



THE SOCIETY OF COMPOSERS, INC.  
NEWSLETTER XXXIV:2

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

SCI National Conference  
University of Central Oklahoma  
March 2–6, 2004  
Host: Sam Magrill  
E-mail: smagrill@ucok.edu

6th SCI National Student Conference  
University of Iowa  
April 2–3, 2004  
Host: Joseph Dangerfield  
E-mail: joseph-dangerfield@uiowa.edu  
<http://www.uiowa.edu/~newmus>

SCI Region II Conference  
SUNY, Geneseo  
April 9–10, 2004  
Host: Anneliese Weibel  
E-mail: weibel@geneseo.edu

SCI Region VII Conference  
California State University, Northridge  
April 16–18, 2004  
(see call for scores on page 5)  
Host: Daniel Kessner  
E-mail: dkessner@csun.edu

SCI Region IV Conference  
Winthrop University  
November 11–13, 2004  
(see call for scores on page 9)  
Host: Ronald Keith Parks  
E-mail: parksr@winthrop.edu

## Reviews of SCI Region VI Conference 2004

Friday, January 30, 2004

### Concert 2

by Lee Hartman and William J. Lackey

The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble under the direction of Ed Alexander opened the second concert of the Region VI SCI conference with the bombastic *Ithaca Fanfare* by Paul Osterfield. The energetic percussion opening established a high intensity that permeated the entire ensemble.



*Ed Alexander directing the ASU Wind Ensemble*

Ryan Garber's *Symphony for Winds* in three movements began with a fanfare led by the trumpet. It created a rhythmic energy that lasted through the movement. The second movement, chaconne, explored the "chamberesque" qualities available to a wind ensemble. The quintets and trios led to a climactic ensemble tutti. The return to the opening quintet of three clarinets and two bassoons closed the movement nicely as well as provided an effective transition to the opening of the third movement, Rondo. The timpani was used creatively—not just as an opening idea of the movement, but as the transitional material for the entire movement.

Even though the topic of *The Least Among You* is tragic, it has given Gregory F.F. Hoepfner inspiration to create a lyrically somber composition. Performed by the ASU Flute Ensemble led by Joe Bonner, shifting of moods from childlike to violent

was created by the composer through solo passages, ensemble interjections, and range.

Also performed by the ASU Flute Ensemble was James Haines' *Two Etudes* for Five Flutes. *Nocturne* and *Midi*, two contrasting movements, were performed very well. *Nocturne* utilized high tessitura—shifting harmonic background that complemented the lower range melody. Registration of the melodic idea and harmonic background was explored in various combinations. The ending piccolo flourish was executed well by Heather Coleman. The motorhythmic *Midi* provided an energetic conclusion to this composition.

*Conversation*, a work for tom-toms by Ulf Grahn, explored the use of tutti versus solo passages. This work made use of hocket spread throughout the ensemble. Rhythmic interplay became more evident by the placement of the ASU Percussion Ensemble on stage.

The Japanese influenced *Shishi-Odoshi* by Bruce Reiprich calls on the flutist (Joe Bonner) to imitate a Japanese flute through the use of whistle tones, timber trills, and pitch bending. The interplay of piano and gongs created a shifting sonic background.



*Bruce Reiprich's Shishi-Odoshi*

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### Sansan Chien

*Dolly's Family* (solo clarinet) was commissioned and performed by Chin-Jun Lin at the National Concert Hall in Taipei (12/25/03), and the Taoyan Culture Center in Taoyuan (12/31/03), Taiwan.

*Medusa* (Orchestra with clarinet soloist), written for the National Kaohsiung Normal University Orchestra, was performed by them with conductor Shu-Hsi Chen and soloist Sheng-Hsing Lin in the Concert Hall of the National Chiang Kai Shek Culture Center in Taipei, Taiwan (12/3/03).

### Brian Conn

Classical Angst Records heralds the latest release by The Brian Conn New Music Ensemble: *Requiem* for chorus and chamber orchestra.

Mr. Conn's work, based on the Latin mass for the dead, was completed in 2000 and was recorded in October of 2003 under the direction of William Chin for Conn's independent label.

