



Society of Composers, Inc.

... dedicated to the
promotion, composition,
performance, understanding
and dissemination of
new and contemporary
music ...

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SCI is an organization for composers. Our membership categories include full member, student member, retired member or life member.

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FEATURE: STUDENT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

SCI/ASCAP Commissioned Pieces Presented at the Student National Conference

by Kari Juusela

It was a great pleasure to attend the smoothly run and musically intriguing SCI Student National Conference hosted by Mark Zanter at Marshall University in West Virginia March 5–6, 2010. At the conference, the winning SCI/ASCAP Commissioned pieces from 2008 were performed and the winners were given awards and recognized for their achievements. All of the concerts I attended showed that new art music is certainly alive, well and in capable and creative hands.

The Friday night concert featured the premiers of the three 2008 commissioned works. First Prize winner Eric

Nathan's duet for violin and soprano, *Wing Over Wing*, was premiered by soprano Amanda Kohl and violinist Reed Smith. The beautifully-crafted three-song cycle exhibited a wide range of emotions and techniques in its span of about nine minutes. Ms. Kohl has a beautiful, clear and expressive lyric voice that intertwined in exquisite counterpoint with the well-played violin. A 10-minute excerpt of 2nd-Prize-winner Clint Needham's piece, *Brass Quintet II*, was ably performed by the Marshall University Faculty Brass Quintet. The quintet displayed the broad spectrum of timbral possibilities

of the brass instruments and I was especially drawn to the muted trumpets' quickly moving 16th-note passages contrasted with strong lines in the lower brass. In keeping with the engaging timbres of the first two works, José Luis Hurtado's 3rd-Prize piece, *Intermezzo* for prepared piano, was a delightful gem performed with panache, deft and nuanced touch by Alanna Cushing. The preparations were added as fine spices to a tasty dish - just enough to excite the palette, but not overwhelming or distracting.

(Continued on Page 4)



About the Newsletter

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Benjamin Williams

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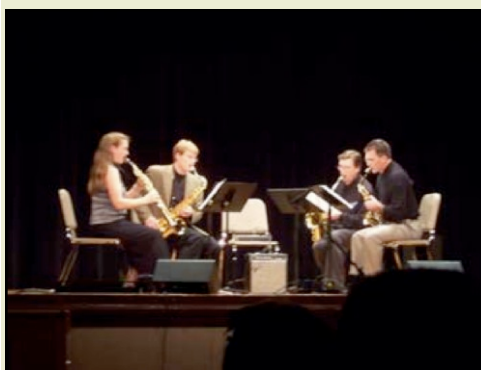
How to Submit Items to the Newsletter

Articles: The Newsletter welcomes submissions of articles to run in future issues. Articles, if accepted, may be edited for length and content. Please include a photo with all submissions if possible (photo may be of author).

Member News + Photos: Please send all member news and activities with a photo. Submitted items may be edited.

Ideas/Suggestions: The Editors welcome any other ideas or suggestions.

Submit to the newsletter via email at:
newsletter@societyofcomposers.org



Upcoming SCI Events

2010 Region VI Conference March 24–27, 2010

Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

Host: Craig Weston
cweston@ksu.edu

Submission deadline: November 1, 2009

2010 Region V Conference October 1–2, 2010

Augustana College, IL
Host: David Davies

daviddavies@augustana.edu

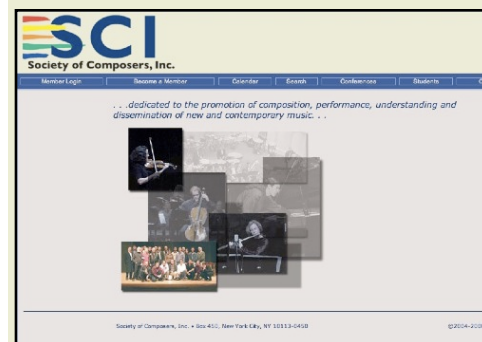
Submission Deadline: March 1, 2010

2010 National Conference November 11–14, 2010

University of South Carolina
School of Music

Host: Tayloe Harding
tharding@sc.edu

Submission Deadline: March 15, 2010



Internet & Email

www.societyofcomposers.org

- Conference dates and submission guidelines
- Contact information and links to member web-pages
- Student chapters and opportunities
- CDs and journals produced by SCI
- Details on SCI such as membership options, listings and contacts for officers, regional structure, by-laws, newsletter archives and more...

SCION

SCION is a listing of opportunities on our website exclusively for members. It is updated on a continual basis so that it may be checked at any time for the most current notices. In addition, members are emailed on the first Monday of each month to remind them to visit the site for new or recent postings. The large number of listings is easily managed by a table of contents with links to the individual notices. In-depth coverage; contest listings in full; all items listed until expiration; this is a valuable resource that you may print in its entirety or in part at any time.

