



Wednesday Music Club

October 2020

A Message from Our President



Dear WMC members,

It was a great pleasure seeing so many of you last Wednesday for our October Launch! Program Chair Laurie Shulman beautifully summarizes the event below. To access a video recording of the program, click on one of the yellow buttons at the end of

Laurie's report (listen with headphones if possible) and enjoy!

Although we have a new, huge auditorium for our monthly programs, attendance is currently limited to 50 people due to the pandemic. It is important to reserve a seat before attending a monthly program. Here's how: simply scroll to the November 4th program information in this newsletter, click on the corresponding yellow button, and fill in the blanks. Thanks to Michele Carragan and Ann Etchison for working on our reservation process!

I encourage you to keep music flowing through your life during this unusual time! Reconnect with your instrument of choice and/or check online offerings for your favorite performing organizations. I hope to see you at a WMC event soon!

Wishing you all peace and good health,
---Dana Patek, President

October Launch Program Report

Wednesday 7 October was a red letter day for Wednesday Music Club. The highlight of our October Launch in the new Center at Belvedere was a performance by oboist Jim Prodan with pianist Carol Prodan. They were ably

assisted by violinist Brooke Mahanes, hornist Becky Allen, and flutist Christine Willard. Approximately fifty WMC (masked) members attended. Since the performance space can accommodate nearly 400, social distancing was easy to implement.



The program was creative and balanced, with only one "standard marquee" name among the composers.

Carol, Jim, and Brooke opened the program with two movements from a Trio Sonata by the late Baroque composer Johann Joachim Quantz. Their stylish performance was enhanced by Carol's use of the harpsichord setting on the club's new Yamaha piano, an acoustic instrument that is fully equipped with recording capability and other internal electronics.

Two compositions from the Romantic era followed. Jim and Carol played one of Schumann's Three Romances, Opus 94. Becky Allen joined them for Heinrich Molbe's *Air arabe*, Opus 77. Molbe was a pseudonym for Baron Heinrich von Bach, a late Romantic contemporary of Brahms. His piece flirted between major and minor mode, with strong inflections of Middle Eastern scales. The unusual chamber combination of horn, oboe, and piano enhanced the piece's exotic flavor.

Jumping forward chronologically to the mid-20th century, Jim and Carol continued with Dutch composer Hendrik Andriessen's 1952 *Ballade*. Free and rhapsodic, this work teased the ear with expanded tonality, whole tone scales, and lively motivic exchanges between piano and oboe.

The program concluded with English composer Gordon Jacob's Trio for piano (or harpsichord), flute (doubling on piccolo), and oboe. Though all his important teachers were English, Jacob's music often has a sass and sparkle that hint at French wit. Here again, Carol Prodan took advantage of the new Yamaha to use its harpsichord setting, deftly mirroring the switches Christine Willard made between flue and piccolo. With Jim Prodan's excellent oboe playing, the three captured the tongue-in-cheek quality to the work, especially in the rapid-fire finale.

Excellent ensemble was evident throughout these five diverse works. It was clear from enthusiastic applause that the audience was hungry for live music - and appreciative of a fine performance.

---Laurie Shulman, Program Chair

For those who did not attend and would like to see and hear the program, click on the yellow buttons below for the full program or the individual compositions.



**October Launch FULL
Program**

**October Launch individual
compositions**

WMC photo credit - Miriam Carratt

November Program



**Wednesday, November 4, 2020
10 am - 11:30am
The Center at Belvedere**

Program

*The Four B's: Bach, Beethoven,
Brahms, and Bartók*

Piano Group II

**Ruth Barolsky, Pat Davis
Patricia Dougherty, Carolyn Kelly,
Barbara Moore, Content Sablinsky**

[Click here to RSVP for the November Program](#)



Yearbook Pickup and a Correction

WMC Yearbooks have been printed. If you did not attend the October Launch, consider minimizing WMC's mailing costs by picking yours up between now and October 16 from Barbara Moore's porch, 1213 Hazel Street.

Please note that Nancy and Stevens Garlick's donation to the WMC should have been listed with the Piano Fund donations.

A WMC Junior Camp Scholarship Winner's Online Music Camp Program

With the pandemic cancelling traditional summer camp experiences, a WMC Junior Camp Scholarship Winner, Mathias Stewart, captured his online Interlochen Summer Camp experience as follows (edited for length):



I majored in composition and had a set list of classes each day, my favorite being Intro to Computer Music. We listened to all kinds of music, some relaxing and some very creepy. After recording non-instrument sounds, we were taught how to do certain things like panning, changing the pitch, or changing the volume of a certain sound. Once everybody had finished writing their works, we had a virtual concert where we got to

hear what everyone else in our class wrote. This was very interesting because of how different and unique everybody's pieces were; not just technically, but also in the feel of the work itself. All of this is the reason why I liked this class the best.

Besides this I had three other main classes throughout the day, including Score and Parts Prep, Theory for Composers, and Orchestration. I also chose Musician Artistry as an elective and had composition lessons with a private teacher. For social opportunities, Interlochen set up optional meetings called Virtual Cabins, and my group learned American Sign Language. We were taught the basics of how to speak and then were sent to Virtual Breakout Rooms where we practiced what we learned and chatted with each other.

Even though it was a little hard to socialize, and a little weird through the computer screen, I still had a great time and am looking forward to an in-person camp next year.
---Mathias Stewart



Mark Your Calendars!!

October 18 Young Musicians Recital ([click here](#) for information)

October 26 Fermata ([click here](#) to email Fermata chair)

November 4 monthly program

December 2 monthly program

December 14 Fermata

January 6 WMC Board meeting



Music Director Search

Meadows Presbyterian is looking for a new music director - please [click here](#) for details and share with anyone you know who may be interested.

A Virtual Tour of The Center at Belvedere - WMC's New Home!

Watch this 3-minute video to see The Center's Hunter J. Smith Auditorium, home to our new concert grand piano honoring the fabulous Corky Sablinsky.



[Click here to access The Center's website and complete calendar](#)

MISSION

The Wednesday Music Club promotes and expands quality musical and educational opportunities for its members, for teachers, for music lovers, and for the youth of Central Virginia through regular performances, competitions, shared group experiences, and financial support.

VISION

The Wednesday Music Club will foster and sustain a vibrant music climate throughout Central Virginia, especially among young people.



Visit the [Wednesday Music Club Website](#) to read more about membership, events, and programs

[Click here to make a donation to the WMC](#)

Newsletter Editor - Ann Etchison

