
Washington Guitar Society

No.50

May/ June 2000

Guitar Festivals and Workshops 2000



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to welcome Corey Whitehead as our new editor and publishing of our newsletter. As many of you know, Kevin Vigil has been doing this job for quite a few years now. I am sent newsletters from guitar societies all around the country and I can assure you that none of them are any better than ours. I understand that Kevin and Corey are working together for a smooth transition. Kevin has put far more time and energy into this society than anyone else and has certainly earned a break. I am sure he will continue to contribute in various capacities in the future.

Our new meeting place at the Chevy Chase Community Center is working out just great. This is a fine facility and attendance has been really good these last few months. I hope to see even more of you soon.

John Rodgers

WGS/ WCM MEETINGS

The Washington Guitar Society (WGS) has meetings one Friday of every month. Specific dates and performers are listed in the calendar of events. Meetings with a featured performer begin with an open stage from 7:30-8:30 pm and continue with the performance at 8 pm. The meetings are free and open to the public. A hat will be passed for voluntary contributions to the artist. For information call John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

WGS OPEN STAGE

The Washington Guitar Society hosts an open stage before each of its meetings. This is a great time to try pieces out for a very interested audience. It's not a competition, just plain fun. The open stages start at 7:30 followed by the featured performer at 8pm. The next open stage is set for Friday, May 19th. It will take place at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Ave., NW. It's just south of Chevy Chase Circle at the corner of Connecticut Ave. and McKinley St., across the street from the Avalon movie theater. There is plenty of free parking.

FROM THE EDITOR

I am humbled by the task of publishing and editing this fine newsletter to the high standards placed before me by Kevin Vigil. Please offer your suggestions to me, as I will surely have room for improvement.

I have recently moved from Richmond to the D.C. area and look forward to meeting you all as I am very active in the guitar community. I am teaching privately at Paco de Malaga's Guitar Gallery on Connecticut St. N.W. in D.C. as well as working on my Doctoral Lecture-Recital Document on the *Sonata para Guitarra* (1933) by Antonio José (1902-1936).

Anyone who is interested in contributing articles or ideas for the publication of this newsletter feel free to contact me at: coreywhitehead@va.freei.net. Compositions and arrangements of music are welcome.

Corey Whitehead
Professor of Guitar
Duke Ellington School of the Arts
3500 R St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

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DUKE ELLINGTON AUDITIONS

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts is an accredited college preparatory Public School of the District of Columbia offering pre-professional training in the literary/ media, visual, and performing arts. Ellington's mission is to instill in each student an appreciation of his or her innate intellectual and creative potential; to develop the rudiments of discipline, cooperation and hard work necessary to succeed in professional occupations; and to teach skills that will contribute to the students personal fulfillment and proficiency in his or her chosen art form and academic life.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts provides talented high school students the opportunity for both academic excellence and artistic proficiency.

Founded in 1974 by Mike Malone and Peggy Cooper Cafritz, Ellington began as Workshops for Careers in the Arts. It has since evolved into a fully accredited four-year public high school program of arts and academics.

Students at Ellington seek educational excellence by applying themselves to high school subjects required for graduation from District of Columbia public schools. Under the guidance of certified public high school teachers, students will learn the vital relationship between the arts and academics. Ellington's academic faculty seeks to build the foundation students will need for higher education.

In addition, students select a specific major and pursue artistic excellence under the guidance of an experienced faculty of practicing artists. The unique educational experience, combining both academic studies and artistic talent, gives Ellington students the preparation to make significant contributions to their own lives, their families and their communities.

Music majors must be able to sing or play a required composition, as well as sight-read selected music. They must understand rhythmic structure and have pitch memory. The Music department offers a series of courses in applied music, musicianship and major ensemble. Because music majors need public performance experience, they participate in monthly student recitals, the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, Show Choir, Female ensemble, Concert Choir, as well as seminars and workshops with prominent artists in the jazz and classical genres. Those

who have performed or worked at or for the school include Wynton Marsalis, Stevie Wonder, Shirley Horn and many more.