*Requiem* is a tonal work full of captivating melodies and harmonies that not only showcases its soloists and chorus but displays Conn's innate ability for orchestration.

William Chin, director of the Arianna Singers, deftly conducts soloists, Mary Ann Beatty, Kristi McGonagle-French, John Eskola, Kevin Hall and a 40 member ensemble in this fifty minute work of operatic proportions.

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Peter Swendsen, assistant professor at the University of Virginia, is our webmaster. The URL is:  
<http://www.societyofcomposers.org>

Please visit the Web site and send comments and suggestions to  
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*Requiem* for chorus and orchestra can be purchased at [www.classicalangst.com](http://www.classicalangst.com), [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com), [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com), and other online retailers and music download sites.

### Tim Edwards

Timothy Edwards' *Afterimages* was performed by Pinotage, a musical ensemble consisting of harp, flute, viola and voice on Leap Year Day: Sunday, February 29th, 2004 in Chicago.

### Ann Lathan Kerzner

Michael Morgan conducted the Oakland East Bay Symphony in the premiere of the Adagio from Ann Lathan Kerzner's *Diary of the Damned* on February 20, 2004 at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, California.

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### Alert!

If you teach in a department or school of music, please ensure that concert programs presented by your university are being collected and sent to ASCAP and BMI each on a regular basis. Each agency, which relies on these programs, extracts performance information and determines the amount of royalty credited to each composer based on a sample rate.

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### SCION

David Drexler, *Editor*

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Christopher Wicks' *Songs of Sappho* are six concise movements. The performance was sung beautifully by Julia Lansford who was accompanied by J.D. Kelly (piano) and Whitney Farris (flute).

Concluding the concert was Paul Dickinson's *Nine Pieces* for Woodwind Trio. This devilishly hard piece was brilliantly performed by Carolyn Brown (flute), Lorraine Duso (oboe), and Min-Ho Yeh (clarinet). The *prelude* and *postlude* explored range, dynamics, and blend. Movement two, *Unison*, was a whirling dervish of fast flying notes. The solo movements explored the special characteristics of each instrument—the flexibility of the clarinet, the singing quality and embellishments of the oboe, and the articulation of the flute. The canons were expanded from one to three sixteenth note intervals creating a flurry of notes, masterfully executed.

### Concert 3 by Jay C. Batzner

The first concert of Friday was off with John Stafford's fanfare, *Turnaround* for brass quintet. The ASU Brass Quintet (Richard Jorgensen, Sherri Fincher, Robin Dauer, Neale Bartee, and Ed Owen) gave this piece the solid ensemble performance that it deserves. The fanfare motives alternated with softer chorale passages and the total harmonic language had the perfect blend of dissonance and resolution.

Brass themes continued on the second piece which was Lawrence Axelrod's *Music for Horns*. The ASU Horn choir managed to convey the organic flow of the opening with the triumphant sounds and punctuating textures of the middle of the work. This was a challenging piece for the ensemble and they handled the murky and mysterious section with aplomb.

Members of the ASU Horn Ensemble continued with *Dragonfly* by Sue Dellinger. Scored for three horns and percussion, *Dragonfly* began with a punchy opening that shifted easily into a short languid moment and then back to an exciting finish.

Julia Lansford (soprano), Harriet O'Neal (piano), and Ed Owen (tuba) then took the stage for Warren Gooch's song cycle, *The View from the Tower*. These charming pieces poke fun at academic settings and created a wonderfully playful environment for the performers. The program notes were slightly apologetic (bringing "light" pieces onto stage), but needlessly so! Fun is fun and the audience quickly loosened up to laugh along with the ensemble.



*Ed Owen attempts saves Julia Lansford in Warren Gooch's The View from the Tower*

*Existence* for two oboes was a stark contrast to all the previous pieces. Caroline Sampson and Miguel Prianço move their way through the serious opening and slithering passages of the work. Matthew Cureton's piece held a great balance of ensemble motion and still maintained the independence of parts.

