



Musical Notes

Newsletter of the Santa Cruz Symphony League



SCSL - 2016-17 Season

Number 4

League Info: www.slsc.org

March, 2017

Preview to Symphony #4: "Fratres" please reserve by Saturday, March 18

SYMPHONY PREVIEW

Friday, March 24
11:30

Michael's on Main
2591 Main Street, Soquel

Featuring Daniel Patrick Stewart



*This is an opportunity to learn more in preparation for your experience of Concert #4, **Fratres**, and meet the Maestro in a more intimate setting at Michael's on Main.*

"Fratres" (meaning brothers) usually refers to monks. This piece was a part of Pärt's struggle with the oppressive Soviet government in 1977. He left the Soviet Union, establishing residence in Vienna. After the Soviet Union

dissolved, he now lives in Estonia, splitting his time between Tallinn and Berlin. This piece uses a compositional technique based on the unique tones of ringing bells.

Luncheon will be a buffet (marinated chicken, grilled snapper & penne pasta alfredo), includes sides, beverage station & dessert. Cost for lunch is \$35. No host bar is available.

*Please make your check to SLSCC and send to Cheryl Hammond,
1505 42nd Ave. #30, Capitola, CA 95010.*

*You may pay by credit card on PayPal.
Log on to www.slsc.org/previews.*



Oliver Herbert won the 2015 Klein International String Competition in San Francisco. He began his cello studies at seven years and made his orchestral debut in 2013.

He performed in the Castro Theatre as part of a celebratory concert for Benjamin Britten's 100th birthday. He also served as principal cellist of the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America, performing in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Seiji Ozawa Hall, and Walt Disney Hall.

The Santa Cruz Symphony has a long standing relationship with the Klein competition that the winner will appear with our Symphony.

Arvo Pärt

Fratres

Franz Joseph Haydn

Cello Concerto #2 in D Major

Franz Schubert

String Quartet No. 14,

"Death and the Maiden"



Reserve Now:

Price is \$145

Includes:

Amazing Strolling Dinner
Wine & Champagne

(no host bar available)

Entertainment & Dancing
Samba Demonstrations
Costume Contest
Plenty of Free Parking
Silent & Live Auction

Celebrate the Symphony League's 50th Anniversary

*Saturday, March 18, 6:00 pm
at the Back Nine Restaurant
(at the Inn at Pasatiempo)*

Featuring:

◆
*A Cuban Band, imported from
San Francisco*

◆
*Welcoming by
The Great Morgani*

◆
Fruit Sculptures

◆
Roving Magician

◆
Balloon Creations

◆
Maestro Danny will be present

◆
Copacabana Costumes optional

To Register

By Mail: Send a check for the full amount, made out to SLSCC with the names and email addresses of your guests to: Cheryl Hammond, 1505-42nd Ave, #30, Capitola, CA 95010

Or go online to: <http://www.slsc.org/special-events/gala/> where you can register using your bank card or your PayPal Account.



The League at Work and Play

At the lovely home of Francine Thomas, our hostess, who REALLY knows how an afternoon tea ought to be done.





Helen's Column

We are all eagerly awaiting our 50th Anniversary celebration with the Copacabana themed Gala on Saturday, March 18th. It should be a very exciting and fun-filled evening and, hopefully, lots of money will be raised by generous auction item bidders and donors. Many, many thanks to all the League Board

members who have worked for months to make the Gala possible, with a special thanks to Gala chair, Eileen Sambrailo.

February was a busy month, starting off with the exciting Preview with a cocktail reception at the lovely Orr home. Neither stormy weather nor a power outage prevented almost 100 people from gathering to be with Maestro Stewart and renowned pianist, Juja Wang. We were not disappointed! This preceded a sold-out weekend of concerts.

Francine Thomas hosted a very pleasant 20/20 Afternoon Tea at her home overlooking Monterey Bay on February 26th. Thanks Francine.

Our annual dinner at the Shadowbrook Restaurant on February 28th netted \$1070.15. This was less than last year, but for those who took advantage of Shadowbrook's policy of donating one third of the Symphony patron's bills back to the League, it was a great evening. Our group of 13 (we started out with 10 and kept adding people) were very happy in our own private room. Thanks to the Shadowbrook for your annual support.

Check out Facebook's League postings to see and hear our conversations with Assemblyman Mark Stone and County Supervisor Bruce McPherson as they honored the League with Proclamations in honor of our 50th Anniversary. Fred Dunn-Ruiz organized the meeting, several of us spoke in behalf of the League's history and plans, and new Board member, Diana Bingham was our official photographer.

The Board has added 4 new members at large--more about them will be in the next Musical Notes. In the meantime note that the League is doing well toward our annual monetary gift to the Symphony Association. Keep up your strong support of all the League's fundraising events, Happy Spring to all.