One of the Ellington guitar students, Eren Gumrukcuoglu, is going to study at Berklee College of Music in Boston after his performance on June 28th with the National Symphony Orchestra. Sophomore Ben Freed recently gave an outstanding performance of *Joyspring* by Clifford Brown at the Kennedy Center on April 17th with saxophonist Davey Yarborough.

Classical and jazz guitar auditions can be arranged through Professor Yvette Dawson at the Duke Ellington School. Please call (202) 282-0123. Students will be asked to complete a short music theory exam, as well perform two short contrasting pieces.



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PAUL MOELLER TO PERFORM FOR WGS ON FRIDAY, MAY 19



Paul Moeller was born in 1972 in Woodstock, Illinois. He received a Bachelor's Degree in music from Northern Illinois University in 1995 and a Master's Degree in Music Performance and Literature from Eastman School of Music in 1997, where he was awarded the honorary Performer's Certificate given only to students of the highest caliber. In 1997 Paul began studies at Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Maryland under the tutelage of world renowned guitarist, Manuel Barrueco.

Paul has been the first place recipient of many major awards including the Northern Illinois University Concerto Competition, the Chandler Starr Scholarship Competition and the National Federation of Music Clubs National Guitar Competition. In 1996, Paul won first place at The First of America Midwest Young Artists National Bach Competition, and in 1997, he won first place at the International Guitar Concerto Competition sponsored by D'Addario Strings Corporation. As a result he was awarded \$4000 and a performance of the concerto with the Connecticut Concerto Consort, McKenzie Albert conducting. The work performed was *Guitar Concerto* by the prolific English composer Lennox Berkeley (1903-1989) and the concert was broadcast on public radio. Paul has appeared as a concerto soloist with the Northern Illinois University Symphony Orchestra, the Connecticut Concerto Consort, and with the Northern Virginia College Symphony Orchestra. He has performed throughout the United States and in Europe. In the summer of 1999, Paul gave a solo concert as a *featured artist* in Manuel Barrueco's annual master class in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society wrote in (Fall 1999 Volume 2, Issue 3) :

"Paul Moeller's concert on February 20, 1999 showed that the future for this artist as well as the classical guitar is a bright and optimistic one.."

"His program was a very demanding combination of the 4th lute suite by J.S. Bach, the *Concierto de Aranjuez* and Villa-Lobos etudes no. 7, 2, & 12. Needless to say, this program required a lot of endurance and concentration. Mr. Moeller was more than up to the task."

"Mr. Moeller gave a wonderful performance of Bach's demanding 4th lute suite. Mr. Moeller made a nice use of ornamentation throughout the entire suite. It was not too obtrusive and his placement was nicely done. This shows the possession of a strong interpretive mind, which complements his strong technical proficiency."

"The *Concierto de Aranjuez* is seen by many as the pinnacle of the classical guitar repertoire. Mr. Moeller gave an excellent performance of this piece. The adagio was especially nice. His use of tone colors allowed him to express the romantic nature of this movement to its fullest. It was a very mature performance."

"His performances of Villa-Lobos etudes 7, 2, & 12 were both fluid and virtuosic. His tempo for etude 2 was one that would not be attempted by many guitarists. This was an impressive display of technique."

"Paul Moeller is on his way to becoming one of the new voices in the classical guitar world."

Guitar Review - Oscar Ghiglia No. 115 Winter 1999

"There was Paul Moeller (USA), who was fantastically brave.. He played Bach's BWV 1006a Prelude perfectly,"

PIOTR ZIELINSKI TO PERFORM FOR WGS ON JUNE 23



Native of Poland, Piotr Zielinski studied guitar with Alexandre Lagoya and Olivier Chassain at the Paris Conservatory, where he received the DNESS diploma and the coveted Prix de Guitare. He is currently associated with the Peabody Conservatory, studying with Ray Chester.

Piotr made his debut in Poland performing Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* at the age of sixteen. Since then, he has given numerous concerts in Poland, France, Germany, Ireland and the U.S.A, in such prestigious venues as the Chopin Society and Szymanowski Hall in Poland, Cite Internationale des Arts, Salon Chopin and the Sainte Marie Church in Paris. He regularly collaborates with many renowned French musicians, including violinist Rodrigue Milosi, flutist Christelle Reynaud and chamber ensemble Opus 20.