Amy Dunker's exploration of *The Raven* brought even more variety to the concert. Amy always makes full use of her trumpet (this time including tapping on the bell with a snare brush). She truly captured the tone of the Poe's famous poem. The ambient musical gestures were punctuated with spoken words from the text showing Amy's particular understanding and interpretation of the poem.



*Amy Dunker*

The last work on the concert was Jeffrey Hoover's lush *Soul and Fire* songs for soprano, piano, and clarinet. Once again, soprano Julia Lansford took the stage and with J.D. Kelly (piano), and Ken Hatch (clarinet), she filled the hall with rich, traditional folk-like melodies. Each of the four songs was rich and evocative, and when seen in the context of the proceeding two works, highlight the wonderful diversity present in the SCI composer membership.

### Concert 4 by Jay C. Batzner

After lunch came Eric Honour performing his own solo saxophone piece, *Instant Vacation*. The first movement, *Random Crow*, was a tour-de-force of extended techniques and structure. A truly virtuoso performance and piece! The second movement, *For Hound*, relied on more traditional lyricism and the final *Attentive Magpie* movement blended the extended techniques with the ultra-rapid gestures and traces of the second movement's lyrical nature.

Stark contrast again with John Bilotta's solo clarinet *Entr'acte*. This intimate two-movement work contained a lot of expressive potential for Ken Hatch's performance. The delicate and personal first movement was balanced by a delightfully bubbly and vibrant final movement. A real charmer of a piece.



The alto saxophone returned in Allene Kirk's hands as she and pianist Lauren Schack Clark negotiated James R. Geiger's *Schwerza*. The angular and punchy opening melted into sheer lyricism with ease. Both performers handled the challenging aspects of coordination throughout this work.

...a *chasing after the wind* by Frank Felice cast a contemplative and haunting mood on the audience. Joe Bonner's alto flute solo burst into flurries of activity, always highlighting the straining quality of the instrument in its upper register. Lauren Schack Clark was once again the pianist, providing a creepy chiming of a grandfather clock that foretells the final moments of an unredeemed life.



#### Wind Ensemble

Frank Felice's *...a chasing after the wind*

*Fakebook II* for solo piano by Arthur Gottschalk and performed by Stefanie C. Dickinson brought windows of jazz into an epic three-movement setting. Each movement (*Corea*, *Tatum*, and *Brubeck*) easily traveled through free-form feels, sprite or driving rhythms, and snippets of jazz standards that quickly dissipated into the ether. The fiery *Brubeck* finale was everything one would want from such a rhythmically driving composer.

Stuart Hinds' *Rhapsody* for voice and keyboard defies description. Hinds has the ability to sing overtones and change these produced overtones independently of the sung fundamental. A short demonstration preceded the piece, and was mind-boggling. Hearing one man sing polyphony

by himself in the context of the composition was doubly boggling.

Finally, we had *Variations and Theme on Lullaby for Louise* by James A. Jensen. Violinist Jeffrey Z. Flaniken and pianist Donald C. Sanders presented these delightful variations in six movements that ranged from explosive to lyrical—from percussive to furious. The work concluded with the lullaby theme. This simple tune was the perfect way to conclude. Given the gamut of variation throughout the composition, the tune sounded so familiar when stated plainly. An excellent piece, well crafted and lovingly played.

#### Concert 5 by Jay C. Batzner

My last two reviews were written in haste for the SCI blog in my hotel room between concerts four and five. For this next review, I will write during concert five (haste minus the procrastination). I will also try to curb my use of the words, "punchy" and "lyrical."

Our first piece on the 4 PM concert is *The Grass* for women's chorus by Jason Bahr. Jason's setting of Emily Dickinson's poetry is both rich and simple. The simple flowing lines contain delicate rhythmic articulations of specific words which breaks the otherwise fluid shapes. The whole piece has a natural flow, and a simple effective emotional shape. A well balanced and compelling work in all respects.

Greg Bartholomew's, *A Rainy Day* is next (also for women's choir). In contrast of Bahr's work, this piece is full of droplets of song that pool together into harmonic cadences. The ASU Women's Choir comfortably handles both contrasting pieces well. Both works are full of simple and direct music that clearly communicates the spirit of the texts.

