West Suburban Early Music Society

Nancy Chabala filled in as director for WSEMS December meeting. Laura Kuhlman was in Washington DC playing in the Revels there and probably having more fun than is good for you. Nancy led us in holiday and seasonal favorites including Veni, Veni, Emmanuel and Oh, holy night as well as a Stan Davis arrangement of the Dance of the Tumblers from the Rimsky-Korsakov opera The Snow Queen. Thanks Nancy!

Our next meeting will be on January 13. I hope nobody has triskaidekaphobia (fear of the number 13). Laura will lead us in our Gabrielli pieces and some other short ones possibly involving jazz. Bring your 20th century fingers and ears. Jim Heup will begin some new repertoire with the Advanced Altos, and the krumhorns will continue to do what they do best. Hope to see everyone there!—Eric Stern

Chicago Yuletide Concert

We closed 2012 in Chicago with a variety of modern pieces paired with traditional works. Eclectic 20th century items by Matthias Maute and Richard Eastman played happily alongside 15th and 16th century advent carols like Nowell Sing We and Dives and Lazarus, works so old their authors have been long forgotten. Six ensembles performed, offering 12 works from a variety of composers. Please feel welcome to join us for our next concert on May 19. The Chicago chapter concerts are a friendly place to gain performance experience.

Join us on January 20 and enjoy the leadership of Andrew Schultze, and holiday songs from the madrigal group, the Pippins.

February 17     Director      Andrew Schultze
                Ensemble      The Baron’s Noyse
                Food/Drinks   Dale/Mark

March 17       Director      John Langfeld
                Ensemble      Open
                Food/Drinks   Rosalie/Open

April 21      Director      Laura Osterlund
                Ensemble      Dennis Sherman, Mirja Lorenz
                Food/Drinks   Open

Oak Park Recorder Society

Mirja Lorenz and Dennis Sherman
John Langfeld, Recorders Rock

For our March 17 meeting we will welcome John Langfeld for a special workshop, where he will introduce his new arrangement of Queen’s Bohemian Rhapsody for Recorders and Continuo. We need as many recorder players as we can find. Members from the West Suburban Early Music Society are welcome, and any other recorder players who want to take part.

Note that we will need a keyboard. John had suggested moving the meeting to St. Luke’s Lutheran, our old meeting place at 1500 West Belmont in Chicago, where a harpsichord could be provided. Alternately, if we can provide a keyboard at Covenant that would work, and we don’t have to change our regular meeting place.

During the workshop, Langfeld will be dealing with various pedagogical issues with regard to pitch, rhythmic, articulation, and balance. This experience is designed to inspire us all to get a little “out of the Bachs” (as John would put it) once in a while. Players of all levels are encouraged to participate.

If you are planning on attending this meeting, please contact John Langfeld at langfeldjohn@gmail.com so he can arrange for the appropriate workshop space. The more the merrier (and more regal)! Tell John the instrument(s) you play, and he will email the part(s). If you request a working score for the Rhapsody, John will be happy to email that as well.

Light refreshments will be provided at no cost. Parking is free in the lot adjacent to the Church.

The Oak Park Society had a good year in 2012 too

Music Coming Up

The Early Music Series at the Byron Colby Barn in Grayslake, Illinois presents the Wayward Sisters in concert on Sunday, January 13 at 4 PM. Tickets are $18 each; children under age 16 are free. Call (847) 543-1202 or email bebarn@prairiecrossing.com. The Wayward Sisters quartet features recorder, Baroque violin and cello, and theorbo and guitar. In 2001 they won the Early Music America/Naxos recording competition and have been noted for their “imaginative program and alert, stylish performances.”

Schola Antiqua sings works of Guillaume de Machaut, most notably his masterwork Mass for Our Lady, as well as the 14th century composers motets and songs, on Sunday April 28 at 4 PM at Rockefeller Chapel. The Chapel is at 5850 South Woodlawn, on the University of Chicago campus. Visit www.chicagochant.org for more.

The Lake Shore Symphony Orchestra offers “Magnificent Mozart” on Sunday, March 3 at 3:30 PM at the Queen of All Saints Basilica, 6280 North Sauganash in Chicago. Donations accepted. The concert features Mozart’s Requiem and Bach’s Magnificat. The Basilica is a landmark on Chicago’s far north side, at Devon & Central, close to the Peterson Avenue exit on the Edens Expressway. Tickets are $20, $15 for seniors and students. Visit www.lsso.org to learn more.

