



THE WOMEN'S MUSICAL CLUB OF WINNIPEG

"...where tradition embraces the future."

N E W S L E T T E R

FALL 2012

2012-2013 SEASON

at the Winnipeg Art Gallery



**Jane
Coop**
piano

**Sunday
October 28
2012**
2:00 pm

"Coop is totally convincing through-out, with an ear for beautiful phrasing and delicate texture amidst the vigorous bravura displays."
[Wholenote Magazine]
Tickets \$25, Students \$5

Sunday, December 30, 2012

2:00 pm

2012 WMC Scholarship Winners' Recital

\$2500 WMC Scholarship ~ **Jan Nato**, tenor
 \$2000 WMC Scholarship ~ **Bronwen Garand-Sheridan**, oboe
 \$1500 Madeleine Gauvin Scholarship ~ **Ariel Carrabr e**, cello
 \$1000 Holtby Scholarship ~ **Joshua Peters**, violin
 \$1000 Berythe Birse Scholarship ~ **Tony Zhou**, piano

Tickets \$20, Students \$5



Sunday, April 7, 2013

2:00 pm

Kornel Wolak and Chris Donnelly Clarinet & Piano Duo

Armed with a clarinet, a piano and their personable stage presence, Kornel Wolak and Chris Donnelly present a remarkable blend of classical and jazz music rarely heard in live performance.

Tickets \$25, Students \$5



Sunday, November 25, 2012

2:00 pm

35th Eckhardt-Gramatt e National Music Competition Winner **Brian Yoon**, cello **Eliza Ching**, piano

Tickets \$20, Students \$5

Subscriptions: Regular \$90 Student \$20

Send cheque or money order to:

WMC, 529 Laidlaw Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3P 0L2

Individual tickets: available from McNally Robinson or at the door (cash or cheque only). Student tickets \$5 at the door.

For a season brochure or to order a subscription phone 204 944 9431.

www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca

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We are thankful for our corporate donors and their generous support. We thank the Winnipeg Art Gallery for use of the Muriel Richardson Auditorium at our Scholarship concert.

BIOGRAPHY

JANE COOP. PIANO

Elegant, experienced, and brilliant, are words to describe pianist Jane Coop who takes her art form to a higher stratum. Renowned for her highly appealing performance style, she is considered Canada's premier Mozart interpreter by The Calgary Herald, and has consistently been praised for her capacity to graciously carry the sensitivity and spirit of the music she plays, right to her listeners. Appreciative audiences in New York, London, St. Petersburg, Warsaw, Prague, Beijing, Tokyo and across Canada have been thrilled by her artistry.

Jane has worked with eminent conductors such as Sir Andrew Davis, John Eliot Gardiner, Rudolf Barshai and with orchestras around the world including the Royal Philharmonic, Seattle and Oregon Symphonies, Hong Kong Philharmonic, National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, Bavarian Radio Orchestra and most orchestras in Canada. As a respected concerto soloist, recitalist and chamber musician, Ms. Coop has made appearances in eminent halls such as the Bolshoi Hall in St. Petersburg, the Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall, Roy Thomson Hall, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, the Beijing Concert Hall and the Salle Gaveau in Paris. In her own country, she has given concerts from north to south: Whitehorse, YK to Niagara Falls, ON, and from west to east: Tofino, BC to St. John's, Nfld and many, many cities, towns and communities in between. This season, she will tour throughout the Prairies and British Columbia.

Jane has recorded extensively and has garnered multiple JUNO nominations. The latest recording addition titled, A Century of Piano Classics, was released in the winter of 2010 and features works by Beethoven, Brahms and Chopin. Jane's rapidly growing discography also consists of chamber works by French composers - Ravel, Fauré and Mâche, recorded with the Satie String Quartet of Paris and the complete Beethoven Piano and Violin Sonatas with esteemed colleague Andrew Dawes.

Ms. Coop's major teachers were Anton Kuerti and Leon Fleisher. Rounding out her significant contribution to Canadian music, Jane served as Professor of Piano and Chamber Music at the University of British Columbia's School of Music for more than three decades. A class act in every sense, Jane Coop's musicianship is timeless.

JANE COOP CONCERT

The Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg will honour the 100 Years of the Winnipeg Art Gallery with a special concert by Jane Coop, a pianist who originally performed with the WMCW at the WAG near the beginning of her musical lifework. Jane continues to enjoy an illustrious and critically-acclaimed career that has taken her to the most prominent concert halls around the world. Please mark your calendars and join us for her eagerly-anticipated recital at the WAG on October 28th at 2 pm.