The Polish Radio and Television broadcast his playing nationally.

In 1994 he was appointed principal guitar teacher at the International Music Academy in Paris, France. Guitar offered by Zonta International, Paris.

Calendar of Events

If you know of a performance that does not appear, please send the information to us to include. This includes anything from professional recitals to degree recitals to teacher studio recitals.

The Lake Braddock Secondary School Guitar Program will present a spring concert on Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:30 pm in the school's Recital Hall. Admission is \$2.00. The program features music by Andrew York, Bryan Johanson, Pat Metheny, John Graham and more.... The school is located at 9200 Burke Lake Rd. in Burke, VA (park to the right and enter the building through the doors marked Little Theater/Field House. Turn right into the music department and the Recital Hall will be on your right.) For more information, call John Graham at 703-385-6433 after 4pm.

May 13 (Sat.) 8 pm - Jorge Morel presented at Shenandoah University in Goodson Chapel Recital Hall. This is a benefit concert for the Winchester Free Medical Clinic. Tickets are \$20. Shenandoah University is located in Winchester, VA. Simply take Rt. 50 West (about 1-1/2 hours), immediately after crossing I-81, the Shenandoah University will be on your right. For tickets and information, call (540) 665-4569.

May 14 (Sun.) 6 pm - Duo Con Brio (Kevin Vigil, guitar Barbara Vigil, flute) presented at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on the Millennium Stage. This performance will be part of the Millennium Stage's Irish Festival. Admission is free and open to the public. The performance will also be broadcast live over the internet at <http://www.kennedy-center.org>

May 19 (Fri.) 8 pm - Paul Moeller will perform for the Washington Guitar Society at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Ave., NW. It's just south of Chevy Chase Circle at the corner of Connecticut Ave. and McKinley St., across the street from the Avalon movie theater. There is plenty of free parking. For information, call WGS president John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

Calendar of Events continued...

June 23 (Fri.) 8pm Piotr Zeilinski will perform for the Washington Guitar Society at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Ave., NW. It's just south of Chevy Chase Circle at the corner of Connecticut Ave. and McKinley St., across the street from the Avalon movie theater. There is plenty of free parking. For information, call WGS president John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

Guitar Camps 2000 (D.C. Area)**The Washington Conservatory of Music
1st Annual Summer Guitar Camp**

June 19-23 1-6 pm

with Special Guest Clinicians

Paul Pieper (1995 Winner of the Thelonius Monk Competition)

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Faculty Bios

Herman Myer holds a BM from Peabody Conservatory and a BA from the University of Maryland. He has performed in the Washington-Baltimore area for more than 25 years as a soloist and since 1980 with "The King's Music" a flute and guitar duo. He serves as the Maryland representative for the Associated Board of the Royal Music Schools in England.

Fred Wilchek holds a MM from Peabody Conservatory where he studied with Aaron Shearer and a BM from American University where he studied with John Marlow. He is the former head of the guitar department at Virginia Commonwealth University and has been the instructor of the Washington Conservatory Electric Guitar Ensemble for the past 5 years.

Kevin Vigil holds a MM from Yale University and a BM from the University of Memphis. He has performed throughout the continental US and Hawaii as a soloist and as a member of Duo Con Brio with flutist Barbara Vigil. His articles have been published in international guitar journals. Many of his students have gone on to earn degrees in music and work in musical fields. Kevin is currently chair of the WCM guitar department.

Guest Clinicians**Jerald Harscher**

"This Boston-based classical guitarist has recorded an album's worth of original folk and classical tunes alongside covers of a few well-known folk-pop and classical works. The result is a splendid musical journey, from the Joni Mitchell-like "Heartspeak" to the revealing version of "Solsbury Hill," in which Harscher transforms Peter Gabriel's anthemic rocker into a traditional-style folk ball uncovering new nuances along the way. As one might expect from the Yale-educated virtuoso who heads the classical guitar program at Roger Williams U., the musicianship is superb. But Harscher is also a compelling vocalist and melodicist."

Seth Rogovoy, Berkshire Eagle