

*The newsletter of the PASADENA CONSERVATORY of MUSIC*

# CONSERVATORY

MARCH—MAY 2006



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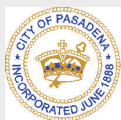
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the James Irvine foundation



## Calendar of Events

### March

3	Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
4	Piano Repertoire Class	4:00 pm	Room 200
6	String Parent Meeting	6:00 pm	Suite 100
10	ArtNight Pasadena	6:00 pm	Room 200
11	Honors Recital Auditions	9:00 am	Room 200
13	String Solo Recital	5:30 pm	TBA
13	String Solo Recital	7:00 pm	TBA
14	Chamber Music Recital	7:00 pm	TBA
17	Adult Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
18	SAA Teacher Training	12:00 pm	Rooms 200 & 303
18	Piano Repertoire Class	4:00 pm	Room 200
19	SAA Teacher Training	12:00 pm	Rooms 200 & 300
20-24	String Achievement Week		
24	Honors Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
25	Orff Recital	2:00 pm	Room 200
	Guitar Ensemble Recital	4:00 pm	Room 200
27	<i>Winter Quarter ends</i>		

### April

1	Piano Repertoire Class	4:00 pm	Room 200
3	<i>Spring Quarter begins</i>		
	Trio Mosaïque Master Class	3:00 pm	Room 200
	String Parent Meeting	6:00 pm	Suite 100
7	Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
9	Guitar Repertoire Class	4:00 pm	Room 200
20	Dobiesz Master Class	7:00 pm	Room 200
21	Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
22	Kitajima Studio Class	6:00 pm	Room 200
25	Concert: <i>A Tour Through Time</i>	7:00 pm	NSM
28	Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
29	Abramson Master Class	2:00 pm	Room 200
30	Guitar Department Recital	4:00 pm	PPC

### May

1	String Parent Meeting	6:00 pm	Suite 100
4	Guitar Department Recital	4:00 pm	TBA
5	Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
6	Piano Repertoire Class	4:00 pm	Room 200
7	Mansions & Music: <i>Brahms &amp; Liszt</i>	4:00 pm	Private Residence
8	String Solo Recital	5:30 pm	Room 200
	String Solo Recital	7:00 pm	Room 200
12	Student Recital	7:30 pm	Room 200
15-19	Winds/Brass/Percussion Juries		
19	Chamber Music Recital	7:00 pm	GLC
20	Piano Repertoire Class	4:00 pm	Room 200
22-27	Piano & Guitar Juries		
29	<i>Memorial Day—School closed</i>		

PPC = Pasadena Presbyterian Church, 585 W. Colorado Boulevard

GLC = Grace Lutheran Church, 73 N. Hill Avenue

NSM = Norton Simon Museum, 411 W. Colorado Boulevard

# Calendar of Events



## ArtNight Pasadena

### *Freshly Squeezed*

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2006

6:30 • 7:30 • 8:30

FREE ADMISSION

Juxtaposing contemporary classical, pop, country western, Renaissance, improvisational and ethnic styles to create a free-wheeling, kaleidoscopic program of striking unions and adventures, flutist Sarah Wass, clarinetist James Sullivan, bassoonist Sara Schoenbeck and percussionist T.J. Troy offer a melange of sounds drawn from north Indian, eastern European, latin and western cultures. Join *Freshly Squeezed* for an evening of inspired musical exploration.

## A Tour Through Time

### *Three Centuries of Art and Keyboard Music in the Galleries of the Norton Simon Museum*

Tuesday, April 25 ~ 7:00 pm

Tickets: \$125



On this Tuesday evening, we will have the rare opportunity to trace the evolution of the keyboard against the backdrop of three centuries of art from the museum's renowned collections.

Guests will gather in the gallery of the 17th and 18th centuries to hear Bach performed on a clavichord,

Duphy performed on a harpsichord, and Mozart performed on a fortepiano.

Moving to the 19th century gallery, we will hear Liszt performed on the piano, then continue to the Impressionist gallery for Debussy, and end our tour in the gallery of the 20th century with Schoenberg and Ives.