Helen Jones

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR SYMPHONY FAMILY



March

18, **Copacabana Gala**
at the Back Nine

24, **Preview, 11:30,**
at Michael's on Main

25 & 26, **Symphony Concerts**

April

May

5, **Preview, 4:00, Civic Auditorium**

6 & 7, **Symphony Concerts**

21. **2:00 - 5:00, Garden Tour at**
Sierra Azul

June

3, **7:30, Concert: "Love, Lust**
& Rock & Roll, at the Civic



Eager members enjoying a wonderful repast after the Yuja Preview at the gracious home of Peter & Mary Ann Orr.



Annah Beth Peterson, long time member of the Symphony League, passed away on March 7, 2017. Beth was a strong supporter of the League and was a regular attendee at both League events as well as Symphony concerts.



Born in Dallas, Texas she attended primary and secondary schools in Fort Worth. After graduating from High School, she enrolled at Southwestern University and then completed her degree at Southern Methodist University.

Beth took courses in Early Childhood Education, which led her to a position with Philadelphia's Head Start Program as a preschool teacher.

She and Norman retired to Santa Cruz in 1980. Beth was a member of the Cabrillo College Symphonic chorus, travelling with the chorus as it toured around the world, including Moscow and The Hague. Beth is fondly remembered and will be missed. Our condolences go out to her family.

The League at Work and Play

Preview, 1/17, at the home of Mary Ann & Peter Orr



An Editor's Privilege...

I am eager to welcome Diana Bingham, working with me as we create a team for the V.P. of Communications. Responsibilities for the website, FaceBook and emails will transition to Diana. She brings a wealth of experience and training to the tasks, and I have every confidence that communications with our members will be much better as she shares her talents.



Of course I've said this before but let me say it again, this task does not belong to one person, it is a task of all the members who share articles, pictures and information. It's an exciting task to make sure that our members know what is happening with the Symphony League!

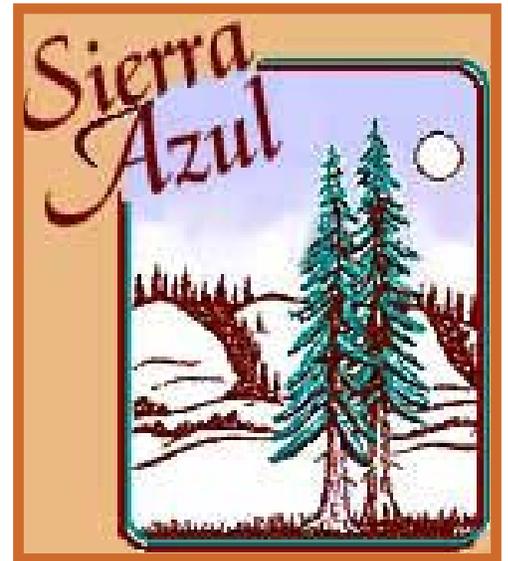
Clyde Vaughn
cvfaad@comcast.net



Saturday, May 21.

2:00 - 5:00

A tour of amazing gardens and
wonderful sculptures
Watch for an email with more
details!



Membership

Please welcome

- Michelle Bellerjeau
- Elizabeth Allen
- Stephanie Harlan
- Joyce Johnson

to our League family. We are pleased these folks have come on board with us in our efforts to support our wonderful symphony. Please help them feel “at home” when you meet them at one of our League events.

Dan Rutan



The Human Race

Walk to raise funds for the Symphony on Saturday, May 13. Registration begins at 8:00.

Those supporting our wonderful Symphony are urged to get a sponsor sheet and ask friends & family to support them in walking (actually, no one knows if you don't walk!).

This annual walk is a way to support our Symphony and also provide much-needed funds to the Santa Cruz Volunteer Center.

The Human Race is a nationwide community fundraising event for nonprofit organizations, schools, and faith based organizations. The Santa Cruz County Race is the Central Coast's largest collaborative fundraiser, and features a five-mile walk and fun run along beautiful West Cliff Drive, a complimentary breakfast, music along the course, a costume contest, a BBQ lunch and family friendly festivities at the finish line.



VERDI'S REQUIEM MAY 6 & 7

The final concert of the season features one of Verdi's supreme masterpieces, the *Messa da Requiem*.

Continuing our tradition of featuring principal artists from the Metropolitan Opera, as well as the beloved Cabrillo Symphonic Chorus, we will conclude our season with one of the most passionately inspired and awe-inspiring prayers for peace ever conceived.

Of course Cheryl Anderson, Director, has prepared the Cabrillo Chorus for this joint concert for many years



An American Heritage

Thursday March 30, 2017 at 7:30pm
Peace United Church of Christ, 900 High Street,
Santa Cruz, California



Program includes:

Charles Ives: The Unanswered Question
Ned Rorem: Eleven Studies for Eleven Players
Aaron Copland: Appalachian Spring

For more information check out -
<http://espressorch.org/concerts.html>



***Yuja Wang plays Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 5 in G Major Opus 55
and Brahms's Piano Concerto No. 2 in B Flat Major Opus 83***

February 18th and 19th 2017

By Ann Haley

History was made for the Santa Cruz Symphony when Yuja Wang visited.

