor, November 2018.

STEPHEN YARBROUGH
PREMIERES: Prairie Winds, Wyatt Smith, organ,
Anchorage, AK, 3/26/17. A Little March for
Clarinet Quartet, Clarinet Faculty, University of
South Dakota, Vermillion,
4/13/17. PERFORMANCES: A Little March
for Bassoons,
NEW PUBLICATIONS: All
Sycamore Press: Psalm Cycle,
baritone, orchestra. A Little
March, clarinet quartet. A Little
March, bassoons. Prairie Winds, organ.
NEW RECORDINGS: NEW CD available includes:
Cantata, Everlasting is His Love; song cycle,
Some of the Hidden Stars; Celebrate South
Dakota full orchestra.