

C.G.S.U.N.Y. NEWSLETTER

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C.G.S.U.N.Y. 8 Banta Place, Stamford, NY 12167
www.cgsuny.org 607-865-8775

President's Message

By Dennis Turechek

Slowly the snow is beginning to melt and the thaw is under way. We are all looking forward to celebrating the arrival of spring. In Binghamton, our Spring Celebration will feature classical/jazz guitarist Gene Bertoncini and Binghamton native classical guitarist William Yelverton. As a society which covers many far flung counties across upstate New York, we are always trying to encourage guitar activities in areas other than Oneonta.

Recently in Albany, an example of what can and should be done has taken root. Albert Muir, an Albany area member, floated the idea of monthly guitar workshops and meetings at various member's houses and culminating in public performances every three months in a variety of venues like coffee houses, churches, libraries, etc. They already have a cadre of performers and aficionados working on the details and have had several very successful events. A public performance is scheduled in June (see John Tario's article). All of this under the aegis of CGSUNY with information flowing to all members.

We think this model could work just as well in your area. All it takes is a little desire and motivation. If you think you would like something similar to happen in your city, town, or village, email us and let us know about your plans. You might want to seek advice and suggestions from the Albany group to get started. In any case, CGSUNY exists to help you spread the good word and music of the classical guitar.

Spring is almost here. Now is a good time to see if we can grow our membership and participation in the society.

Dennis Turechek

PLEASE NOTE:

Our Mailing Address has changed.
Please update your files

CGSUNY
8 Banta Place
Stamford, NY 12167

A Spring Celebration

By Gail Hamilton

On Saturday April 30, CGSUNY will be holding a Spring Celebration Event in Binghamton New York. The location of the event is: Trinity Memorial Church 44 Main St. Binghamton, NY (corner of Oak St) across the street from the High School. This event is free for Members. Please be sure to get your tickets in advance. Tickets will be available April 1st.

The event is comprised of a Jazz for Classical Guitar Masterclass which will begin at 3 p.m. If you are interested in performing in the class, please contact Dennis Turechek – 436-3385 immediately. Performance Space is limited. Auditors are welcome to come and listen to the masterclass. The masterclass will be presented by Gene Bertoncini, our featured classical/jazz performer for the evening concert.

Our Celebration Concert will begin at 7 p.m. and will start with Binghamton Native William Yelverton performing a wide range of classical and flamenco selections. Mr. Yelverton is a highly accomplished classical guitarist who's exceptionally diverse repertoire and brilliant technique set him apart as one of today's

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Performance Workshops

By Jon Tario

Over the past two months Saratoga County has hosted the recently developed Classical Guitar of Upstate New York Performance Workshops. These workshops provide members a chance to discuss, listen and to obviously perform Classical Guitar music with other music aficionados. Musical selections have been fantastic covering a broad range of taste from Baroque to Brazilian Dance to World Music as well as Popular Music. While dining on fruits, chocolates, and plenty of coffee, members have had the opportunity to attend these gatherings at the residences of Dave Capano and Michael Castro.

There have been six performers in attendance to date: Dave Capano, Michael Castro, Kevin Chase, Albert Muir, Richard Osborne, and Jon Tario. In addition to the performers, a handful of listeners have also been happily in attendance. Feeling at times like a Nervous Classical Guitarist Anonymous Meeting, the workshops provide members with a chance to openly speak about, challenge, and to defeat performance anxiety; also known as stage fright. Performance anxiety is often more difficult a task to overcome than learning to correctly read and perform music and one that certainly needs sufficient attention. It is extremely challenging to gently and precisely grace the six strings of the guitar while ones hands are shaking like they are in the process of freezing to death. Fortunately, the workshops provide members with a forgiving and relaxing atmosphere to try old and new music at all levels of difficulty. It appears as if the regular performers are becoming much more relaxed and on their way to keeping cool and calm. These monthly Meetings will also culminate in public performances as well as more formal private performances in residences at least four times a year. The first of which is tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 17th at Professor Java's Coffee Sanctuary in Albany from 8:30-11:00pm and is free to the public. The performance workshops

are open to any member whether they are a performer or a listener. Occurring on a monthly basis the workshops have been scheduled on random Saturday's but some Sunday's might be in the works as well. If you are interested in participating in a performance workshop please contact: Albert Muir lbp@capital.net or myself Jon Tario tarijt24@yahoo.com

In Oneonta.....



