

Music Education & Community Engagement

with Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra

Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2009

Dear readers,

NAC Music Education programming has been as dynamic as ever this fall. Despite challenging economic times, we've been heartened to see so many young audiences attending NAC Orchestra concerts and enjoying great music-making on stage. The fall has been especially busy as we had five unique offerings for family and student audiences - from two sold out Kinderconcerts, to Magic Circle Mime's fabulous debut on our Family Adventures series, to high school student matinees honoring Oscar Peterson followed by master musician sessions and closing with a primary student matinee celebrating the holiday season with The School of Dance. We also showcased three Debut artists and are delighted that CBC is a partner again with us on this series. And for three weeks this past fall, The Institute for Orchestral Studies welcomed five talented musicians Apprentices from 3 countries (Canada, China and Korea) who performed great repertoire with the NAC Orchestra. Our Music Alive



Program teaching artists in Alberta and Saskatchewan are gearing up for an exciting year and we're working on a pilot program in Nunavut to be launched in February 2010. NACmusicbox.ca, the newest addition to the ArtsAlive.ca family has enjoyed great success among NAC Orchestra fans. The website has over 1,500 confirmed subscribers and the featured podcasts, Eric Friesen presents the NAC Orchestra and l'Orchestre du CNA avec JJ Van Vlasselaer, have been downloaded over 20,000 times from iTunes. Additionally, podcasts recorded in 2009 by Marjolaine Fournier and Christopher Millard have been downloaded over 50,000 times to date.

Thank you for your interest and support of our programs.

- The Music Education Team

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"The Listener" with Canada's NAC Orchestra (see page 2)
 Photo by Michel Dozois

TD Canada Trust Family Adventures with the NAC Orchestra



"The Listener" with Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra and Magic Circle Mime Company, November 21, 2009. Photo by Michel Dozois

In the first **TD Canada Trust Family Adventures with the National Arts Centre Orchestra's** concert of the NAC's 40th Anniversary season, Boris Brott, Principal Youth and Family Conductor, welcomed special guests the Magic Circle Mime Company in "The Listener" on November 21st.

TUNETOWN pre-concert activities, presented by the Friends of the NAC Orchestra, included: a book display by the Ottawa Public Library, a percussion petting zoo by Music for Young Children; a string petting zoo and performances by Suzuki Music; face-painting by Suzart; and an apple craft in honour of the William Tell Overture that was performed.

NAC Orchestra Student Matinee Concerts

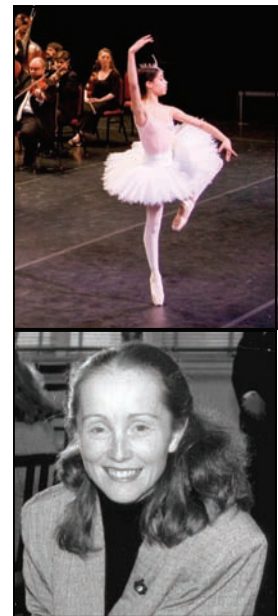
The NAC Orchestra's "**Outstanding Oscar Peterson**" high school student matinees featured conductor and pianist Tommy Banks and Canadian-jazz pianist Oliver Jones. More than 3,000 students were welcomed to Southam Hall on November 26 and 27. Over 200 students stayed after the performances to participate in Master Musician Sessions led by members of the NAC Orchestra and renown musicians of the Ottawa Community, including Kenneth Simpson and Douglas (Pace) Sturdevant. During these interactive one-hour post-concert sessions,

students came away with practical tips for better playing both as individuals and ensemble members.

The NAC Orchestra's "**Winter Wonderland**" primary student matinees for Kindergarten to grade 3 on December 10th featured Principal Youth and Family Conductor Boris Brott, The School of Dance under the direction of Merrilee Hodgins, and the Bangers and Smash percussion duo featuring Jonathan Wade and Kenneth Simpson. A program of music and dance from different holiday traditions, students had the opportunity to sing Jingle Bells with NACO

and enjoy familiar music from the Nutcracker accompanying young dancers from The School of Dance. Regrettably, due to inclement weather and subsequent school bus cancellations, the English performances on December 9th were postponed until the new year. **More than 2,100** students and teachers attended the sold-out performance in French on December 10.