*Two Choral Songs* for the same ensemble are next. Mark Francis' writing begins with parallel motion which, periodically, breaks into dialog between two sections of the

ensemble. The second song builds on the dialog feature of the first song, periodically joining into brief unison or parallel motion. The climax of this Roethke setting pulls the choir into stark octaves and gradually recedes into dialog, and finally a unison line. Both of these songs are well balanced and they function quite well as a matched set.

The men now come on stage to from the whole ASU Concert Choir. Their first piece is *Bonitas Domini* by Mike McFerron. The rhythmic vibrancy of the beginning is absolutely delightful! This work is full of energy and life. The choir is doing a great job handling the dissonance and independence in an unaccompanied setting. Different non-pitched sounds are woven into the standard chordal texture. A very evocative piece! Lots of fun for listeners and performers alike.

*The Book of Nightmares* by Timothy Crist is happening now. These smooth, thick chords provide a strong "wasteland" image in my mind. The whole tone of the piece is haunting and more than a little creepy. The core of the piece fixates on one thick chord and then expands away into more lavish sonorities. I'd share bits of the text with you, but I'd rather you sleep well and have pleasant dreams tonight!

The last choir piece of the concert is Michael Murray's *After the Fall*, a 9-11 anniversary piece. The music radiates out from a single pitch and then throughout the choir. The first movement deals with how to express the un-expressible, or how to speak after such and unspeakable act. The tone of the poem is quite effectively displayed in the music and the performance. *We*, the second movement, begins in small gestures and rises to thick, luscious chords at its climax. The end of *We* recedes into its more introverted beginning. The final movement, *Changing Home*, describes the quick transformation of everyone's lives from September 10th to September 11th. The music reflects the horror of the events and the choir easily

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handles the thick dissonant chords. The tough emotional content of the piece is handled well by the choir. Bravo. These were difficult pieces both musically and emotionally.

Now for something completely different. *The Sonata for Alto Saxophone* by Timothy Melbinger is being performed by Jonathan Rohner (sax) and Lauren Schack Clark (piano). The first movement takes the piano through its full range in wide-sweeping gestures while the saxophone plays short melodic fragments. Moments of unison provide a window to the structure. The saxophone gradually builds up energy into tense flutter-tongue trills while the piano explores the extreme low register at the end. Movement two begins with a soft delicate tune in the saxophone. This melody is cautiously stepped through and surrounded by the sparse piano. Movement two contains a great sense of three independent lines shared between the two instruments. The final movement emphasizes rhythmic interplay and dialog between the performers. The overall marcato feel breaks into sneaky and brash sonorities while still building to a chain of extended techniques and a quick-fade ending.

The final piece on the program is *Tre* for flute, cello, and piano by Dwight Banks. Joe Bonner is our flautist again, Lauren Shack Clark in on piano, and Jonathan Kierscey takes the stage with his cello. The first movement opens with rapidly expanding gestures in all instruments creating a nebulous, yet crystalline, sound world. Each instrument takes an extended solo in this first movement. The harmonic vocabulary ranges from free-atonality to jazz/blues. Dwight is very adroit at shifting from one to another. Neither harmonic vocabulary sounds out of place with the other – cool! This trio is being conducted, and watching the conductor from the audience heightens our awareness of *Tre*'s rhythmic complexity and independence of parts. These performers are

working hard, but they do not seem to be troubled. A more regular rhythmic pulse is present in the final movement. The pulse dissipates from time to time, but it inexorably returns to structure the whole movement. Once again, unison events articulate the final cadence.

### **Saturday, January 31, 2004 Concert 6 by Lee Hartman**

The visual media concert of the SCI Region 6 conference was stunning and diverse both sonically and visually.

*Mystings* by Jim Stallings for ensemble, tape, and visual artist began with a mystical opening of maracas, wind chimes, and sprinkled water for preparation of the watercolor painting. The atmospheric opening led to a militaristic section complete with fife and drum. Swatches of purple cut through the palette of pinks and blues on the painting. The piece ended atmospherically like the beginning, yet a brand new painting had been created.

