

THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

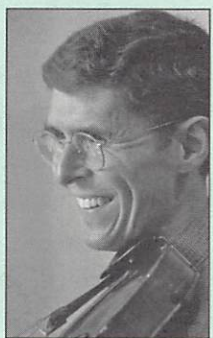
for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2008



Faculty Expansion Planned for 2008

Participants at the 2008 season of the Pierre Monteux School will see the addition of two new members to its faculty. Renowned violist and teacher **Peter Slowik** joins us as Artist in Residence and the very capable conductor and cellist **Ruth Ochs** joins us as Conducting Associate.



Peter Slowik, head of the string department at Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Artistic Director for Credo Chamber Music, has an international reputation as a leading artist-teacher of string playing at the highest level. He has been a featured performer and teacher at five International Viola Congresses, has performed as viola soloist throughout the United States, and

recently presented master classes in China, Australia, and New Zealand.

His viola students have won prizes in numerous competitions and perform in such major American orchestras as the Chicago Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, and National Symphony, and hold university appointments throughout the country.

Peter will offer Monteux participants a variety of professional development opportunities this year. These will include mock auditions; chamber music, strings, and solo master classes; orchestral audition preparation classes; and interactive sessions with conductors and ensembles to help them "learn the language" of string players, enhancing their vocabulary of techniques and terminology.

Ruth Ochs is now in her sixth season as music director of the Princeton University Sinfonia, and in her third season as music director of the Westminster Community Orchestra, also based in Princeton. Both ensembles have grown significantly under her leadership. Ruth is also resident conductor for the Westminster Conservatory of Music's faculty concert series. Previously she

was music director of the Austin Philharmonic and conducted the top ensembles of the University of Texas String Project. Also a diversified musician, Ruth has performed as pianist and cellist throughout the United States and in Europe. Ruth holds degrees in music from Harvard University and the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in musicology at Princeton University

Ruth Ochs studied as a conducting fellow at The Pierre Monteux School for six summers under the tutelage of Maestro Michael Jinbo, during which time she also served as orchestra assistant and librarian. As the Conducting Associate, Ruth will assist Maestro Jinbo and offer participants individual professional development guidance on selected technique and performance matters.

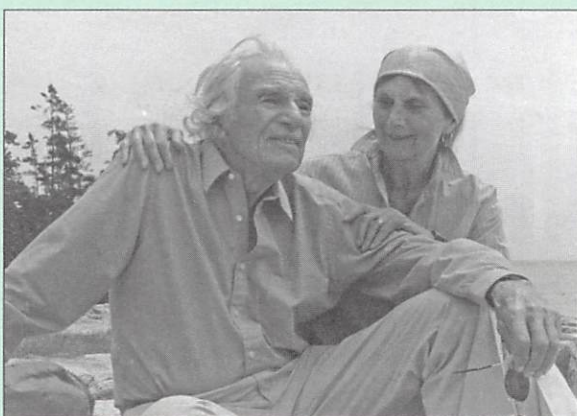


Photo courtesy of Simeon Thomas

Foundation Receives Thomas Bequest

Late last fall, the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation received a bequest in the amount of \$120,000 from two of its long-time contributors and concertgoers, **Joseph B. Thomas IV** (1917-2007) and **Etel Thomas** (1925-2008). Our board, staff, and friends will feel the loss of both "Tommy" and Etel for many ensuing seasons, but the Thomas legacy will help keep their memories alive well into the future.

Continued on Page 2

Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, Inc.
All Contributions for Fiscal Year to Date
September 1, 2007 - April 15, 2008

PIONEERS (\$100,000+)

Joseph B. Thomas, IV and Etel
 Thomas Charitable Remainder
 Unitrust

CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE (\$10,000+)

Van W. Knox, III and Alexandra Knox
 Sam and Joann K. Williams

PATRONS (\$5,000 +)

Monique Giroux and Peter Doebling ^a

BENEFACTORS (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Margaret and Arnold Amstutz
 Anonymous
 Neal Gittleman
 Dr. John R. O'Meara
 Jean C. O'Meara
 H. M. Payson Company
 Louise H. Shipman ^b
 Beverley and Dyer Wadsworth
 Philip Winograd
 Hugh Wolff and Judith Kogan

SPONSORS (\$500-\$999)

Mr. and Mrs. David A. Bristol
 John Canarina
 Bill and Polly Ceckler
 Marcia and Steven Crabtree
 Shona Crabtree and Alexander
 Macgillivray
 Daphne Crocker
 Crosby Consolidated Fund of the
 Maine Community Foundation
 Edward P. and Karen M. Curtis
 Judy and Bill Eason
 Dr. Richard and Joan Faust
 Wendy C. Gamble and Carl Kuchm
 Edwin H. Pert
 Jean Andre and Victoria Rougeot
 Ron Schwizer
 Drs. Candace and Edward Walworth
 Dr. and Mrs. Sam J. Williams