An extensive teacher study guide was created for each of these matinees; they are currently available for free download from the Artsalive.ca Music website.



UPPER: The School of Dance in "Winter Wonderland", December 10, 2009. Photo by Kenn Taylor

LOWER: Merrilee Hodgins, Artistic Director, The School of Dance



Tommy Banks



Oliver Jones



Kenneth Simpson
Photo by Fred Cattroll



Jonathan Wade
Photo by Fred Cattroll



Boris Brott
Photo by Trevor Lush

Kinderconcerts

On November 1st the first performances of the 2009-2010 **Kinderconcerts** series, produced by the NAC and Jeunesses Musicales, featured trumpet player Frédéric Demers in “Fred Piston and His Seven Trumpets” in which the young and likeable Fred Piston dropped in with his 7

trumpets and presented dazzling musical and "technomultimediatric" demonstrations. A fourth show was added for the 2009-2010 season, adding to the other sold-out performances. Pre-concert activities were also offered prior to each performance by Music for Young Children and Ottawa

Suzuki Strings.

Two special holiday performances of “Le grand bal de Noël” offered in French took place on December 6th in which penguin musicians [in costume!] who have waddled all the way to the North Pole for the great Christmas party but are refused admission.



TOP: Fred Piston and His Seven Trumpets. Illustration by Lorraine Beaudoin

BOTTOM: Le grand bal de Noël. Illustration by Lorraine Beaudoin

Musicians in the Schools

Three **Musicians in the Schools** performances took place this fall: the Rideau Lakes Brass Quintet performed a concert for 41 students at l'École élémentaire catholique La Vérendrye on November 20th; the Ambassador Trio visited a class of 34 students at March Academy on November 23rd; and the String Quintet performed at the Orleans Montessori Children's House on December 4th in which 40 students were in attendance.



The NAC Ambassador Trio
Photo by Fred Cattroll

NAC Orchestra Open Rehearsals

Over 260 students and teachers as well as 16 seniors attended **NACO Open Rehearsals** on October 8th, October 28th and November 18th. Sharleen Marengere, Friends of the NAC Orchestra volunteer, provided brief talks to the students prior to the start of each rehearsal.

Music Alive Program (Alberta & Saskatchewan)

The 2009-2010 season of the NAC's **Music Alive Program** got underway in October with presentations at a number of Alberta schools. This year, our seven teaching musicians will be introducing students in grades 4 to 6 to Beethoven, through curricular units created especially for the program. In Alberta students will meet “The Dynamic Mr. Beethoven” in hour-

long presentations by Rosemarie Siever and Mary Fearon of Edmonton, and Samantha Whelan and Jan Amsel of Calgary. Saskatchewan students will likewise meet Beethoven through “Beethoven: His Music in our Lives” presented by Lisa Simmermon and Brian Johnson of Regina, and Arlene Shiplett of Saskatoon. This year marks the second year of a

three-year commitment to over 100 schools, with 16 to take place in French, and 11 First Nations schools to be visited. By December, 18 schools will be visited in Alberta and Saskatchewan, introducing approximately 1,500 students to the world of orchestral music. Music Alive aims to reach as many rural and first nations schools as possible and in their travels this

year our musicians will travel as far Peace River and Trout Lake in northern Alberta to Taber and Medicine Hat in the south of the province, as well as many points in between. In the north of Saskatchewan, students in Buffalo Narrows will meet Beethoven, as will students in Oungre and Carlyle in the south.