Providing narration, respected musicologist Priscilla Pawlicki and noted art collector Betty Duker will connect the worlds of art and music as we move through the galleries.

A champagne reception by Patina in the lobby and gardens follows the performance.

Tickets will be available for purchase on March 13th.

*This concert is presented in association with the Norton Simon Museum and sponsored by a generous gift from Patricia Ketchum.*



## Mansions & Music Concert

### *Brahms and Liszt*

Sunday, May 7 ~ 4:00 pm

Tickets: \$50

One conservative, the other progressive, each a master with his own following, Brahms and Liszt frame the Romantic Era. The program features the *G Major Violin Sonata* by Brahms and the *Grand Duo Concertant* by Liszt with performances by Sharon Harman, violin, and Polli Chambers-Salazar, piano.

The setting is a Greene and Greene home, the last undertaken by Charles and Henry Greene. Given nearly complete design freedom, the brothers departed from their well-known Arts and Crafts idiom in favor of Asian and Neo-classical influences. The home abounds in intriguing surprises, including an underground ballroom whose medieval carved limestone lintel, gilded chandeliers and marble medallion perfectly mirror the compositional styles of two of classical music's standards of the Romantic era.

## Percussion Instruments Make Mighty Sounds

First, let me offer a comprehensive definition of percussion instruments: they are musical instruments that produce sound by being struck or, less often, scraped, shaken, or plucked. In more formal classifications of musical instruments, they are usually divided between membranophones (drums which have a vibrating skin) and idiophones, with both categories including instruments of definite as well as indefinite pitch.

In the classical music world, people who play drums are called percussionists. This indicates the scope of what they do, for while “drummers” generally play drums, a “percussionist’s” job includes playing drums as well as all of the keyboard percussion instruments, accessory percussion instruments and other strange and found objects that their music may require.

The classical percussion section includes, but is not limited to, the following instruments: Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Cymbals, Bells, Xylophone, Timpani, and a variety of accessories—small toy-like instruments that include the tambourine, triangle, castanets and wood blocks.

Other popular percussion instruments include the marimba, vibraphone, tom toms, congas, bongos and tubular chimes.

The beginning and intermediate percussion student focuses in three main areas of study: the snare drum, keyboard instruments as exemplified by the marimba, and the timpani.



The snare drum, being the most common drum, is used to establish a foundation that carries

across the entire percussion family. Students learn hand technique, fundamentals of counting and reading as well as touch and sound quality. Often students work through two snare drum books simultaneously with one book including only hand patterns to develop dexterity while the other book teaches reading and rhythmic knowledge.

The marimba, which is large (up to 5 octaves) and has wood bars and a rich, mel-

low sound, has become the primary keyboard solo instrument for percussionists. The study of this instrument is much like other “melody” instruments and includes technical studies of scales and other standard patterns as well as etudes and solo repertoire. Beginners start by holding one mallet in each hand, and learn to employ two mallets in each hand as they progress to intermediate and advanced repertoire.



Study on the timpani requires training of the ear as well as the hands, and is usually reserved for more intermediate players. Students and sound production and a repertoire that includes etudes as well as classical, romantic and modern orchestral works where timpani play an important role.



Beyond that, players can delve into the realm of multiple percussion solo playing which often involves elaborate collections of instruments and playing styles. At PCM, the percussion studio includes a snare drum, a 4-1/3 octave rosewood marimba and four timpani. My youngest student began when he was eight years old, and my adult students include many professionals of various backgrounds. Some students, particularly those interested in playing in their high school or college bands or orchestras, study in all three main areas of study. However, I have some students who only study one instrument, such as the marimba or snare drum or timpani. Lessons can be designed to meet the needs and desires of each student according to their personal goals in music.

I am very excited to be a continuing part of the family at PCM, and am proud of the growth and interest in percussion here! I look forward to seeing you all around the halls of the conservatory!

—Lynn Vartan, Percussion Instructor

## PCM Website Set Up for Online Donations!

We’re pleased to announce that we have arranged a new, convenient and secure option for those who wish to make a tax-deductible donation to the Conservatory through our website at [www.pasadenaconservatory.org](http://www.pasadenaconservatory.org). In response to the growing popularity of online giving and the many requests from our patrons, the Conservatory has implemented a secure donation form through Patron Technologies that is accessible from our website’s main page.