Jay C. Batzner's *Pioneer X* for solo trumpet was an exploration of spiritual placements and notes that call to mind the voyage of the Pioneer X satellite. Moving between three stands, Grant Garland (trumpet) progressed farther from the audience. The sonic distance is effectively achieved by the use of open trumpet and trumpet with various mutes.

The striking images of *Memory of Hope* by James Croson made the lush orchestration of the tape part even more evocative. The lamenting cello line fit seamlessly with the images of lost love and horrific warfare.

*True Nature*, also by James Croson, was a groovy geometric romp. Constantly shifting shapes morphed in and out of recognizable forms. As the shapes came into focus, the music followed suit forming recognizable themes.

Nicole Carroll's *Travels to Nowhere* used gravel and wine glasses as her primary

sound sources. Images of a country road were layered overtop of pictures of college life. The juxtaposition of two sound sources and the layered changes created a shifting, yet static feel.

*Funnel Cloud* by Stephen Beck shifted styles, moods, and sampled material. Following a tornado's path, we were transported to a fantastic world where art comes to life that dances to quotes from various sources.

*Protect Your Domain Name*, also by Beck, was a social commentary on the effect of broken-down communication. A female voice was the primary source used to evoke feelings of inevitability and warning.

Peter Kirn's *Incubus* featured processed extended flute technology with stunningly beautiful film of two dancers. Shot from the waste up, both film and tape explored negative spaces while creating an intense erotic atmosphere.

### **Concert 7 by Jay C. Batzner**

I'd like to thank Lee Hartmann for reviewing last night's concert. If I had to review my own piece, *Pioneer X*, the purple prose would have been painfully prolific (nice alliteration!).

Now that I've done a few reviews, I'd like to shake things up a bit. I wrote a few reviews post-concert and one during the concert. I have a lot of time on my hands this morning, so I've decided to write this review pre-concert. We'll see if I'm accurate (or if anyone notices). Kidding! Just pulling your legs, there.

The ASU Ringers, a handbell choir, played two pieces this morning: Allen Brings' *Two Strains* and Memphis-based composer Brandon Goff's *Felipe does Handbells*. *Two Strains* was a simple, diatonic piece in two movements: "Elegiac" and "Jubilant." These charming pieces went straight to the emotional cores contained in their titles. "Jubilant" ended with a joyful major chord,



vibrantly rung throughout the whole group. Special kudos go to the Ringers' bass-bell player and his "baseball bat" grip for the final note of the piece. *Felipé* was a tango-esque gem that used a lot of special techniques (mallets, dry strokes, etc.). The ASU Ringers were clearly enjoying themselves in this piece.

Next up was Ken Metz's *Songs from Mother Goose*. These seven songs were well-handled by baritone Bill Higgins and pianist Jeri-Mae Astolfi. Each song featured the prominent vocal line by maintaining a sparse piano texture. These plain settings drew me into the texts and highlighted the texts' abstract meanings. Mother Goose poetry is so bizarre and, on the surface, seemingly meaningless. I'm now inspired to seek out the meanings behind these texts!

Jeri-Mae Astolfi returned for Phillip Schroeder's *Moons*. There four pieces all held to a slow-moving and deliberate texture. Resonant arpeggios imposed a sense of calm and stasis on the audience. Once I was sucked into the slow pace and sound world of these pieces, I didn't want to leave.

Next up was the premiere of *Five Poems of Galway Kinnell* by conference host Tim Crist. Matthew Carey, baritone, easily soared above the dark rumblings of pianist Joy Fiala. This cycle was rich with nightmare poetry images and the music ranged from ethereal to visceral and from spooky to heartfelt.

The final piece pre-lunch was Sam Magrill's *Song of Shalom* for soprano and cello. I am a big fan of vocal works without piano and this piece did not disappoint! Pamela Richman, soprano, and Tess Remy-Schumacher, cello, each seemed to perform separate compositions. These independent parts would intersect and overlap in such ways that kept each performer out of the other's way. This dichotomy of the work provided a rich musical experience and is exactly the kind of thing that I go for. Good stuff!