Institute for Orchestral Studies

The third year of the Institute for Orchestral Studies got off with a bang as the five Apprentices rehearsed and performed three symphonies (Beethoven No. 3, Schubert No. 8 and Schumann No. 4) in three days in the opening week of the NAC Orchestra season. Violinists Jenny Ahn (Korea), Sophie Tang (China), violist Shasta Ellenbogen (Ottawa), cellist Rachel

Desoer (Hamilton) and bassist Callum Jennings (Toronto) were the participants in the concerts, which were conducted by NACO Music Director Pinchas Zukerman, as well as the 40th Anniversary performances of Mahler Symphony No. 1 and a mixed program with guest conductor Alexander Shelley that included the tone poem "Don Juan".

Summer Music Institute

Plans are underway for the upcoming 12th edition of the Summer Music Institute and the 4th annual Institute for Orchestral Studies (IOS). The Composers Program is accepting applications until December 7th for five Composing Fellows to study with Director Gary Kulesha and Guest Composer George Tsontakis of the USA. Applications are also being accepted until the deadline of February 1st for the Young Artists and

Conductors Programs. Over three weeks the Summer Music Institute will draw almost 90 musicians, conductors and composers to Ottawa. Young Artists will study from June 7 – 26, Pre-College (formerly the Junior Strings) June 14 – 26, Conductors June 17 – 29 and Composers June 22 – 28, 2010. For full information and online applications go to:

www.nac-cna.ca/smi

40 years NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS 40 ans

CANADA'S NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA ARTIST TRAINING

PINCHAS ZUKERMAN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

OTTAWA 2010 12th SUMMER MUSIC INSTITUTE

YOUNG ARTISTS June 7 - 26

CONDUCTORS June 17 - 29

COMPOSERS June 22 - 28

INSTITUTE FOR ORCHESTRAL STUDIES 5 WEEKS WITH THE NAC ORCHESTRA DURING THE 2010 - 2011 SEASON

UOttawa UNIVERSAL MUSIC Scotiabank 日本音楽財団 NIPPON MUSIC FOUNDATION

The 2010 NACO Bursary Competition

The 2010 NACO Bursary Competition online application form will be available on the NAC website in January. Candidates are encouraged to thoroughly read the application requirements section, as there have been a few notable changes for the 2010 Competition:

- **Effective for the 2010 Competition, solo repertoire substitution requests will no longer be accepted.** Candidates must select their repertoire from the approved list provided on the NACO Bursary webpage.
- Also, a **fee of \$50 will be required upon application** to the NAC Orchestra Bursary Competition and must be received by the National Arts Centre by mail post-marked no later than March 15, 2010. **The fee shall be refunded to the applicant upon completion of his/her Preliminary audition.** Refunds will not be provided to candidates who withdraw from the Competition without providing a minimum of 72 hours notice before their scheduled audition.

Debut Concert Series



Joyce El-Khoury

The NAC Debut Series was up and running in September with the return of the CBC as broadcast partners. The first recital on September 21 featured the glorious voice of Ottawa soprano Joyce El-Khoury, accompanied by pianist Jean Desmarais, in a mixed program of opera arias and art songs. Ms. El-Khoury is currently in the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. The all-Canadian Afiara String Quartet were the guest artists for a program of Beethoven and Mendelssohn on October 20th. This up-and-coming ensemble are currently at the Juilliard School where they are the Graduate Resident String Quartet. November's recital featured Calgary-born cellist Estelle Choi. Ms. Choi impressed as a member of the NAC's Summer Institute last summer, and for her Debut recital wowed the audience with her performance of the fiendishly difficult Sonata for Solo Cello by Zoltan Kodaly.

Upcoming events presented by



BEHIND THE MUSIC

Presented by the Friends of the NAC Orchestra, the very popular **Behind the Music** series introduces the musicians of the NAC Orchestra. This year, patrons will have the chance to meet members of the NACO brass and woodwind sections who will talk about their music as well as their interesting and diverse lives away from the stage.



