



Sketches

May 2007 Newsletter

THREE MARVELOUS MUSIC EVENTS IN MAY

The Highway One Jazz Choir Sunday, May 13 at 3 p.m.

The Highway One Jazz Choir celebrates 24 years of singing together with their traditional Mothers' Day Concert. This will be the last year for the director, Carolyn Steinbuck. The choir will be accompanied by Steinbuck's Mother, Marion James, piano, Daney Dawson, bass, and Dan Albrecht, drums.

Steinbuck recalls: ". . .the birth of the jazz choir occurred in Peter Reimuller's living room, a year after I had started directing the South Coast Community Choir. A few of us stood around and talked about the possibility of starting a jazz choir and read through a couple of arrangements. That first year we rehearsed on Thursday nights after the rehearsal of the classical choir, and some people stayed for both rehearsals.

The first few years, we had a large group and we memorized all of the music. The performances were electric and we got quite a following. We tried different venues over the years, the Arena Theater, Crown Hall in Mendocino, at Elk, but our best audience has always been in Gualala. The past 12 years or so, we have performed at an adult community, the Woods in Little River, where our present accompanist, Marion James, lives."

Admission is free as a gift to the community, though donations are requested. Refreshments will be served.

***Tres Podrugi* ~ Three Friends Sunday, May 27 at 4 p.m.**

Tres Podrugi is Russian for three friends. These three women – Jana Kuleba, Ludmila Polyakova, and Elena Lisitsa – are graduates of the St. Petersburg Conservatory of Music. They will give a concert of sacred, classical, pop, and Russian romantic music.

Jana Kuleba, guitar, is a 24 year old native of St. Petersburg whose education and experience spans both classical and jazz guitar. Ludmila Polyakova, a mezzo-soprano, is currently performing with the St. Petersburg Musical Comedy Opera. Elena Lisitsa, guitar, is a native of Novosibirsk, Siberia.

Tickets are \$15 In advance or \$20 on the day of the performance. Call Gualala Arts at 884-1138 to use Visa or Mastercard.

Broderick Ensemble Sunday, May 6 at 4 p.m.

The Chamber Music Series is pleased to present the Broderick Ensemble in a concert featuring viola, violin, and piano. The performers are Elizabeth Prior Runnicles, viola, Chen Zhao, violin, and Avi Downes, piano. The program will include the *Viola Concerto for Viola and Piano* by George Ph. Telemann, the *Elegy for Viola and Piano* by Alexandre Glazunov, *Four Pieces for Viola and Piano* from Robert Schumann's op. 113 *Marchenbilder*, and *Three Madrigals for Violin and Viola* by Bohuslaw Martinu.

The Broderick Ensemble was founded in 2001 by violist Elizabeth Prior Runnicles, who at that time lived on Broderick Street in San Francisco, hence the name. Although performing as a trio for the Gualala concert, the ensemble has varied in its makeup from two to seven players – most of whom are affiliated with the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. The Broderick Ensemble has performed to great acclaim in many Bay Area venues, and we are looking forward to another delightful chamber music performance at Gualala Arts.

Violist Elizabeth Prior Runnicles was awarded her Bachelor of Music in Performance at the University of the Orange Free State, South Africa, where she also played with the Capetown Symphony. She has been a member of the San Francisco Ballet and San Francisco Opera Orchestras, as well as the California Symphony, the Marin Symphony, and the San Francisco Symphony.

Violinist Chen Zhao joined the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra in 2000. Since then, he has participated in highly-acclaimed performances and recordings of Mahlers symphonies and the *Keeping Score* PBS documentary films under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas.

Pianist Avi Downes, since making noteworthy debuts at the age of sixteen in London, Vienna, and Amsterdam, has performed extensively throughout Europe, South America, and the United States. At 14, she moved to Europe to further her musical education, completing her studies at the University of Vienna and the University of Cologne.

Tickets are \$20 for advance purchases, or \$25 on the day of the concert. Children and young people ages 7 through 17 are admitted free. Those unable to furnish their own transportation may call the Arts Center to request rides to the concert.