The third annual collaborative concert at the Hamblin Theatre featuring members of From The Bridge along with two tango masters from Buenos Aires, Argentina - pianist Alejandro Rutty and vocalist Lorena Guillen was presented March 14th to an overflowing crowd of 150 concert-goers. Hamblin theatre holds about 125. Because of demand, the concert will be repeated at Hartwick College May 11th. Venue and time is yet to be determined. The concert entitled TANGO, TROVA, SAMBA, & SON, is music from Argentina, Mexico, Brazil, and original compositions inspired by the traditional music of these countries.

The musicians are double bassist John Davey, classical guitarist Dennis Turechek, pianist Alejandro Rutty, and vocalist Lorena Guillen.

Did You Know...

Louis the XIV and Charles the II both played the guitar.

“A Work in Progress”

(the Creation of a new piece of guitar music)

By Tom Rasely

At the beginning of this year, I found myself with more free time than usual. It didn't take long to come up with another project to fill in that available time.

I have always wanted to write something for guitar and orchestra, and here was my opportunity. But What to write?

Being involved with CGSUNY almost since the start, I have become much more aware of the presence of guitar quartets. The purpose of the guitar quartet is, traditionally, to replace the orchestra. That set me to wondering what it would like to write a piece that would offset that “miniaturized” orchestra against the real orchestra.

The thought occurred to me that there used to be quite a bit of antiphonal music- according to the Harvard Dictionary of Music, that is polyphonic music that was composed for 2 or more alternating groups to perform.

So I started putting pen to paper. I should say that I start putting mouse to computer screen, as the whole thing was written in Guitar Finale (2003 version).

The work is called “Movements”, and has no real programmatic themes to it. While there is no real program to the piece as a whole, each of the 3 movements has its own particular mood.

Movement 1: Promenade & Bossa, is a nod to Moussorgsky's “Pictures at an Exhibition”. That uses a Promenade to evoke motion (walking) from one painting to another in the sonic gallery. The music that I created for this Promenade is a stately theme that has a similar character to the rolling hills of Central New York; a lot of legato, scale lines that weave from phrase to phrase. It moves into the “Bossa” part, which is more of a light Latin pop feel than an authentic bossa nova. And finally it settles back into the promenade theme again, which “walks” us into the next section.

Movement 2: Galliard, is (once again) not meant to be absolutely true to the traditional French dance

rhythm, although the 3/4 against the more-or-less regular 6/8 feel does give it the characteristic off-centered rhythm. The whole swing is very much in the Renaissance mode, the original of which was a solo guitar instrumental song called “Miriam's Dance”. As this up-tempo 2 minute movement it flies off to variations of the simple 4-note theme of the dance, utilizing as many odd doublings and unexpected combinations as I could think of.

Movement 3: Resurrection Hymn, starts out with a bassoon that is somewhat reminiscent of Stravinsky's “Rite of Spring”; a wandering line that eventually grows into a larger theme. Like the first movement, the middle section features the insertion of another whole song, this one is based on a solo guitar piece that I wrote about 10 years ago. After working its way back to the original theme, it builds up to a climax that has a definite minor tonality, but the last 4 measures are one large major chord, with (once again) a very strong Stravinskian texture.

This piece was a labor of love, and was written for the Classical Guitar Society of Upstate New York to use as a fund raiser. At this point, the piece is complete and ready to perform. I am told that the CGSUNY Ensemble will be able to handle the parts well enough. To date, it has been sent to 3 orchestra conductors for their review, and will probably make the rounds of several others before the Summer's out.

I am hoping that we will have the opportunity to perform this piece in concert sometime during the 05-06 season. Progress of “Movements” will appear in this newsletter (and on the web site when appropriate).



A Spring Celebration continued from page 1

most exciting and unique concert artists. His recital programs often include jazz, folk, latin, and flamenco, together with early music performed on Renaissance lute. Mr. Yelverton holds a Doctorate in Guitar Performance from Florida State University, and currently directs guitar studies at Middle Tennessee State University, in Murfreesboro, Tennessee where he is a Professor of Music.