Monday, March 8, 2010 7:00 p.m., NAC Salon
Kimball Sykes, Principal Clarinet

Monday, April 26, 2010 7:00 p.m., NAC Salon
Donald Renshaw, Principal Trombone

Single tickets can be purchased at the door.
\$10 for members, \$12 for non-members,
\$5 for students



MUSIC TO DINE FOR

Intimate, music-themed dinners for 10 to 16 guests hosted by Ambassadors, High Commissioners and the Chief Justice of Canada.

The hosts for upcoming events include:

Monday, January 25, 2010

- The Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

- The Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Finland
- The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany
- The Ambassador of the State of Israel
- The Ambassador of the Republic of Jemen
- The Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Tickets are \$100 each (\$125 non-members).

For further details,
please visit the Friends of the
NAC Orchestra website:

www.friendsofnaco.ca

Pinchas Zukerman, Music Director, NAC Orchestra



Maestro Pinchas Zukerman
Photo by Paul Labelle

Our Music Director, Pinchas Zukerman, has had a busy fall full of concerts, international tours and education activities.

On October 30, Maestro Zukerman taught a masterclass via broadband video conference with violin students from the Särestö Academy in Finland. A two hour masterclass, it was taught from the CRC Communications Research Centre) and was a great success. Maestro Zukerman previously taught a masterclass with violin students from the Särestö Academy in July 2009.

Maestro Zukerman spent the last two weeks of October touring China with his cellist wife, Amanda Forsyth, performing concerts with the China Philharmonic, and the Shanghai and Guangzhou Symphony Orchestras. During this tour, he also taught violin and viola lessons to students in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, under the auspices of the Rolex "Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative." Maestro Zukerman is a former Mentor of this program.

On December 6, Maestro Zukerman and Ms. Forsyth attended the Rolex

Gala Evening in honour of the Mentors and Protégés of the 2008-2009 Rolex Arts Initiative at the Royal Opera House in London. Maestro Zukerman attended in his capacity as a former Mentor of the Rolex Arts Initiative program.

Maestro Zukerman also taught his students at the Manhattan School of Music through the NAC's broadband video conference capabilities in the Hexagon Room. He taught his students in person when he was in New York this fall, but relied on this excellent teaching tool on three occasions.

NAC Orchestra Musicians in the Community



Charles Hamann
Photo by Fred Cattroll

Charles Hamann, NACO Principal Oboe, led a masterclass as part of the 40th anniversary oboe weekend at the University of Ottawa on September 27-28, which included community oboists and special guest Suzanne Lemieux, a U of O grad who is now a noted soloist and principal oboe of Symphony Nova Scotia. Other notable masterclasses were led by NACO Second Oboe Francine Schutzman, Suzanne Lemieux, Frederic Hodgson, Angela Casagrande, and Susan Morris.

On November 17, Maestro Douglas Boyd presented a masterclass for the University of Ottawa oboe studio. Mr. Boyd, who also conducted NACO that same week, is the former principal oboist with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, international oboe soloist and recording artist, and noted teacher. Though he has retired from professional playing, he gave a fantastic class that inspired and energized the oboe students.



UPPER: Francine Schutzman
Photo by Fred Cattroll

LOWER: Douglas Boyd
Photo by J. Keenan

Your Donation, Real Impact

I am pleased to report that NAC Foundation donors and sponsors are continuing to help the next generation of artists pursue their passion. There are so many moving examples from this past year of how their support has made a difference, but I think the milestones celebrated by emerging classical musician Theodore Chan best illustrate how donor support is making a real impact.

“As a young musician beginning my career, the opportunity provided (by the NAC) was invaluable,” says Theodore, an alumnus of both the NAC’s Young Artist Program and Institute for

Orchestral Studies. “The ability to work on major repertoire with a fantastic orchestra, world-class conductors and caring mentors was an experience I won’t forget.”

Over the past two years, the 26-year-old double bassist has continued to grow as an artist by working with some of the world’s finest musicians and teachers at the NAC. Impressed by the Ottawa native’s performance at the NAC, Maestro Zubin Mehta invited Theodore to make his international debut last spring in Wagner’s *Ring Cycle* in Valencia, Spain.