2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

THE WOMEN'S MUSICAL CLUB OF WINNIPEG (WMC) is pleased to announce its 2012 Scholarship Winners.

The WMC Scholarship Fund (established in 1915) awards scholarships annually to Manitoba students pursuing a career in music. Applications are invited from senior music students, who perform at the auditions each spring. Adjudicators are drawn from the ranks of professional musicians and teachers. The 2012 auditions were held on May 12, 2012, at the Eva Clare Hall, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, University of Manitoba.

WMC Scholarship - 1st Place:

JAN NATO, tenor \$2,500

Jan Nato, tenor, who is completing his Bachelor of Music in vocal performance in 2012 at the University of Manitoba, won the Rose Bowl at this year's Winnipeg Music Festival, and also the Herbert and Audrey Belyea Trophy and the Reg Hugo Memorial Trophy in the Grade A Class. He has been Tenor section lead and soloist of Westminster United Church, Winnipeg for the past three years. In September he heads to Toronto where he has been accepted into the Toronto Opera School at University of Toronto.

WMC Scholarship - 2nd Place:

BRONWEN GARAND-SHERIDAN, oboe - \$2,000

Bronwen Garand-Sheridan, oboe, is presently enrolled at the University of Manitoba pursuing an undergraduate degree in oboe performance, and will graduate in 2013. She is principal oboe in the University Orchestra, was a finalist in the prestigious Genser Performance Competition, has performed regularly with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and plans to pursue graduate studies.

Madeleine Gauvin Scholarship:

ARIEL CARRABRE, cello - \$1,500

Ariel Carrabre, cello, will complete his Bachelor's Degree in Cello Performance at McGill University in 2013. He plans to achieve a PhD in Music and continue his musical career in performance. He is a previous WMC scholarship winner, and hopes to perform as a soloist and continue playing chamber music.

Holtby Scholarship:

JOSHUA PETERS, violin - \$1,000

Joshua Peters, violin, will complete his Bachelor of Music at McGill University in 2013. He is a previous WMC Scholarship winner, and is attracted to the performance of contemporary music. His ideal career would be to perform new works by the world's top composers. He has already performed some of the world's most important composers (Penderecki, Adams, Carrabre, Hatzis, Peters) and has worked with composers at the Schulich School of Music as a member of McGill Contemporary Music Ensemble.

Berythe Birse Scholarship:

TONY ZHOU, piano - \$1,000

Tony Zhou, piano, who has achieved ARCT standing, will begin his Bachelor of Music studies in the United States in the fall. He has been accepted at four prestigious American Schools of Music and aims to be a concert pianist and hold a professorship at a university. He has won many awards at the Winnipeg Music Festival - including first place in the concerto class, diploma level. He is currently completing grade 12 at Fort Richmond Collegiate in the Advanced Placement Program, and teaching at the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, University of Manitoba, in the Preparatory Studies division.

These artists will perform at the Scholarship Winners' Recital at 2.00 p.m. Sunday, December 30, 2012, and the awards totalling \$8,000 will be presented after the concert.

THE WMC McLELLAN COMPETITION FOR SOLO PERFORMANCE WITH THE WSO

The 2012, fourth biennial WMC McLellan Competition for Solo Performance with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra took place on Friday April 20th, 2012 at the Jubilee Place Auditorium, MBCI. The selection process for the competition began several months prior, and in mid-March the twelve contestants had a chance to audition before a jury comprised of John Greer, director of opera studies in Kentucky; Jasper Wood, violinist and professor at UBC; and James Manishen of the WSO. The jury chair was Winnipeg's own Holly Harris, pianist and composer, who has helped to helm the WMC McLellan winner selection process for the past three competitions.

The three finalists chosen to perform with the WSO at the April 20th concert were Madeline Hildebrand, piano, Jennifer Sproule, mezzo-soprano, and Jessica Strong, soprano.

As befitting the caliber of the Competition, the three finalists were to be evaluated by a selected team of music experts from out of province. They were Theodore Berg, baritone, a teacher and producer of Opera and Musical Theatre at the University of Western Ontario; David Jalbert, pianist, known to Winnipeg audiences for his guest work with the WSO and Virtuosi Concerts; and Paul Marleyn, Artistic Director of the Agassiz Music Festival, who also teaches cello at the University of Ottawa.