The second half of our Concert will be performed by legendary jazz guitarist Gene Bertoncini. This will be a Jazz performance, and will include many selections from his latest 2 CD releases. There will also be surprises to be announced by the artist.

Mr. Bertoncini is one of the pre-eminent jazz guitarists active today. His fluid technique and lyricism have won him international praise and such accolades as the "Segovia of Jazz". An eloquent and versatile improviser, Mr. Bertoncini has been heard with an extraordinary range of jazz greats, including performances and recordings with Benny Goodman, Buddy Rich, Wayne Shorter, Hubert Laws and Paul Desmond, among others, as well as with such distinguished vocalists as Tony Bennett, Carmen McRae and Lena Horne, Vic Damone, and Edye Gorme.

In addition to an active performing and recording schedule, Gene Bertoncini teaches at the Eastman School of Music, the New England Conservatory, New York University and the Banff School of Fine Arts. A New York native, Mr. Bertoncini is a graduate of Notre Dame University, from which he received a degree in architecture.

Following the concert, there will be an artist's reception for our two outstanding guests. We hope you will plan to join us and socialize with our performers and audience guests.

Please contact us to confirm that you will be attending the event and let us know how many guests you may be bringing. Members are free, others may purchase tickets as follows:

General Admission: \$10.00
Advanced Tickets: \$7.00
Student Tickets: \$5.00

If you would be willing to help with setup, ushering, reception etc. please let us know ASAP.
Call: 607-865-8775

We look forward to seeing you in Binghamton.



Anna Vidovic comes to Oneonta

FALL FESTIVAL PREVIEW

Join us for our 2005 Fall Festival in Oneonta on October 1 & 2. Our Featured performer will be the 22 year old Croatian Prodigy "Ana Vidovic".

We are also planning a day full of performances and lectures by members of the Society.

Ms. Vidovic's (www.anavidovic.com) recital will be at 7 pm Oct. 1 followed by a Master Class the next morning. Those interested in the master class should contact our president, Dennis Turechek A.S.A.P 607-436-3385

The Festival location will be in the same neighborhood - across the street from last year's event - at the Unitarian Church, Ford Ave. More details will follow in a few months. Don't miss this event - Ms. Vidovic is INCREDIBLE!

Did You Know...

In 1799, the first instruction manual to teach players how to read from notes rather than fingering symbols appeared.

FIND THE WORD

For your entertainment.... See how many of the words listed you can find.
 Words may be forward,backward,up, down, or diagonal ENJOY!

Relating to the Classical Guitar

- by WordFind for Crossword Maker 98

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|------|----------|-----------|
| ACCOUSTIC | BAROQUE | BONE | BRACING | CLASSICAL | DUET | ENSEMBLE | FINISH |
| FRET | GUILIANI | GUITAR | MILAN | NAILS | NECK | NUT | NYLON |
| PEG | PRACTICE | ROMANTIC | ROSETTE | SANS | SOLO | SOR | SOUNDHOLE |
| TABLE | TARREGA | | | | | | |

E S M X E L X B G D Y S R F Z U S X Q W
 N I H X A L R B G J O J I Z B L I M L Z
 M Y Y C D F O L G S D Y A T Z J M S X K
 Q G Z P M S G H X J Y X A Q R H D H K L
 G T M Q N D A K D I B R P O R K F U C W
 T U O B W T J F C N R N O L K D J O C Y
 O C A C C A S X F E U I W B T A C M G J
 A S H C J B A V G U U O J I R Y D Z G Z
 P Y Q S G L N A C C O U S T I C U T U L
 W U L X B E M B R A C I N G E C R Q U H
 V W H L U A P H S I N I F Y N L Q C Y Z
 B L R S F G R R A T I U G E S A B N A W
 I Q O C F R O O J F E Q C B E S J Z L K
 N R S I S M E G Q L H K O I M S J I D J
 D Q E T A J M T E U D N U Z B I J A W O
 C F T N N X N I G B E M A H L C F B Q I
 F N T X S G U I L I A N I I E A L D U V
 F I E I O E T K L A M V Z K L L N O J K
 C X X H L N Y L O N N Y U W O S V Z H K
 Z X X J O P R A C T I C E H J Q Q Q J W

If you would like to submit articles, reviews, upcoming events, puzzles, trivia etc. Please email musicalm@hancock.net
 Deadline for the summer issue is June 15th.