The Symphony program had written the following:

“Yuja Wang’s prodigious virtuosity and technical control command critical appreciation; she is also regularly praised for the clarity of her musical insight, the freshness of her interpretations and charismatic power of her stage presence. She believes that technique should never be an end in itself, that it should always serve the cause of emotional expression and musical interpretation. Above all she is devoted to cultivating and communicating her complete affinity with the works in her broad repertoire. ‘Virtuosic scores are not necessarily about a flashy style’, declares Wang. ‘When I am excited about a piece, and the more it connects to my personality, the better I can play it and grip the audience.’ “

The note failed to state that this Chinese firecracker is also famous for her colorful choice of wardrobe, to which we were also treated. Her very modern neon green sequin outfit with sheer stockings and six-inch heels foretold a very sparkly performance of the Prokofiev Piano Concerto, which she and the orchestra performed absolutely perfectly together. The conductor never let his eyes leave the soloist, which contributed to their perfect timing through this very difficult and lively piece. For all of her virtuosity, Yuja interpreted the music very sensitively, being as capable of soft gentleness as she was of sforzando brilliance.

The 2nd movement of the Prokofiev demonstrated Yuja’s glissandos and brilliant runs, contrasting with a horn-piano duet supported by the strings in well-blended voicings. The 5th movement, appropriately Vivo, finished this work with jazz and speed.

Both of the concertos played, while from very different musical eras, shared some features in common: both were the final concertos by the composers; both were longer than the typical three-movement concerto form; both were intended to be very difficult to perform(!). As Chris Pretorius had said: Prokofiev’s 4th movement was very lyrical but unpredictable, the Brahms 3rd movement was very majestic and harmonic. Its lyrical melody became a song. The Brahms was more traditional, of course, while the Prokofiev held more humor.

Following Intermission, Yuja and the orchestra returned to perform Brahms’s piano concerto. Yuja wore a sinuous black and gold gown, reminiscent of fin de siècle Vienna.

The Brahms opening was very grand and melodic, with beautifully blended strings, and the piano splendidly played, as well. Both bodies of music complemented each other, rather than being in competition. The music was very conversational. Again, Yuja handled the difficult passages with ease and delight. Her sustained trills were amazing, and the rhapsodic languid passages were most lyrical. True to Santa Cruz, the audience rose to cheer wildly and long.

As an encore--unique to her Mello performance--Yuja graciously played her own re-invention of Mozart’s Turkish March, which she jazzed up and recast in a theme and variations style. The audience went wild with joy and threatened to keep her forever! All good things have an end. We hope that with Yuja’s and Danny’s special history, she will return soon. But that’s what futures are for.

Daniel Stewart and Yuja Wang had attended music classes together at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. As Danny has said, “Yuja is simply spectacular . . . a supremely talented artist, who makes the most of her ability. . .” and his assessment of her interpretive skills and musicianship rise from there. We are so extremely lucky to have both of these music geniuses brought together in our symphonic experience. A perfect pairing!

The League at Work and Play

*A Press Conference
at the Santa Cruz County Offices
celebrating the League's 50 years of
support for our Symphony and contributing
more than \$1.2 million!*



President Helen Jones flanked by Supervisor Bruce McPherson and Assembly Member Mark Stone



We have videos of the presentation speeches.
Check out our Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/SCSymphonyLeague





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How does AmazonSmile work?

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**Santa Cruz
Symphony League
Bonus Drive-By
Home Tour
2016**

40 Favorite Homes

**Celebrating our
40th Annual
Home Tour**

**Local Architects
Select 40 of Their
Favorite Homes In
Santa Cruz**

\$8

**Drive-By Map Inside
Take A Drive-By Tour
Any Time**

A very special opportunity! Local architects have nominated forty homes that are unique and special in our county. This map is only \$8 and will give you the opportunity for a drive-by view of the finest architectural gems of our area.

You may purchase a map at the next preview, stop by the League's table at the Symphony, or link to: <http://www.slsc.org/special-events/home-tour/>



ROUND ROBIN BRIDGE

Chairperson

Jeanne Shada

831-247-3253

Captains

Debussy

Joyce Sawaya475-5574

Schubert

Joyce Sawaya475-5574

Tchaikovsky

Sue Robinson 429-1597

Mozart

Joanne Wigginton688-1781

Brahms

Sterling Frost.....458-2314

Each couple plays with another couple in the section once a month from September through May. A no-host award party is held in the Spring. Prizes are presented to the winners of each section with the highest cumulative scores.

CALL JEANNE SHADA IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE

Make a gift in honor of, or in memory of someone precious to you.



Are you looking for a way to honor a friend, or to give a memorial gift? Please send the following information to: Santa Cruz Symphony League, Sheila Vaughn, Treasurer, 307 Church Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

A donation of \$ _____

___ In Honor of _____

___ In Memory of _____

From: Name: _____

Address: _____

Please notify:

Name: _____

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