SUSTAINERS (\$250-\$499)

Charles C. Collison
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Davidson
 Joseph Day and Anne Nelson ^b
 Charlotte and George Draper
 Kenneth and Barbara Kelly ^c
 James M. and Catherine J. Orent
 Rob Paarlberg and Marianne Perlak
 George and Vesta Putnam
 Samuel M. and Connie Watson

SUPPORTERS (\$100-\$249)

Peter M. Andersen and Evelyn Foster
 Richard L. Benson
 Susan C. Bruce
 Joanne and Elliot Cohen
 Lawrence DeMilner
 Eva S. Devenish

Gabrielle Diaz-Alatriste
 Douglas and Amanda Droste
 Peter Freisinger
 Lolita Goldstein
 Carle G. Gray
 Michael Griffith
 Nancy L. Guy
 Dr. and Mrs. Richard Hall
 Gay and Joe Haroutunian
 Beth Hassel
 Herbert and Patricia Hodgkins
 Charles and Betty Lewis
 Ann and Dick Luxner
 Anne and Frank Mallalieu
 LeeAnne and Bruce Mallonee
 Barbara and Bob Passow
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Russell
 Ruth S. Sargent ^b
 Carolyn A. Sawyer
 Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Sharpe
 Alice J. Souther
 Eji Suyama, M.D.
 Katharine A. Thompson
 Ruth Vibert
 Mr. and Mrs. David B. Ward
 Norman Ward and Patricia King
 Marion R. Wise
 Drs. Ann and Kent Young
 Alvin M. Younger

FRIENDS (UP TO \$100)

John J. Canally, Jr.
 Mark C. Carpentier
 Anne P. Reed Dean
 Aileen and Hal Dower
 EDS Electric ^c
 Scott Haigh and Margi Griebing-Haigh
 Richard and Pauline Harris ^d
 Peter Jaffe
 Richard T. Kapral
 Barbara Lindsey
 Marie Nolf
 Peter and Phyllis Rees
 Morette L. Rider
 Leon and Lesia Shmorhun
 Frederick and Jean Snyder
 William and Doris Spitzig ^d
 Timothy and Beverly Stone
 Jacqueline Vafiades
 Robert and Kayla Vodnoy
 Margaret H. (Peg) Walker
 Paul H. Warren ^d
 Heidi Welch

^a In memory of Maureen McNalley
 Giroux

^b In memory of C. William Shipman

^c In memory of Sylvia McEldowney

^d In memory of George Putnam

We apologize for any errors.

Continued from Page 1

The Thomas' were not only enthusiastic supporters of the Foundation, but musicians in their own right. Tommy began his musical "career" on the accordion, then graduated to the piano, flute, recorder, classical guitar, and, at age 87, to the violin. Etel also played the piano and flute.

Tommy and Etel had long associations with many other local music organizations including the MDI Chamber Festival, MDI Arts Committee, Surrey Opera Company, and the Arcady Music Festival. Often seen at high school plays, recitals, and contra dances, the Thomas' were strong supporters of all the arts, with interests ranging from professional to amateur productions.

Tommy was a New Yorker by birth, an architect by profession, and an avid skier and pilot. He is survived by two sons and a daughter from his first marriage. Danish-born Etel, was trained as a nurse and later served with British Intelligence. The couple married in 1955.

Tommy and Etel were world travelers,

Continued on Page 3

In M

Gretchen S
(198

It was with great sadness that we learned of
 (horn, 2005) on April 10 while driving to Co
 professor.

Gretchen was close to a number of M
 Gretchen Snedeker was within weeks of earning
 when she died. We at the Pierre Monteux Sch
 Kathy and John; to her fiancé, Adam Smith; a

Continued from Page 2

visiting 53 countries, and Tommy's association with Maine began with his mother's move to Somesville when he was a young boy. Passionate about the beauty of the area, the importance of sustaining it, and the opportunities offered by alternative energy options, he and Etel decided to move to MDI on a permanent basis in 1965.

To acknowledge the significance of the Thomas bequest to our efforts to provide one of the best orchestral training opportunities available for early career conductors and instrumentalists, we are pleased to add their names as the first to appear in our list of contributors in the new category of "Pioneer." Although we are unable to personally express to our dear friends and benefactors — Tommy and Etel Thomas — the great sense of gratitude we feel upon receiving their bequest, we are confident that their memory will live on in the opportunities their gift will provide to the many fine conductors and instrumentalists who take part in the Monteux School experience in years to come.

memoriam

*Snedeker ('05)
(2008)*

The recent untimely death of Gretchen Snedeker at the University where she taught as an adjunct to many Monteux musicians and beloved by many others. Her masters degree at Eastman School of Music and we offer our sincere condolences to her parents, and to her mentor at Eastman, Peter Kurau.