John Bilotta, SCION Editor
scion@societyofcomposers.org

[scimembers]

scimembers is a member-driven e-mail mailing list that is intended to facilitate communication between members of the Society on topics of concern to composers of contemporary concert music. It conveys whatever notices or messages are sent by its members, including announcements of performances and professional opportunities, as well as discussions on a wide variety of topics. For more information, including how to join and participate in the listserv:

<http://www.societyofcomposers.org/data/publications/listserv/listserv.html>

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Student Conference

Ball State University

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Anthony Cornicello

Message from the Editors

As noted in the previous edition of the *Newsletter* at the end of 2009, there are a number of SCI

events throughout 2010. In this issue is Kari Juusela's review of the 2010 Student National Conference

hosted by Mark Zanter at Marshall University in West Virginia (page 1).

As always, information regarding upcoming SCI

events can be

found on page 2 of the *Newsletter*.

We sincerely hope you have the opportunity to attend as many of these events as possible and ask that you consider taking pictures of your colleagues and sharing your reviews of the events.

Please send all articles or photos to

newsletter@societyofcomposers.org.

And remember to send notification of any premieres, rewards, commissions, honors, and the like for inclusion in the SCItings portion of the *Newsletter*, which can be found in this edition beginning on page 5.

Anthony Cornicello
Benjamin Williams
Editors, SCI Newsletter



Benjamin Williams

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SCI/ASCAP Commissioned Pieces Presented at the Student National Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

Intermezzo, as the other commissioned works, was met with enthusiastic applause and complimentary comments. The conference and commissioned premiers were quite a success and all of the student composers were very enthusiastic and supportive of one another. New York City-based composer and music journalist, Frank Oteri gave the keynote address, *The Artist as Citizen*. His address was emboldening, passionate, timely and extremely engaging. He brought the message of musical activism, civic involvement, and working together to create a nurturing climate for new music. This led me to think of the wonderful support Frances Richard and Cia Toscanini of ASCAP has given the SCI in funding the student composer commissions that enable emerging composers to be recognized and assisted in creating careers as composers. The SCI/ASCAP presentations were given immediately following Frank's address and fit nicely with his theme of supporting one another in our musical endeavors.

The 2009 SCI/ASCAP student commissions will be premiered at the SCI National Conference, hosted by Tayloe Harding, at University of South Carolina in the fall. I will attend that conference to present awards and I hope to see many of you there. The 2010 submissions are being judged now and the regional winners will be announced soon.

Kari Juusela
kjuusela@berklee.edu



Conference host Mark Zanter, on left, with Eric Nathan, first-prize winner; Kari Juusela, contest administrator; and José Luis Hurtado, third prize winner. Second place winner, Clint Needham was unable to attend due to qualifying exams.

N O E X T R A N O T E S



No Extra Notes by Richard Zarou

No Extra Notes was started in March of 2009 by composer Richard Zarou as a means of getting new music heard. Each week a different up-and-coming composer is featured beginning on Sunday night. This includes an interview about the composer's background, style and current projects as well as listening to two works of the composer's choice. By April, 2009 over thirty composers had been invited and agreed to participate with the goal to feature over 50 composers each year. The **No Extra Notes** website also holds a concert calendar which invites composers from all across the country to submit their concert details. The calendar is broken up into regions of the United States so that concert goers can quickly find a concert in their area.

Website: noextranotes.wordpress.com
Twitter: twitter.com/noextranotes
Podcast RSS: <http://feeds2.feedburner.com/NoExtraNotes>

SCItings

Member News and Activities

Performances, Awards, Commissions, Honors, Publications and other Member Activities.

Piotr Szewczyk

Szewczyk performed as soloist in a performance of his *Violin Concerto* on December 7, 2009 with the Coastal Symphony of Georgia.

piotr@verynewmusic.com

Aaron Alon

The premiere of Alon's new short work for orchestra, *Everest* <<http://www.aaronalon.com/works/everest/index.html>> took place December 4, 2009. Cristian Macelaru conducted Rice University's Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra in the Stude Concert Hall.

aaronalon@gmail.com

Daniel Adams

Daniel Adams received the world premiere of his composition *Camouflage* for contrabass solo and percussion trio on November 23, 2009 in Tampa, Florida at the College of Fine Arts of the University of South Florida. The USF Percussion Ensemble, conducted by Robert McCormick, performed *Camouflage*. The contrabass soloist was Dee Moses, principal double bassist of The Florida Orchestra.