Bach Week returns, and for their 40th anniversary season! This year’s festival features concerts Friday night April 19 at 7:30 and 10 PM (candlelight) at the Nichols Concert Hall of the Music Institute of Chicago in Evanston, Sunday April 21 at 3 PM (also at Nichols), and Sunday May 5 at 2:30 PM at Anderson Chapel of North Park University. The Music Institute is at 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston, an easy walk from the Davis Street stop on the Purple L train line. North Park University’s chapel is at 3225 West Foster Avenue, near Foster & Kimball, a half mile walk from the Kimball L stop on the Brown line. This year’s performances include two piano concerti, the cantata Himmelskoenig, sei willkommen, the Goldberg Variations, Toccata in F Major, Brandenburg Concerto #2, the Magnificat, and more. Tickets are $30, $20 for seniors. To learn more visit www.bachweek.org or call 847-293-6686.

The Baroque Band is offering a program of recorder music by Vivaldi, Telemann, and Albioni, Gone with the Wind: Tempestuous Recorder Concertos in January of 2013. Piers Adams is featured on recorder; the performances are Wednesday, January 16 at the Chicago Symphony Center Grainger Ballroom, 220 South Michigan Avenue in Chicago, Friday January 18 at the Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, and Saturday, January 19, Augustana Lutheran Church, 5500 South Woodlawn, Chicago (Hyde Park). All concerts are at 7:30, all are accessible by public transportation, and the tickets for all are from $15 to $35. To learn more visit www.baroqueband.org.
Find your way to the Chicago History Museum, 1601 North Clark Street (Clark & North), for the 11th annual Chicago Maritime Festival, February 23. This event features a lot of old music too, but mostly played on banjos, guitars, and accordion, with an occasional cigar box violin included. Besides sea shanties (some as bawdy as anything we find from the Renaissance) take advantage of the exhibit hall and a full day of classes on topics like underwater archeology, storms on the Great Lakes, the river that flows backwards, and Confederate attempts to disrupt Union shipping on Lake Michigan and Lake Erie during the Civil War. Costumed sailors and pirates from the days of sail will appear (and sing); plenty of events for children too. A ticket for daytime events is $14, $20 for evening concert. Visit www.chicagomaritimefestival.org or call 773 576-7245.

The University of Chicago Folk Music Festival is February 8-10 at Ida Noyes Hall. Two days of free workshops plus three evening concerts, relentless bluegrass, blues, Cajun, Celtic, and world music plus lots of jamming in the hallways. Email uofcfolk@gmail.com to learn more or visit www.uofcfolk.org.

Recorders for Sale
David Sokol wants to sell a group of Zamir maple wooden recorders: a soprano, a sopranino, an alto, and a tenor. The sopranino and the alto have never been played, and the soprano not very often, but the tenor a bit more. No marks of scratches, $250 for the set. Contact him at dmsokol@uic.edu or call (708) 848-1731. The instruments are at his home in Oak Park.

New Chicago Chapter Website
Visit www.chicagorecorders.org, a work in progress. Your comments or suggestions are welcome.

Chapter Information
Visit the Yahoo group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ChicagoARS.

Our chapters are open to anyone, regardless of musical training, who wants to cultivate and sponsor love and appreciation of the art, history and use of the recorder and related instruments. Our meetings, programs and publications help members to come together and to find others with similar interests. Chicago Chapter Dues begin September 1, and West Suburban dues cover June 1 through May 31 and are due in September. Both groups include membership in either chapter and in the American Recorder Society. Members are listed in the ARS directory, receive The American Recorder magazine and this newsletter. The Recorder Reporter is published monthly from September to May jointly by the Chicago Chapter and the West Suburban Early Music Society.

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Chicago Chapter meetings: Usually third Sunday of each month, September through May, 2 PM, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2012 West Dickens, Chicago. Enter the front door of the parish building immediately west of the church and go to the large fellowship hall on the right.

Tuesday Night Recorder Sessions
The Oak Park Recorder Society offers a fine way to gain regular experience in playing with a group. OPRS members meet Tuesday night, 8 to 10 PM, in the basement of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, 460 Lake Street. Go to the back entrance near the parking lot and ring the buzzer for the basement.

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WSEMS meetings: Second Sunday of each month, September through April, first Sunday of May, 2-4:30 PM at the Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church, 1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, southwest corner of Naper Boulevard and Hobson Road. Exit I-88 at Naper Boulevard and travel south. The church entrance is on a side street, more obvious from Hobson Road.

Mark Dawson, newsletter editor
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Deadline for the next newsletter is January 25.
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