

Have you heard?
notes & notices
at Tennessee Tech University



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www.bryansymphony.org

NOTES FROM THE CONDUCTOR

I recently spoke with New York City Opera conductor, Ari Pelto, about Verdi's *La Traviata*. Mr. Pelto came to Cookeville in 2004 and 2005 to adjudicate the Joan Derryberry Memorial Concerto Competition. He made his New York City Opera debut in 2004 conducting *La Traviata*. (As an aside, he conducted these performances without rehearsal, replacing the original conductor!)

DA: Ari, what is it about *Traviata* that is so appealing?

AP: What comes to mind right away is the unique figure of the heroine Violetta; her strength of character combined with her tragic circumstances. It's easy to dismiss her at first as callous. After all, she's a courtesan and one of her great arias is "Sempre Libera" (always free), where she sings about the merits of never having to attach herself to one man. But by the end of the opera, she has made an incredible sacrifice for the one she truly loves.

DA: It's almost like two roles, dramatically and vocally.

AP: Yes. She's like two different singers. In Act I she's a coloratura soprano, and then, as her character and circumstances are further revealed, she becomes a lyric soprano.

DA: Not every singer is capable of that range.

AP: You're lucky to have Lisa Williamson. I did my first *Traviata* with her in 1999.

DA: I was there! We're basing much of our production on that performance because it was lightly staged, and modern, but really got to the heart of things. As you know, we performed *La Boheme* here two years ago. How would you explain the difference in Verdi's style to Puccini?

AP: Well, Verdi was the greatest exponent of the *bel canto* style, where the main focus has to do with the voice. Whereas Verdi was the pinnacle of an established older tradition, Puccini was blazing a new trail.

DA: Yes, there are more distinct sections. It's a different way of realizing the drama.

AP: And one I'm sure the BSO audience will enjoy!

Dan Allcott



April 23, 2006/ 3:00 Tickets: 931-372-6088

The Bryan Symphony Orchestra's presentation of Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata* is sponsored by Larry and Mary Jo Meyer, Albert and Rosemary Ponte, Angelo and Jennette Volpe, and an anonymous donor.

Additional funding is provided by a grant from the AmSouth Foundation.

From the Executive Director

As we close our 2005-2006 season, the Bryan Symphony Orchestra Board, Dan Allcott and I would like to thank some of those who have helped make our concerts and other events possible:

Sponsors and underwriters:

Sam and Diane Glasgow
AmSouth Foundation
Premier Diagnostic Imaging
The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
The family of Nancy Nichols Williams
First Tennessee Foundation
Cookeville Arts Council
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Hosts for Symphony Socials:

Charles and Joane Kibbons
Bob and Gloria Bell
Terry and Ruth Jones
Bob and Julia Lowe
Walter Derryberry

Bryan Symphony Orchestra Master Classes:

Wei Tsun and Seanad Chang
Christine Cruz
Cheryl Ehlert and Sam Sandlin
Catherine Godes
Sandra Robbins

Volunteers:

Symphony Socials: Brenda Smith and the Volunteer Council
Cookeville preview luncheons: Susan Capron, Elaine Hooper, Diane Pulte
Crossville preview luncheons: Weir and Jane Horswill
Web site maintenance: Michael Clark
Sunday pre-concert lecture: Catherine Godes, Phil Barham
Children's activities: Diane Glasgow, Chelsea Short

Our partner in producing concerts: Tennessee Tech University and the Department of Music and Art

The photos you see reflect some of the Bryan Symphony Orchestra's community outreach activities, which have occurred over the course of this season. These events, along with our concerts, are the result of the contributions of time and money made by those who are listed here.

Thanks in particular to the more than 440 season ticket subscribers and to all individual donors who are the backbone of our support base. We look forward to enjoying *La Traviata* with all of you on April 23rd and to beginning our 44th season together at the concert in Dogwood Park in September.

Gail Luna



From morning of February 23rd, Young Person's Education Concert. Photo by Camille Fliss, courtesy Herald-Citizen.



November 11, 2005, Symphony Social. Photo, TTU Photo Services.



October 1, 2005, master class with Corey Cerovsek.

Greetings from the Volunteer Council

We wanted to again thank Julia and Bob Lowe for offering their lovely home for our March social. I want to thank the committee members who chaired this social: Evelyn Breyer, Nina Lunn and Beth Stone. Our caterer for the March social was Susan Dowland from The Party Planner.