The concert, emceed by Larry Updike of CBC Radio One, opened with Jessica Strong's rendition of Mozart's piece Exultate, jubilate, followed by arias from Manon by Jules Massenet, La bohème by Giacomo Puccini, and La traviata by Giuseppe Verdi. Next, Madeline Hildebrand offered a dynamic performance of Piano Concerto No. 1 in D-flat major, Op. 10 by Serge Prokofiev. Both artists received cheers and standing ovations from the audience.



Madeline Hildebrand and Jessica Strong

Due to voice difficulties, Jennifer Sproule was not able to attend the final concert of the Competition. However, her place was promptly filled by runner-up Sarah Kirsch, who, accompanied by pianist Christopher Kayler, filled the second part of the programme with several arias by classical and modern composers. Her charming and witty performance of "Lady with a hand mirror" by Dominik Argento delighted already-enraptured listeners.

Sarah's performance was all the more impressive as she had had only a few days to prepare her program.

Following suspenseful deliberations, the jury returned with a surprising verdict - two first prizes were to be awarded to Madeline Hildebrand and Jessica Strong in recognition of their equally outstanding and incomparable performances. The audience met the announcement with hearty applause, as both young performers managed to reach a truly superb level of artistry during the Competition.

The awards ceremony was followed by a punch reception and a chance for the audience to personally congratulate the winners. The Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg members, with Carol Gamby as WMC McLellan Competition Chair, proved an outstanding team, capable of organizing a highly successful and artistically stimulating event. The reception was coordinated by Lucretia Ionescu, Chair of the WMC Social Committee. The evening was recorded and photographed by Tse Li LUK and Xi Zhou, WMC volunteers.

Reflecting on the competition, Carol Gamby aptly concluded "it appears the ripples of influence of the WMC McLellan Competition are widening and we will continue our efforts to support young Manitoba musicians long into the future."

SPONSORS FOR WMC McLELLAN COMPETITION



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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Janina Fialkowska is the recipient of the **2012 Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement in Classical Music.**

The Governor General's Performing Arts Awards are Canada's most prestigious honour in the performing arts.

Each year the Awards are presented for Lifetime Artistic Achievement in the categories of theatre, dance, classical music, popular music, film, and broadcasting. These awards recognize artists who have made an indelible contribution to Canada's cultural life. Recipients of these awards are nominated by the general public.

In the history of the awards, Janina is the second classical music instrumentalist (and the first woman in this category) to receive the Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement.

Because of the scheduling of this unique honour, Janina's recital and BBC live-broadcast at Wigmore Hall in London, scheduled for May 7th, has been postponed until April 8th, 2013.

Scott Meek officially completed his Doctorate from Indiana this past May and has been living in Vancouver since August 2010. Scott has been teaching at various music academies and accompanying violinists.

Madeline Hildebrand is the 2012 winner of the prestigious WMC McLellan competition for live solo performance with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra where her dynamic performance of Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 1 netted the \$8,000 first prize.

Madeline was recently awarded a Master of Music from the University of British Columbia where she studied under the tutelage of distinguished Canadian pianist, Jane Coop.

Madeline recently appeared at the Agassiz Summer Music Festival, and upcoming performances include Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with Vancouver's Youth Orchestra, a solo concert for the Women's Musical Society of Vancouver, a Manitoba and Saskatchewan-wide house concert tour organized through Winnipeg's *Homeroutes* association, and participating in the Icicle Creek piano festival in Leavenworth, Washington. Madeline is looking forward to venturing into the new world of adjudicating; her first piano festival is in Altona, Manitoba, in April. She recently returned from Maine's Kneisel Hall Chamber music festival, where she was awarded a full scholarship to study and perform in July and August. Madeline will be performing a solo concert in Steinbach on November 15th as Steinbach Arts Council's featured young artist in their concert season.

Thank you from Jessica Strong:

I would like to thank the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg. The prestigious WMC McLellan Competition for Solo Performance with the WSO provides a rare opportunity for Manitoba artists to perform at a professional level. I feel very privileged to have won the competition this past April. Winning this competition has allowed me to attend the Music Academy of the West under the tutelage of world-renowned singer, Marilyn Horne where I performed the lead role of Anne Trulove in *The Rake's Progress* and was the runner up in the 2012 Marilyn Horne Song Competition. As well, I performed in Masterclasses with Warren Jones, Kiri TeKanawa and sang in a cabaret under the guidance of Carol Burnett. I am presently studying with Canadian soprano, Wendy Nielsen, and will be returning to Calgary Opera's Emerging Artist Program for the 2012-13 Season, understudying the roles of Alice Ford in *Falstaff* and Violetta in *La Traviata*. I take very seriously the role of ambassador for Manitoba artists and look forward to someday performing for the WMC.