## Concert 8 by Jay C. Batzner

The 1 PM concert featured electronic and electroacoustic music. Per Boland's *Thingvellir*, for trumpet and amplified resonating piano, was the only piece that did not use pre-recorded sounds. Rob Alley, the performer, projected into a microphone which fed the resonating piano strings. The end result was an eerie and moody piece. The piano's layer of harmony was akin to hearing chant sung in a huge cathedral. Cool piece.

*Snow of Ages*, by Chin-Chin Chen, explored the sound of three instruments: woodblock, gong, and windchimes. Each movement subjected one sound to a series of spatialized and fleeting gestures. There was very little manipulation of these sound objects, so the source of the sounds was always apparent.

Matthew Cureton's *Reposes of the Soul*, a four-movement tape piece, sustained a lonely and introspective mood throughout each movement. The primary focus of the piece was timbral and gestural development and each movement took a slightly different spin on the source materials. The pieces were different from each other yet clearly connected to the whole.

Per Boland was up again with *The Wonderful Delight of Profound Ineptitude* (winning the "Best Title" Award in my book). The opening sound world was highly synthesized and manipulated. Gradually the gestures transition into and out of recognizable objects. All of the sounds used were highly kinetic and mobile and Per built these textures into luscious moments of cacophony. The work seamlessly journeyed into ambient neighborhood sounds and once again exploded into cacophony and an abrupt cadence. In a word: woo-hoo! (or is that two words?)

*Memories Among Us* by Timothy Miller was a brief work filled with sparkling energy. Two primary forces fought for

supremacy. Eventually the swirling vortices and incessant tappings decided to cohabitant the piece.

Mark Snyder's *Horse* "dropped the funk bomb" on the SCI crowd. The rumbles and squeaks of manipulated rocking horse sounds made a great counterpoint to the bass sax's long sweeping lines. A great groove emerged in the recorded part and the bass sax quickly intercepted and joined in. A fun piece that invigorates my desire to write for bass sax! Put a bass sax with Stuart Hinds' overtone singing and we'd have a musical force that could, well, it would be pretty cool.

The finale of the concert was Douglas O'Grady's *Canticle*. This tightly focused piece manipulated vocal and vocal-like timbres until a full-fledged independent line soared above punctuating sweeps in the accompanying texture. Hearing the vocal line descend into guttural sounds was a delight. A great piece on a wonderfully engaging concert!

## Monday, February 02, 2004 Final Concert by Jay C. Batzner

Since I need to leave immediately after this concert (the weather forecast for Kansas City is not good) this will be a real-time review. I want to congratulate Tim Crist and Arkansas State University for their spectacular job in programming, organizing, and performing all this wonderful music. Thanks to all who participated in this laborious event!

The first piece is *Drift* by Dorothy Hindman and is played by the ASU Sax Quartet. Mechanical punctuations initiate this work and the student ensemble is really digging in deep to the music. Long and smooth gestures arise from the grooves and give way to more punchy stuff (I haven't used "punchy" in a while and I was due). The harmonies change at unexpected intervals and slap-tonguing thickens the texture.

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Lots of great visceral energies here. Gradually more sustained lines emerge from held tones and the piece disintegrates quickly.

Next up is *Gin-á-Koa* by Chinchun Chi-sun Lee. It is performed by violinist Linda Hsu and pianist Stefanie C. Dickinson. The piece opens with smooth jazz chords and a folk-like violin tune—a delightfully elegant piece that emphasizes simplicity and the melodic gift in Taiwanese folk melodies. Very comfortable and enjoyable. These traditional melodies are wonderfully crafted and manipulated throughout the three movements. The final movement has a lot of great Stravinsky and Bartok rhythmic punches. What fun!

Kirk O'Riordan's wife Holly was in a car accident on her way to the airport to perform Kirk's *Three Pieces for Solo Piano*. Holly is uninjured, thankfully, and their car is reported as drivable. I must applaud Tim Crist again because they have chosen to play a recording of Kirk's piece. I'm glad we get to hear it and I hope that I may see Holly perform it soon!