Daniel Adams

Hamiruge, the Louisiana State University Percussion Group performed Adams's *Camaraderie* for timpani solo and percussion ensemble on November 12, 2009 as part of the New Literature for Percussion Ensemble session at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The performance was conducted by Brett Dietz with Shawn Galvin as solo timpanist.

The Unison Piano Duo presented three performances of Adams's piano duo *Double Helix* in October. The piece was performed at the University of Iowa, Knox College, and Western Illinois University on October 17, 18 and 19, 2009 respectively. The members of the Unison Piano Duo are Du Huang and Xiao Hu.

dcadams@airmail.net

Jonathan Santore

The New Hampshire Master Chorale premiered Santore's new work *Living with Squirrels*, a setting of three poems by his colleague at Plymouth State University, Liz Ahl, about the joys and pitfalls of adjusting to life in a rural environment.

The concerts took place November 20, 2009 at South Church in Concord, NH; November 21, 2009 at Norwich Congregational Church in Norwich, VT; and November 22, 2009 at Plymouth Congregational Church in Plymouth, NH.

This premiere also constitutes Santore's "Report to the New Hampshire Community," part of his 2010 Individual Artist Fellowship from the NH State Council on the Arts.

jonathansantore.com

Keith Kramer

The Baltimore Composers Forum presented *Pictures on Silence*, featuring harpist Jacqueline Pollauf and saxophonist Noah Getz November 20, 2009. The program featured brand-new works composed specifically for this exciting and innovative ensemble. Composers included John Belkot, Ljiljana Jovanović, Nick Nelson, George Spicka, Ariyo Shahry and Keith Kra-

mer. The concert was held at An die Musik in Baltimore Maryland.

kkramer@keithkramer.org

David Ward-Steinman

A faculty concert of Ward-Steinman's music took place on the Indiana University campus in Ford-Crawford Hall November 20, 2009.

Featured was the premiere of *Jazz Concert for Two Pianos and Rhythm Section*, plus the premiere of a new version of *Bright Star* sung by mezzo-soprano Marietta Simpson.

dwardste@indiana.edu

Philip Bradbury

The premiere performance of Bradbury's jazz band piece *Unstuck in Funk* was performed by the ULM Jazz Ensemble at the Brown Auditorium at the University of Louisiana at Monroe in Louisiana November 17, 2009.

ptbcomposer@gmail.com

David S. Lefkowitz

November 19, 2009, Lefkowitz's newly-commissioned *Lincoln Echoes* for tenor and baritone soloists, narrator, choir, and orchestra, was premiered at UCLA's Schoenberg Hall. The music incorporates texts by Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Barack Obama, together with other sources including the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. The 36-minute composition is a celebration of the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, with echoes of his thoughts and writings both earlier and later in time, and was performed as a part of a weekend-long symposium on Lincoln.

John Duykers, tenor of the San Francisco Opera, sang the words of Roosevelt, Michael Dean, baritone of UCLA, sang the words of Obama, and LeRoy Villanueva, of the Los Angeles Opera, spoke the words of Lincoln. Neal Stulberg, director of the UCLA orchestras, conducted the UCLA Philharmonia, together with the UCLA Chorale, directed by Don Neuen.

lefko@ucla.edu

Mike D'Ambrosio

The world premiere of D'Ambrosio's brass choir and percussion piece

Incomplete Control took place November 15, 2009. The piece is dedicated to former IU trumpet professor Marie Speziale, who has been an important part of both D'Ambrosio's professional and personal development. The concert took place at Auer Recital Hall in the Simon Music Center and was directed by Edmund Cord.

mikedambrosio@gmail.com

Mark Winges

Volti's first set of the season included the premiere of Winges' *Where Everything Is Music*, plus pieces by Stacy Garrop, Wayne Peterson, Eric Moe, Mark Zuckerman, William Hawley and Joshua Fishbein. Performances took place November 13, 2009 at Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco; November 14, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Berkeley; and November 15, 2009 at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Palo Alto.

WingNotes@earthlink.net

Larry Barnes

Larry Barnes, professor of music at Transylvania University, is the composer of the original soundtrack for the film *Euphoria: Pursuing the Real American Dream*, which was featured at The Kentucky Theatre November 12, 2009. This film took the Gold Award for Documentary at the Houston Film Festival and was an official selection at the Santa Fe, Maryland and Chesapeake Festivals. Larry provided a brief introduction to the film before the screening.

