

Da Capo

Département de / Department of

Musique Music



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Mot du directeur intérimaire Words from the Acting Chair

While I was Dean of the Faculty of Arts from 1995 to 2003, I often had the pleasure of being in the audience at music events presented by this department. I also played an integral role administratively in many important stages of growth and development in the Department of Music at the University of Ottawa. Now that I am working on the inside as Acting Chair, I have been able to observe closely the tremendously talented professors and students and the team of skilled and dedicated administrative staff. Frankly, I am overwhelmed at the sheer volume of activity and the extraordinary quality of performance and research to be found here.

The teaching faculty continues to engage in exciting research and performance activities as it expands in number to meet the needs of our growing student body. It was previously announced that the venerable Anton Kuerti will be joining our exceptional piano faculty as a Visiting Professor in 2006-2007 (see article on p. 3). This fall, we are also delighted to welcome another Visiting Professor: distinguished pedagogue and violist Rennie Regehr, former Dean of the Glenn Gould School, will complement our extraordinary team of string faculty. The state-of-the-art Piano Pedagogy Research Lab is attracting students and visiting scholars across international borders, and its director, Gilles Comeau, has been the host to VIP visitors such as Aline Chrétien and Jon Kimura Parker.

In these pages, you will see reflected the bustling activity of the Department in highlights from

2005-2006 and read about the impressive achievements of our recent graduates and other alumni.

You will also learn about the many generous donations we have received. In particular, the Evelyn Greenberg Music Endowment was launched in December 2005 and has already surpassed the \$330,000 level of giving. The Endowment will be dedicated to our precious instrumental resources, and one of the gifts to the campaign was the beautiful Steinway grand piano of Alan and the late Janitza Hitchen.

What lies ahead is another year of burgeoning growth in the academic programs and many exciting cultural activities, including those organized for the University's second annual Homecoming. I look forward to lending my hand during the challenges ahead in this era of continuing expansion and innovation.

- David Staines

Le 10 novembre 2005, un concert de l'Orchestre de l'Université d'Ottawa, en collaboration avec l'Ambassade de la République de Pologne, a honoré en musique tous ceux et celles qui ont été touchés par les atrocités de la guerre. Nous avons eu l'occasion d'entendre l'émouvant Adagio pour cordes de Samuel Barber et, en première à Ottawa, la Symphonie des sombres élégies de Henryk M. Gorecki. Cette œuvre bouleversante est inspirée par le douloureux souvenir de la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Toujours sous la direction de David Currie et en présence du compositeur, l'Orchestre a également présenté la première mondiale d'Elegia de Peter Paul Koprowski, œuvre chantée par la soprano canadienne de renom Maria Knapik. Nous tenons à remercier nos commanditaires ainsi que les nombreux auditeurs dont la participation a contribué à rendre cette soirée inoubliable.



CHORALE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA EN RUSSIE ET EN UKRAINE EN JUIN 2006



«J'aimerais bien emmener la chorale en Russie et en Ukraine ». Ce souhait exprimé par Laurence Ewashko devenait réalité presque deux ans plus tard, soit le 8 juin dernier. À l'invitation du ministère russe de la Culture et en collaboration avec l'International Fine Arts Institute, 33 choristes, le pianiste David Mang et le directeur de la Chorale s'envolaient pour Saint-Petersbourg pour ensuite se rendre à Moscou, puis à Kiev. Nos concerts, fort appréciés du public, n'ont cependant été qu'une partie du voyage : il y a aussi eu la visite du célèbre musée de l'Ermitage et de Peterhof, somptueuse résidence d'été de Pierre le Grand, la croisière sur la rivière Neva, puis le train de nuit de Saint-Petersbourg à Moscou, la visite du Kremlin et du métro de Moscou dont chaque station est une œuvre d'art. À Kiev, ville magnifique, notre concert, présenté à la Salle philharmonique avec le chœur Kreshatik, a été le point culminant du voyage. Une tournée qui restera longtemps gravée dans notre mémoire.

- Dominique Lapointe



Syrinx Concerts Toronto's 2005-2006 season highlighted the works of composer **Steven Gellman** in the Sunday Salon concert series. Works performed were his *Sonata for Cello and Piano*, *Fantasia on a Theme of Schumann*, *Piano Quartet*, *Suite for Flute and Guitar* and *Musica Eterna for String Quartet*. We are pleased to welcome back Professor Gellman after his year-long sabbatical.



Winds of the NACO

This past season **Joanna G'Froerer** performed Mozart's G Major Flute Concerto with the National Arts Centre Orchestra (NACO), the Kingston Symphony and the Peterborough Symphony Orchestra. As a member of the Winds of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, she will also perform in the 2006-7 Faculty and Friends Chamber Music Series in a concert on March 25 at Tabaret Hall.

Sandra Graham performed the role of Diane in the premiere of French composer Gerard Pesson's opera *Pastorale*, with the Staatstheater Stuttgart (Germany) this past spring, returning in July for the final performance. In July and August she performed Vivaldi's *Nissi Dominus* (with orchestra), Respighi's *Il Tramonto* (with string quartet), and the Brahms *Two Songs for Contralto, Cello, and Piano* at the Incontro Chamber Music Festival in Calabria, Italy. BRAVO! will be making a documentary of this exciting festival, which will air in 2008.