ARCHIVES

TO ALL WMC MEMBERS:

TIME TO CLEAN OUT ATTICS AND BASEMENTS. DO YOU HAVE ANY WMC MATERIALS GATHERING DUST????

The archive of the Women's Musical Club, founded 1894, is located at the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Vaughan Street. Any documents collected over the next few months will be sorted and then deposited into the existing archive that records the remarkable history of this organization.

Archival policy for organizations is usually to collect records that are at least five years older or more so. In short, we will be collecting documents from 2007 or earlier. If you hold any materials from the WMC in this period, please contact me by e.mail or telephone (kathrynyoung@mymts.net: 204-284-2044) and I will make arrangements to collect them. Please keep your records intact, duplicate minutes ... will be sorted out later once all of the documents are in.

What to collect?

If you sat on the WMC board, think about your job description. Were any records generated as part of your job, either by yourself or your predecessor, i.e. minutes, correspondence, projects, photographs, newspaper reviews, audio or visual materials...? If you attended recitals, perhaps you have programs, photographs or other materials of interest to history of the Club.

Thanks so much.

Kathryn Young, Archives Chair, WMC

IN MEMORIAM

Philip Holden-Rushworth (1929-2012) has passed away. His wife Valerie was on our board in charge of House for several years.

Donna Grescoe (Dojack) passed away in Richmond, B.C. on August 17, 2012. She was 84 years. Donna Grescoe was born in Winnipeg and was acclaimed a child prodigy on violin. In 1943 she was the recipient of a Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg scholarship and less than a decade later (1951-52) she returned to Winnipeg as a visiting artist of the WMC.

She later performed at Carnegie Hall, New York and she was also a guest on the Ed Sullivan television show. After her concert career, she returned to Winnipeg where she taught violin, supported young musicians and commissioned 14 classical music compositions.

Sources: Winnipeg Free Press, 22 August 2012 and "Let Us Enjoy Music," A History of the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg, 1894-1994.

FROM THE PAST...

Did you know that "A History of the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg - 1894-1994" (the centennial history of the WMC) records that "on May 12, 1912, a decision was made to send \$100 to the Daily Telegraph Fund in London to support the relatives of the musicians who went down in the Titanic"? Many of the stories circulating recently, 100 years after the event, have referred to the importance of music in this luxury liner, and it is well reported that the musicians continued to play as the ship went down. Those in lifeboats remembered being "... conscious of strains of music being wafted on the night air...". The musicians were not covered by Workmen's Compensation and as a result their families suffered great hardship.

There was a public outcry on both sides of the Atlantic and benefit concerts were organized. On May 24 one was held at the Royal Albert Hall in London with a performance of the amalgamation of seven orchestras under seven conductors, one of those being Sir Edward Elgar. In Winnipeg the ladies of the WMC responded to this crisis with their significant donation of \$100. To put this in perspective, a WMC scholarship award of \$350 in 1915 enabled the winner to study for three months in New York!

In short, as early as 1912, the WMC played a role in this international event.

SWING INTO SPRING

The twelfth annual "Swing into Spring" luncheon was held on May 17th, 2012 at a historic manor at 215 Roslyn Road. This popular event, organized by Margaret Morse, was attended by 166 members and friends of the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg. Soprano Sarah Kirsch, accompanied by Christopher Kayler on the piano, provided lively entertainment while the guests enjoyed their refreshments. Both artists are previous winners of WMC Annual Scholarships who went on to further develop their skills and their careers.

All profits from the event went towards the \$8,000 purse for the Annual Scholarship Awards, to be distributed to a new crop of talented young musicians who participated in the Scholarship Competition this year.

The five top winners will receive their awards and perform at the Scholarship Recital on December 30th at the Winnipeg Art Gallery at 2 pm.

Many thanks to all who attended "Swing into Spring" and supported this worthy event.

Women's Musical Club gratefully acknowledges the support of **The Winnipeg Foundation** with a grant for the redesign and update of the WMC website.

FROM THE PRESIDENT. MARGARET KELLERMANN MCCULLOCH

The Women's Musical Club 2011/2012 season featured many wonderful concert performances and memorable artistic experiences. It was also marked by some untimely and much-regretted departures from our Board, and by the arrival of new members of the Club.

