News & Notes

Texas Music Festival director and adjunct instructor of Baroque violin, Alan Austin, performed on two recordings released last month. For the Houston Chamber Choir’s newest release, the world premiere recording of Psalmi ad Vesperas (1694) by Giovanni Paolo Colonna (MSR Classics 1437), conducted by music director Robert Simpson, Austin served as leader and editor of the recording booklet. He also appears on Ars Lyrica Houston’s newest recording, led by artistic director Mathew Dirst, La dirindina, featuring works by Alessandro and Domenico Scarlatti on the Sono Luminus label. Other MSM alums: Melissa Givens (current DMA candidate from the studio of Cynthia Clayton), Joseph Gaines (BM ’01 in Vocal Performance from the studios of Joseph Evans, Debra Brown and Robin Reso), and Brian Shircliffe (MM ’07 from the studios of Timothy Jones and Patryk Wrobleswski) are the featured protagonists in Alessandro’s comic divertimento La dirindina.

John Snyder presented two papers this past summer: “Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and (Extra-) Musical Exoticism,” at the annual meeting of the Society for Musicology in Ireland, held in Dundalk, June 15-17; and “The Genesis of Coleridge-Taylor’s Symphony in A Minor: Sources, Chronology, Issues” at the 17th Biennial Conference on 19th Century Music, held in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 27-30.

Rob Smith’s “Beacon Fires” was a semi-finalist in the 2012 Coups de Vents International Wind Ensemble Composition Competition. This fall the University of Georgia will present his chamber work “Sprint” and the Society for New Music (Syracuse, NY) will perform his chamber work “Chaw”. Smith’s music can also be heard on some recent promotional videos for the Contemporary Art Museum Houston.

Graduate student composers Mark Buller, Samuel Hunter, Desmond Ikegwuonu, and Daniel Webbon (all from the studio of Rob Smith) wrote a suite of songs about the Houston Rodeo this summer for Houston Grand Opera Company, the community outreach arm of the Houston Grand Opera. The songs will be premiered this February at the Houston Rodeo opening parade.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 13, 7:30 pm
COLLAGE 2012
Annual all-school season preview featuring over 350 performers: faculty, students, and ensembles
Reserved Seating (ticket required)

Friday, September 21, 7:30 pm
Woody Witt, saxophone
Joe LoCascio,* piano
Works by Billy Strayhorn

Sunday, September 23, 2:30 pm
Kirsten Yon, violin
Dmitri Vorobiev,* piano
Old Friends and New Acquaintances
Works by de Falla, Corigliano, Fauré

Monday, September 24, 5:30 pm
Guest Master Class
Seth Morris,* flute
(Principal, Houston Grand Opera and Houston Ballet)
Dudley Recital Hall

Monday, September 24, 7:30 pm
Guest Recital
Seth Morris,* flute
TBA,* piano
Dudley Recital Hall

Monday, September 24, 7:30 pm
PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
Blake Wilkins, director
Cagefest: A celebration of John Cage’s 100th birthday
* guest
You must still swipe your UH ID to receive recital attendance credit. You must swipe your Cougar One Card before turning in a copy of the program (with your name & student PeopleSoft ID) to the Front Desk within two weeks of the recital. Student recital programs will be available through the Office of the Registrar on the Moores School web site at http://www.uh.edu/musicstudents/. 

Recital Attendance
Undergraduate students should attend at least 12 recitals/concerts (including at least 4 Tuesday recitals) each semester. Credit for approved student recitals is processed by turning in a copy of the program (with your name & student PeopleSoft ID) to the Front Desk within two weeks of the recital. Student recital programs will not be accepted for credit after the two-week time period.

Concert Passes
Music majors are entitled to only one free admission ticket to most MSM events. In order to get your free ticket, present your Cougar One Card with a current barcoded sticker. To obtain a current validation barcode sticker, see the Box Office, MSM 120R, during the week of September 10.

This barcode sticker is only to obtain your free ticket which you may pick up in advance of an event in the Box Office, Room 120R, or at the event. You must still swipe your UH ID to receive recital attendance credit.