The "Moto perpetuo" first movement is true to form. The active arpeggiations and crashing chords propel the piece to its final cadence. "Cadenza" begins with soft oscillations in harmony which expand throughout the range of the piano and a repeated-tone figure begins to take control of the motion. These two contrasting ideas are brought together and monolithic chords emerge and decay at the close. "Toccata" is a monophonic ride through nimble passages in the piano's lower register. The piece spreads out in true toccata fashion and coalesces with huge banging chords. Exceptional writing and performance! I hope Holly is well and safe. I am so glad that we got to hear her performance.

And now the seven movement *pursuing the emerald scintillate* by Michael Sidney Timpson for violin (Linda Hsu), alto sax (Jackie Lamar), and marimba (Blake

Tyson). Each movement explores various "East meets West" influences the composer has experienced. These are delicate and personal pieces that explore all the fantastic coloristic qualities possible in the unique instrumentation. The form of each piece is controlled by its own internal logic and organic needs. Nothing feels artificial or forced. Each piece is reflective, sometimes playful, always colorful and organic. A real gem! (There, I got that pun out of my system)

We move to Lee Hartmann's *Seven Miniatures for Two Violins and Piano* played by Stephen Sims and Kimberly Meier-Sims on violins and Lauren Schack Clark on piano. Each of these character pieces contain just the right amount of charm and skill to present, develop, and conclude material successfully while leaving the listeners wanting more. The violins take glorious center stage, soaring and dancing throughout the pieces. These miniatures are packed with highly-spirited and clever writing for everyone on the stage and in the audience. Delightful!



*Lee Hartman's Seven Miniatures for Two Violins and Piano*

Our concerts conclude with Charles Savages' *Mad Rush to the End*. Clarinetist Cynthia Krenzle-Doggett and tenor saxist Thomas Krenzle-Doggett take the stage for a piece described as "hurry up and wait." A perfect piece to conclude these days of music. Vibrant, chromatic runs and punchy angular leaps are the most salient characteristics here. Tension builds throughout the counterpoint and rhythmic energies intensify. Unison licks bring the whole to a conclusive ending. Bravo!

## New SCI Web Site Member Services

We are proud to announce another enhancement to the member account area of the SCI Web site. As you know, members have been able to publish their own profile Web pages since September, 2003. The SCI Profile Web page utility has been improved. It now allows members to upload up to four MP3s to our server. Members who choose to take advantage of this service will see their MP3s directly linked to their SCI Profile Web page immediately. This new utility is completely free and voluntary. Members who do not wish to upload MP3s may continue to update their SCI Profile Web page as before.

To create your SCI Profile Web page, simply login to your account by visiting <http://www.societyofcomposers.org>, and choose Members > Member Login. Enter your email address as listed with SCI and your password. (If you have misplaced your password, simply use the password retrieval utility by clicking the "Forgot login information? Click Here!" link). Once you have logged into your account, choose "Update SCI Profile" in the navigation table on the left-hand side of the screen. Follow the instructions listed to create, edit, and upload your MP3 files.



If you experience any troubles, please contact Mike McFerron at: [webcontent@societyofcomposers.org](mailto:webcontent@societyofcomposers.org)

We will soon add a tutorial to help members with creating and uploading MP3s. In the future, we hope to expand these and other services even further. If you have any suggestions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact either Mike McFerron or Peter Swendsen ([webmaster@societyofcomposers.org](mailto:webmaster@societyofcomposers.org)).



## Timothy Melbinger



Centaur Records has just released a new CD of music by Timothy Melbinger, entitled *Fleeting Visions*. It features the 20 movement solo piano work of the same name among other works. Samples of the CD can be heard online at [home.comcast.net/~t.melbinger](http://home.comcast.net/~t.melbinger). The CD can be purchased online at [www.centaurrecords.com](http://www.centaurrecords.com).

## Daniel Nass

St. Olaf College's Muziko Nova performed Daniel Nass' chamber work, *Hannah's Grave*, at the Southern Theater in Minneapolis on Leap Day, February 29, 2004. This was the first time the work was performed in Minnesota—the state where the actual grave is located.

## Paul SanGregory

*Floating, Rhythm and Fugue*, and *Three Taiwanese Folk Songs* (all for SSA choir) will be sung by the National Kaohsiung Normal University Choir, conducted by Shan-Min Yu, at the Kaohsiung City Chiang Kai-Shek Culture Center (5/25/04).