Because tuition does not cover all expenses or support our outreach programs, the Conservatory raises nearly a quarter of its annual operating budget each year through donations from individuals, foundations, corporations and organizations.

Your support is very important to us and will help the Conservatory to maintain and improve its facility, to attract and retain the best faculty, and to develop music programs that will enrich our community and foster both excellence and access.

If you have already donated to the Conservatory in 2005-06, either to the Annual Fund or the Mansions & Music patron drive, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous support. Annual Fund letters were mailed in November, but there is still time through June 30th to make a contribution to this important appeal. Now you have another convenient and secure method through our website. We look forward to hearing your comments, and thank you again for your support.

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## Coming Soon ENews from PCM!

The perfect way for you to stay up-to-date with the many activities here at the Conservatory. Beginning in March you can sign up through our website at [www.pasadenaconservatory.org](http://www.pasadenaconservatory.org) to receive online news about scheduled PCM concerts, master classes, and festivals.

# Calendar of Events

## Master Classes

### Tilman Hoppstock Guitar Master Class

Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 pm, Room 200

*The internationally renowned performer, publisher and teacher has undertaken concert tours to the most important cultural centers of the world and recorded 20 enthusiastically received LPs/CDs.*

### Trio Mosaique Chamber Music Master Class

Monday, April 3, 3:00 pm, Room 200

*Trio Mosaique is comprised of three of Canada's most distinguished artists. Pianist Richard Raymond is the winner of the Chamber Music prize at the Van Cliburn Competition. Violist Rivka Golani is familiar to audiences throughout the world, having performed as soloist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo Metropolitan Orchestra, and many others. Clarinetist James Campbell has been awarded Canada's highest honor, the Order of Canada, and more recently, The Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal.*

### Patricia Dobiesz Piano Master Class

Thursday, April 20, 7:00 pm, Room 200

*Ms. Dobiesz is the Assistant Director of Instrumental Music and Coordinator of The Pianist Program at the Orange County High School of the Arts. She has taught and performed as a pianist in Southern California for many years.*

### Rochelle Abramson Chamber Music Master Class

Saturday, April 29, 12:00 pm, Room 200

*A member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's first violin section, Ms. Abramson joined the orchestra in the 1978/79 season. A graduate of The Juilliard School of Music, she made her New York debut at Carnegie Recital Hall as winner of the Artists International Auditions.*

Fees: Free for PCM students and families  
\$15 for general public

Reservations are always suggested.

## Seen and Heard Remembering Revolution



Home owners Brian Kabateck and Roxanne Hampton (pictured above with Executive Director Stephen McCurry) graciously welcomed Conservatory guests and performers into their home on November 13 for a **Mansions & Music** concert that featured the music of composer Joan Huang. The subtle touch of Asian aesthetics throughout the house and grounds of the 1907 Freeman A. Ford House by Greene & Greene provided an ideal setting for Ms. Huang's compositions and her recollections of China's Cultural Revolution. Our gratitude is extended to Brian and Roxanne for their generosity and to **Mellon** for their sponsorship of this season's three-concert series.

## Exiles in Paradise



The second **Mansions & Music** concert of the year was held in the home of restaurateur Derek Dickenson on Sunday, February 12. Present (from left to right) were Donald Bishop, Senior Portfolio Officer of Mellon, series sponsor; Marilyn Brumder, Conservatory board chairman; Executive Director Stephen McCurry; the host, Derek Dickenson, Mary Lucero and Mike Lucero. Mr. Dickenson's home, a modernist Italian villa by noted architect Bob Ray Offenhauser, lent itself perfectly to the program of compositions by celebrated émigrés Alma Mahler, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Erich Korngold, Arnold Schoenberg and Igor Stravinsky. We sincerely appreciate Mr. Dickenson's generosity.

# Coming Highlights



## Summer Programs

Young Musicians Camp, July 10—21

Jazz Camp, July 17—28

Guitar Camp, July 24—28