We so appreciate Jan Tate who so diligently always picks up our wine in Nashville for these socials.

Our April social will be at the home of Dr. Walter Derryberry on Friday, April 21st. Parking will be at the First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Dixie and Broad St., which is less than a block away from the residence. We will run a shuttle from the church to the Derryberry residence. Peggy Holleman will be our caterer for this social. We wanted to end our social season with a fun event, so we will be auctioning off the opportunity to conduct one selection at the concert in Dogwood Park for the conclusion of Fall FunFest on Sunday, September 10, 2006. This auction item will all be coordinated with the Music Director, Dan Allcott.

As I told you in our last newsletter article, we continue to add new members to our committee, but we are certainly still looking for additional people to help us with all the things our volunteers need to do; such as helping in the lobby and box office for concerts, helping with children's concerts, mailouts, socials, etc. It is our goal to again have a strong volunteer base as we once had with the Symphony Guild. Won't you help us achieve that goal?

Our committee will be working hard this summer to plan our 2006-07 season socials. We have some exciting fun and new locations in mind; however, we are open to you volunteering your home! Again, won't you consider joining us as a volunteer?

Have a great summer! Be safe - and we'll see you in the Fall of 2006!

Brenda Smith, Chairman
Volunteer Council

Symphony Social

*Friday, April 21, 2006
7 to 8:30 p.m.*

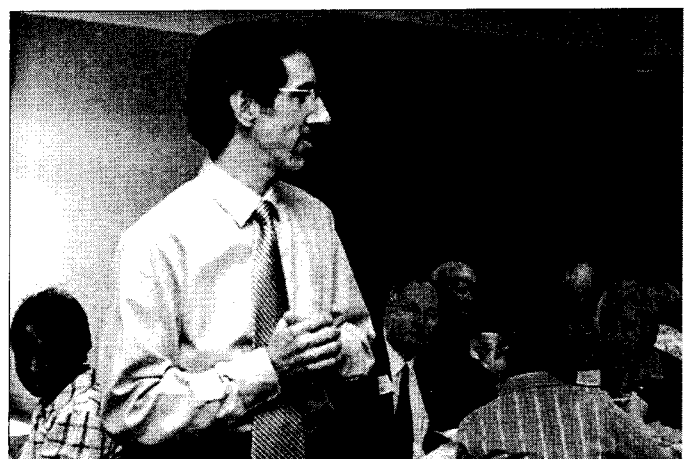
*at the Residence of
Dr. Walter Derryberry
112 N. Dixie Avenue*

*\$15 per person for
BSOA members;
\$30 per person non-members*

*Reservations:
Call 931-372-6088 or
e-mail: bryansymph@tntech.edu
RSVP by April 17, 2006*



Melanie Chadwell of Premier Diagnostic Imaging and Robert Jager, guest speaker, February preview luncheon in Crossville. Photo courtesy Weir Horswill.



September 30 preview luncheon with the Tech Faculty Women's Club. Photo, TTU Photo Services.

PRELUDE & COFFEE:

Conversations with the Conductor

Sunday, April 16th – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 20th – 7:30 p.m.
WCTE – Channel 22
Cable Channel 10

CONCERT PREVIEW

with Dr. Catherine Godes

at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 23, 2006
immediately preceding concert

Bryan Fine Arts Building
Room 223

PREVIEW LUNCHEONS

Cookeville

Friday, April 21, 2006
12:00
AmSouth Bank
105 South Willow Avenue

\$10 per person
Reservations: Call 372-6088
By Tuesday, April 18.

Crossville/Fairfield Glade/Pleasant Hill

Wednesday, April 19, 2006
11:00 A.M.
The Palace Theater Meeting Room
72 S. Main St., Downtown Crossville

\$10 per person
Reservations: Call Jane Horswill
At (931) 484-3054
by Sunday, April 16.

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Bryan Symphony Orchestra
at Tennessee Technological University
Department of Music and Art
TTU Box 5045
Cookeville, TN 38505

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TO ALL SEASON TICKET SUBSCRIBERS

Tickets for La Traviata are selling extremely well. We hope all season ticket holders will be able to attend.

HOWEVER, if you cannot attend please give your tickets to someone you are sure will use them

Or

*Call the Bryan Symphony Orchestra to release your seats.
(931) 372-6088*

Remember your donation of tickets to the symphony is tax-deductible!