At the Podium: Jason Seber

When I think back to the five summers that I spent in Hancock, I immediately think of how invaluable that time was, not only to my development as a conductor, but also to me as a person. What an incredible opportunity it was to stand in front of a great orchestra several times a week and be immersed in such practical learning of a difficult craft. I'll never forget the first time I took the podium on a cold June night (yes, I meant cold in June!) my first summer there. While I was, of course, a nervous wreck, there was something about that stage, the encouraging look of the members in the orchestra, the incredibly insightful words of Maestro Jinbo (right away!), and just the whole aura of a room that had so many special memories already created long before I got there, that I couldn't help but feel welcomed and right at home. What makes the Monteux School so unique from all the other educational experiences I've had is that I still felt the same way five summers later! That's why I continued to come back again and again.

I vividly recall the end of the first week of my first summer at the school, when I had already watched the Maestro help 20 different conductors in 20 different ways, giving each of us exactly what we needed, whether it was a simple technique correction, or breaking a bad habit (we all have those), or getting us to dig deeper in the music, or opening up our ears and hearts to something in the score, or most importantly, opening up our ears and our awareness of our own selves, our OWN hearts and souls. I was thrilled and overwhelmed, and little did I know then that it was just the beginning.

Over the next five summers, I learned so much about conducting, people skills, preparation, humility, leading, and — a great deal about myself. I discovered who I was during my time in Maine. Maestro Jinbo has many gifts as a teacher, but his greatest strength is getting us to dive deeply into who we are, to have strong reasons for our convictions, and to use our unique personalities, our own strengths, to become the best musicians and conductors we can become. I find myself constantly using lessons learned at the Monteux School with my youth orchestra musicians and with professional orchestras I've conducted. I know without a doubt that if Maestro Monteux were with us today, he would be so proud of what his "summer school in Hancock" has now become.

Jason Seber attended the Pierre Monteux School from 1998-2001, and again in 2003. Jason is now in his third year as Music Director of the Louisville Youth Orchestra



Pierre Monteux School

PO Box 457
Hancock, Maine 04640

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Hancock, ME
Permit #2

The Pierre Monteux School
for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians

1943

Our 65th Year

2008



Sunday Symphony Concerts ■ June 22 – July 27 ■ 5 pm
Wednesday Chamber Music ■ June 25 – July 23 ■ 7:30 pm

FREE Children's Concert

— *Peter and the Wolf* —

Monday, July 14 ■ 10:00 a.m.

The Forest Studio, off US Highway 1 in the Village of Hancock
www.monteuxschool.org 422-3280 admin@monteuxschool.org

THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

FOR CONDUCTORS AND ORCHESTRA MUSICIANS

Sponsored by The Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation

Michael Jinbo
Music Director

April 15, 2008

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ginia Davis Wexler, *President*
Nancie Monteux-Barendse,
President emerita
Steven Crabtree, *Vice President*
Philip R. Standel, *Treasurer*
Margaret B. Amstutz
Karen Curtis
Philip Devenish
Michael Jinbo, *Ex officio*
Bruce Mallonee
Jean C. O'Meara
Claude Monteux,
Trustee emeritus
Mary Purslow
Bradley Stager
Katharine Thompson
Joann Williams
Kurt Wray

ADMINISTRATOR

Ronald W. Schwizer

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Roslynne Lowry

HONORARY ADVISORY BOARD

Michael Charry
Enrique Diemecke
Leon Fleisher
Neal Gittleman
Erich Kunzel
Lorin Maazel
Hugh Wolff
David Zinman

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to write to tell about good things happening at the Monteux School, and to ask you to continue your support or to contribute to our program for the first time

We will be heading into our 65th season this summer, with Michael Jinbo continuing in his thirteenth year as our Music Director. Symphonic concerts begin on June 22, and our first chamber concert is on June 25. Our annual free concert for children is planned for July 14th at 10 a.m., featuring a performance of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*. We hope to have at least as many enthusiastic young faces present in the audience as we did last summer.

To enhance our program for conductors and instrumentalists alike, Peter Slowik, violist and head of the String Department at Oberlin Conservatory, will join us as Artist in Residence for the first week of the summer. Professor Slowik will offer a variety of opportunities for professional development, including mock auditions and strings and conducting master classes. In addition, Ruth Ochs will join us as Conducting Associate to assist Maestro Jinbo. Ruth spent six years as a conductor at the School under Maestro Jinbo and is currently a doctoral candidate in musicology at Princeton University. We are excited about both of these additions to our program.

The enclosed newsletter also provides details of the largest single gift in the School's history, another installment of *At the Podium*, and a list acknowledging all contributions received to date for the current fiscal year.

Please use the enclosed envelope to contribute to our annual fund, scholarship endowment, or to ask to speak with someone about a gift of securities or how to arrange a legacy gift. Each of these giving alternatives will provide an important and tangible expression of how much you value our School.

We look forward to hearing from you and send all our good wishes from Hancock.



Ginia Davis Wexler
President of the Board