Le pianiste **Stéphane Lemelin** a poursuivi sa série d'enregistrements du répertoire français méconnu du tournant du 20e siècle. Intitulée « Musique française : Découvertes 1890-1939 », cette série est réalisée grâce au soutien du Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada (CRSH) ainsi que de la compagnie de disques Atma. Quatre enregistrements ont été réalisés en 2005-2006 et trois autres seront produits en 2006-2007. Les deux disques qui ont paru cette année, les *Trios* de Théodore Dubois (Trio Hochelaga) et le *Zodiaque* de Georges Migot, cycle monumental de 12 études de concert pour piano, ont reçu des critiques élogieuses. M. Lemelin s'est aussi produit en récital en Ontario, au Québec, dans les provinces de l'Atlantique et au Mexique, et il a participé à plusieurs concerts de musique de chambre. Le Festival de musique de chambre de Prince Edward County (Ontario), dont il assure la direction artistique, verra sa troisième édition en septembre 2007 et fera honneur à l'œuvre du compositeur canadien Malcolm Forsyth. En juillet 2006, Stéphane Lemelin a donné des cours de maître à l'École Normale de Paris dans le cadre d'un stage international de perfectionnement pour jeunes pianistes.

Paul Marley has enjoyed a full season of performing and teaching, giving masterclasses and adjudicating in Edmonton, Victoria, Manchester and Casalmaggiore (Italy), and performing in Quebec City, Montreal, Parma, Mantua, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Guelph, London (UK) and Prince Edward County. Paul recently joined Trio Hochelaga, joining friend and pianist colleague, Stéphane Lemelin, and violinist Anne Robert. The trio, in its new formation, recorded its first disc for ATMA Records in May, and has two more recordings planned for next season, as well as a busy performing schedule.

Au début d'avril 2006, **Roxane Prevost** a été invitée à présenter une communication intitulée « Interrelationships in Ursula Mamlok's "Rote Scheibe" from *Der Andreas Garten* », à la Manhattan School of Music, lors d'une mini-conférence dédiée à la compositrice allemande américaine Ursula Mamlok. Mme Prevost a aussi présenté une communication, « An Analysis of Anne Eggleston's Quartet for Piano and Strings: A Reconciliation of the Past and Present », au Congrès annuel de la Société de musique des universités canadiennes à la fin de mai. L'été dernier, la revue *Ex tempore* a fait paraître son article « Conversations with Ursula Mamlok ». Son article « Régularités et irrégularités métriques dans *L'Arbre à pluie* de Takemitsu » paraîtra en 2007 dans la revue *Musurgia*.

The recent Atma CD of Schubert chamber music with **Andrew Tunis** and the Chamber Players of Canada was named one of the top five classical CDs of 2005 by Claude Gingras of *La Presse*. The disc features the well-known "Trout" Quintet



as well as the seldom performed *Adagio and Rondo Concertante*. The review made special mention of the "exceptional pianism of Andrew Tunis".

Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory – Highlights

The Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory experienced a rewarding opening year beginning with a successful inaugural ceremony in October 2005, followed by a series of lectures, workshops and VIP tours. In total, over 360 guests have visited the research facility, distinguishing the Piano Lab as a dynamic environment within the Music Department.



Director **Gilles Comeau** presented the Piano Lab and its major research projects at the Internet 2 conference organized by Indiana University via videoconference in March 2006. Shortly thereafter, the Piano Lab hosted its first conference series entitled Music and the Brain. World leaders in psychology, neuropsychology, speech pathology and human kinetics, namely Isabelle Peretz, Laurel Trainor, Caroline Palmer, Sylvie Hébert, and University of Ottawa professor Ramesh Balasubramaniam, shared their latest research findings with over 70 audience members.

Both students of the music department and local piano teachers were eager to take part in a hands-on Eutony workshop organized by the Piano Lab. Specialist Ursula Stuber from Université Laval was invited to give 3 days of intensive sessions designed to create body awareness during instrumental performance.

The Piano Lab was privileged to host private tours for numerous VIP guests, among them Jon Kimura Parker, Aline Chrétien, Philip Steenkamp, deputy minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, Alastair Glass, deputy minister of Research and Innovation, and Toru Saruya, president of Yamaha Canada Ltd.



Within a short period, the Piano Lab has established itself among the most specialized laboratories in Canada, drawing the interest of experts in the field of piano pedagogy and beyond.

Research Projects – Update

Recherche en éducation musicale, an academic journal published annually by the Faculty of Music at Université Laval, will release a special volume featuring the latest research involving the Piano Lab. Partners from the fields of engineering & information technology as well as mechanical engineering will share their findings regarding the design and use of the MIDlator software for analyzing students' piano performances, and the biomechanical implications of piano playing, respectively. Also, motivation research stemming from the fields of music and psychology will report on the development and initial testing of a measure designed to assess the motivation of piano students.

The Piano Lab and its partners at the National Research Council (NRC) and the Virtuosi – International Centre of Chamber Music of Finland recently established a special phone line connection between pianos equipped with MIDI technology. A piano in Ottawa can thus reproduce the action of a piano in Finland in real time, considerably enhancing the quality of distance teaching via videoconference technology.

Finally, director Gilles Comeau signed a contract with Routledge to publish a reference work entitled *Piano Pedagogy: A Research and Information Guide*. Involving the retrieval and analysis of appropriate resources in piano pedagogy and related fields, this annotated bibliography of resources will surely become an indispensable tool for any researcher in the field of piano pedagogy.

Piano Pedagogy – Academic Programs

Julia Brook and **Nisreen Jardaneh** are the first students to successfully complete the new Graduate Certificate in Piano Pedagogy Research. Both will pursue an MA with a thesis in Piano Pedagogy in the fall of 2006, joining second-year MA students **Jason Ray** and **Yi Fei**, as well as first-year MA student **Catherine Lemay**. Congratulations all!