The season opened with a masterful performance by soprano Allison Cecilia Arends, who charmed us with her romantic repertoire inspired by both classic operas and great works of literature. Allison's accompanist and friend Rachel Andrist proved a skillful match to her colleague. In November, we were happy to welcome Erica Iris Huang, a rising star mezzo-soprano, who delighted in both classical and modern repertoire. As the winner of the 34th Eckhardt-Gramatté National Competition, Erica concluded her national concert tour in Winnipeg, capturing the hearts and minds of her audience.

The 2011 Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg Scholarship winners - Sarah Kirsch, soprano; Jari Piper, cello; Joshua Peters, violin; Jesse Plessis, piano; and Theresa Thordarson, piano - had an opportunity to showcase their skills at the special evening concert in December. This gala performance proved to be a greatly entertaining and artistically successful event, drawing many friends and family members of our young musicians to the Muriel Richardson Auditorium.

In winter, the Recital Committee was proud to present one of the past winners of the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, pianist Derek Yapple-Schobert, who captivated the audience with his accomplished rendition of pieces by Edvard Grieg inspired by the mystique of the North. April brought us a dynamic Piano Trio, featuring the unique, sparkling talent of violinist Caroline Chéhadé, cellist Michael Nicolas, and pianist Marie-Hélène Trempe. Their repertoire, featuring the intricate works of Astor Piazzola, infused with South American rhythms of tango and salsa, earned them a standing ovation and a four-star review in the Winnipeg Free Press.

The spring of 2012 also rewarded us with a new crop of Annual Scholarship winners, Jan Nato, tenor; Bronwen Garand-Sheridan, oboe; Ariel Carrabre, cello; Joshua Peters, violin; and Tony Zhou, piano. The 2012 WMC Scholarship auditions took place at the Eva Clare Hall in the Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba, under the experienced direction of our Scholarship Chair Diane Kubas, who skillfully guided WMCW volunteers and supported the work of our adjudicators, Carolyn Nagelberg, Daniel Sholtz, and Charles Horton.

The artistic year of the Women's Musical Club came to a close with a completion of our fourth biannual WMC McLellan Competition for solo performance with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. This year, the jury was compelled to announce two first-prize winners - Madeline Hildebrand, piano, and Jessica Strong, voice. Mezzo-soprano Jennifer Sproule, absent due to voice concerns, was awarded third place. Her runner-up, Sarah Kirsch, was also granted a prize, as she was able to take the place of her colleague in the final competition concert. The evening of the WMC McLellan Competition performances with the WSO was a truly magical and delightful experience, full of youthful energy and much-deserved applause. The WMC members, headed by the accomplished McLellan Competition Chair and then-President Carol Gamby, ensured that the event, emceed by Larry Updike of CBC Radio, was a great success.

The WMC Annual General Meeting in June saw changes in the membership of the WMC Board. Our long-term member and past President Marjorie Lebrun made a difficult decision to leave the Club due to a chronic health concern. Marjorie represented the best in music promotion and art education in our community, and was a driving force behind many successful seasons of our organization. Her guidance and her passion for classical music will be missed by all. We are grateful to Marjorie for her immense contribution to the WMC, and wish her many fruitful years pursuing her cherished artistic interests.

This year we also had to say goodbye to Maggie Keller, who left us to pursue her educational goals, and to the long-standing member of the Board Sydney McInnis, a much-valued contributor to our Recital Committee.

Following in the tradition of the past AGMs, we were delighted to welcome new members to the Board, Joanne Pearson - who quickly became our publicity and advertising expert, as well as our new link to Musicnet - and Barb Strong, who found her niche in the newly-reformed Recital Committee.

We are now looking forward to the next exciting season of the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg, and if our contribution to the annual Musicnet kickoff in September, featuring an inspired performance by WMC Scholarship winner Bronwen Garand-Sheridan, is any indication, our 2012/2013 music offerings will be nothing short of wonderful.

THE WOMEN'S MUSICAL CLUB OF WINNIPEG BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012 - 2013

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg is looking for Board members willing to become actively involved to help us enhance our concert series, the scholarship programs, and to promote young Manitoba musicians.

Both men and women are welcome to join our board or volunteer on a casual basis over the coming season as "Friends of WMC".

For inquiries please call Women's Musical Club voice mail 204-944-9431.

PRIVACY POLICY

The WMC operates in accordance with Federal privacy legislation. We do not sell or trade our mailing lists. Your information will be used to send you newsletters, invitations to special events, concert and financial information, and tax receipts. Please phone (204) 944-9431 if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

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