Thanks to support from our donors, the hands-on

training Theodore received at the NAC is helping him realize his dreams. And the same can be said for so many other artists, students and educators across the country. From our Music Alive Program and Musicians in the Schools to the Summer Music Institute, I am proud to say that donor support at the NAC is helping shape the future of the performing arts in Canada.

Sincere thanks,



Jayne Watson
CEO, National Arts
Centre Foundation



Theodore Chan



Claire Speed

Music Education Staffing News

After 15 years of dedicated service at the National Arts Centre, building Music Education programs that now enjoy national and international reputations today, **Claire Speed** decided to return to school full-time to pursue an MBA at the Schulich School of Business at York University in Toronto. She is dearly missed by our team but we wish her well on this new venture in her professional life.

The Music Education and Community Engagement Department is pleased to have **Pamela Coe** join the team on November 2nd as Music Alive Program Coordinator. She replaces Natasha Harwood who accepted a term position as Education Director at the Ottawa Little Theatre which began on October 2nd. Thanks to Christy Harris for managing the MAP during the 1-month transition.

NAC Young Artists Program Alumni News

Former NAC Young Artists Program (2006-2008) junior violist Eric Burge (son of Canadian composer John Burge), who is a student of NACO violist Nancy Sturdevant, was awarded the Royal Conservatory’s silver medal for Grade 10 on November 29th. Eric, who is currently finishing secondary school at the prestigious Interlochen Arts Academy, was the only string award winner asked to perform at the awards ceremony in the RCM’s new Koerner Hall.



Eric Burge, Young Artist Program Alumnus 2006-2008



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Canada's National Arts Centre

The National Arts Centre Corporation was established by an Act of the Parliament of Canada in 1966. The National Arts Centre (NAC) opened its doors in 1969. The NAC's mission is to develop and promote the performing arts by: Establishing the NAC as the pre-eminent showcase for the performing arts; Acting as a catalyst for the performing arts nationally; Nurturing and supporting artists and arts organizations in communities across the country.

www.nac-cna.ca

Mark Your Calendars!

JANUARY

Friday, January 15, 2010
Debut Series Concert
Marika Bournaki, piano
Paul Lefebvre, host
12:00 p.m., NAC Salon

Saturday, January 23, 2010
**TD Canada Trust
Family Adventures with the
NAC Orchestra**
"Sports Fever"
1:30 p.m.; 3:30 p.m., Southam
Hall, NAC



FEBRUARY

Monday, February 1, 2010
**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
NAC Summer Music Institute,
Young Artists Program and
Conductors Program**
NAC website

Sunday, February 7, 2010
Kinderconcerts
"Skarazula"
9:30 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.; 1:30 p.m.;
3:00 p.m., NAC Panorama Room

Tuesday, February 9, 2010
**Manhattan Under the Rideau
Jazz Masterclass Series**
Theo Bleckmann, voice
12:00 p.m., NAC Fourth Stage

Saturday, February 20, 2010
**TD Canada Trust
Family Adventures with the
NAC Orchestra**
"Happy 40th Birthday,
NAC Orchestra"
1:30 p.m.; 3:30 p.m., Southam
Hall, NAC

MARCH

Monday, March 15, 2010
**APPLICATION DEADLINE:
NACO Bursary Competition**
5:00 p.m., NAC website

Sunday, March 21, 2010
NACO Bursary Benefit Concert
2:00 p.m.; NAC Salon

APRIL

Tuesday, April 6, 2010
**Manhattan Under the Rideau
Jazz Masterclass Series**
Peter Eldridge, voice
12:00 p.m., NAC Fourth Stage

Sunday, April 18, 2010
Kinderconcerts
"Giggle and Stomp"
9:30 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.; 1:30 p.m.;
3:00 p.m., NAC Panorama Room