*Three Taiwanese Folk Songs* (SSA choir) were sung by the Taipei Philharmonic Youth and Children's Choir at the National Concert Hall in Taipei, Taiwan with Shan-Min Yu conducting (1/7/04). This same

group also performed these songs at the International Choral Festival in Missoula, Montana (July 16–20, 2003).

*Finding Traces* (cl, pf) was commissioned and performed by Chin-Jun Lin and Shin-Ru Ding in the Concert Hall of the National Chiang Kai-Shek Culture Center in Taipei (12/25/03), and the Taoyuan Culture Center in Taoyuan (12/31/03), Taiwan.

*Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra*, written for the National Kaohsiung Normal University Orchestra, was performed by them with conductor Shu-Hsi Chen and soloist Dan-Ling You in the Concert Hall of the National Chiang Kai-Shek Culture Center in Taipei, Taiwan (12/3/03).

*Motet: Lux aeterna -- Clear September Morning* (SATB choir) was performed by the Tainan Chamber Choir, conducted by Shan-Min Yu, during their concert tour in Peng-Hu (9/27/03), Tainan (10/16/03), and Kaohsiung (10/29/03), Taiwan.

## Joseph Trapanese



Joseph Trapanese's new work, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, received its premiere by the Manhattan School of Music Composer's Choir and Brass Quartet with the composer conducting at The Manhattan School of Music on February 9, 2004.

Please visit Joseph's new Web site: [www.joecomposer.com](http://www.joecomposer.com).

## Terry Vosbein



On February 15, 2004, the Amernet String Quartet performed the Cincinnati premiere of Terry Vosbein's *Quartet* as part of their conTempo Series.

## Position of Assistant Editor of SCION Open

After four years of excellent service, Daniel Powers has decided to resign as the assistant editor of SCION. SCI is now looking for a new assistant editor to help with the production of the monthly on-line newsletter. The assistant editor will help compile the monthly announcements and occasionally prepare an entire issue when the editor is unable to do so. The requirements for the position are a high level of writing and editing skills, an excellent eye for detail, proficiency in typing, access to appropriate computer equipment, and availability during the last week of each month (approximately 2–5 hours). Here's your chance to help provide a vital service to our organization.

If interested please contact: David Drexler, SCION editor by email at: [scion@societyofcomposers.org](mailto:scion@societyofcomposers.org).

**PUBLICATIONS** include the SCI Newsletter, CD Series, Journal of Music Scores, and SCION (the SCI Online Newsletter).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** of contests, calls for scores and other solicitations appear in the SCI Newsletter and SCION as a service to SCI members. While every effort is made to assure the accuracy of these announcements, SCI cannot accept responsibility for errors, misrepresentations, or misinterpretations.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

**FULL MEMBERSHIP** (\$50/YR): Eligible to submit scores to the National Conferences, regional conferences, *SCI Record Series*, *SCI Journal of Music Scores* and will receive the *SCI Newsletter* in electronic form (hard copy available for an extra charge). Eligible to vote on Society matters and in elections for the National Council.

**JOINT MEMBERSHIP** (\$65/YR): Same benefits as for full members, but couple receives only one copy of any hard-copy mailings.

**SENIOR MEMBERSHIP** (\$25/YR): Open to those 65 years of age or older, or retired. Same benefits as full members.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** (\$25/YR): Open to performers and other interested professionals. Receives the *Newsletter* (electronic) and can participate in the national and regional conferences.

**STUDENT MEMBERSHIP** (\$25/YR): Eligible to submit to regional conferences and receive the *Newsletter* (electronic).

**STUDENT CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP** (\$15/YR): Same benefits as student members, but open only on campuses having Student Chapters.

**INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP** (\$25/YR): Organizations receive the *SCI Newsletter* in electronic form (hard copy available for an extra charge) and other mailings.

**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP** (\$950 OR \$110/YR FOR 10 YEARS): Benefits the same as full members, for life.

**AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP** (\$45/YR): Open to members of music organizations that are institutional members of SCI, except libraries and archives. Same benefits as for full members.