The genre-jamming film *Euphoria* by Baltimore writer/director Lee Boot is a brilliant and innovative look at the question of meaning as we contemplate "the pursuit of happiness." It crosses boundaries of science and art, sociology and psychology. Boot begins by asking "are you happy?" and takes off on a metaphorical journey through the American landscape-the one that surrounds us and the one inside us. Synchronized swimmers inhabit an underwater jungle of neurons; Teddy Bears hover in arcs of electricity, and real people share how their lives have been transformed by pursuing what is meaningful and engaging to them. As

Boot untangles the elements necessary for emotional survival, the meaning in our own lives becomes refreshingly tangible. www.theeuphoriaproject.com
lbarnes@transy.edu

Eric Knechtges

Rivers Through Autumn was premiered by the Manhattan Piano Trio November 12, 2009 in Greaves Concert Hall in the Fine Arts Center on the campus of Northern Kentucky University.

eric.t.knechtges@gmail.com

Matthew Saunders

Pianist Dianna Anderson premiered Saunders' cycle of piano pieces, *Starry Wanderers*, on her faculty recital at Minot State University. The recital took place November 10, 2009 in Ann Nicole Nelson Recital Hall.

Each movement in the ten-piece cycle depicts one of the planets (or the Moon), in a work similar to Holst's *The Planets*, but without the astrological undertones.

two2twain@hotmail.com

Jorge Variego

The SCI Chapter at the University of Florida is proud to announce the release of Volume VI of the CD collection that is dedicated exclusively to the promotion of students works. This recording was fully produced and funded by students and includes works by Chester Udell, Mike Solomon, Seung-Hye Kim, Jorge Variego, Travis Garrison, Sean Peuquet, Kyle Vegter and Matt McCabe. Precious support was received from the faculty, the Director of the School of Music and also from the Student Government at the University of Florida to make this happen.

If you'd like to receive a copy of the disc please send a SASE (the size of a regular CD) to:

SCI UF Chapter
University of Florida School of Music
P.O. Box 117900
Gainesville, FL 32611-7900

Thanks to everyone who collaborated with the project, especially to Travis Garrison and Matt McCabe for the mastering and artwork.

jvariego@hotmail.com

David Morneau

a/break machinations, Morneau's first solo CD, has been released. *a/break machinations* was composed and produced by David Morneau and released by Immigrant Breast Nest. Purchase or download a copy at:

5of4.com/a_break_machinations.html

a/break machinations fractures, re-sequences, and otherwise manipulates a single drum break, touching on several of electronic music's finest traditions, such as drum'n'bass, breakcore, trip-hop and jungle. Each new track sets the break in a new context, beginning with a cerebral drone and climaxing in a carnal outburst of pulse-pounding goodness.

david@5of4.com

Brandon Hendrix

Brandon Hendrix's *The Rise of the Incans* for concert band was released in December of 2009 by Imagine Music Publishing. The publication was a result of the Pathways Band Composition Competition, a nationwide call for level 1-4 band scores.

brandonh72@hotmail.com



Brandon Hendrix

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

For complete details, please visit <http://www.societyofcomposers.org/data/organization/membership.html>.

FULL MEMBERSHIP (\$55/year): Eligible to submit scores to the National Conferences, regional conferences, SCI Recording Series, SCI Journal of Music Scores. Access to the SCI Newsletter in electronic form. Optional subscription to [scimembers], the SCI listserv and all other SCI publications. Eligible to vote on Society Matters and in elections for the National Council.

JOINT MEMBERSHIP (\$75/year): Same benefits as full members

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP (\$27.50/year): Open to those 65 years of age or older, or retired. Same benefits as full members.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (\$27.50/year): Open to performers and other interested professionals. Receives the SCI Newsletter in electronic form and can participate in national and regional conferences.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP (\$27.50/year): Eligible to submit to national and regional conferences and to vote in society matters. Access to all SCI publications.

STUDENT CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP (\$17.50/year): Same benefits as student members, but only available on campuses having Student Chapters.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP (\$25/year): Organizations receive hard copy of the SCI Newsletter and other mailings.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP (\$1100 or \$120/year for 10 years): Benefits the same as full members, for life.

PUBLICATIONS

Publications include the *SCI Newsletter*, *SCI Recording Series*, *Performers CD Series*, *SCI Journal of Music Scores* and **SCION** (monthly e-mail listing of announcements and opportunities for composers).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements of contests, calls for scores and other solicitation appear in the *SCI Newsletter* and **SCION** as a service to SCI members. While every effort is made to assure the accuracy of these announcements, SCI cannot accept responsibility for errors, misrepresentations, or misinterpretations.

PIXEL PERFECT: MEMBER PHOTOS

Pixel Perfect

Photos of SCI Members

Photos By **Emily Williams**



*BSU Faculty Member
Elizabeth Crawford*

Photos from a previous SCI
Student National Conference at
Ball State University in Muncie,
Indiana October 10–11, 2008



Christopher Biggs and Nick Omiccioli



*SCI Student
Composers and
Conference Performers*