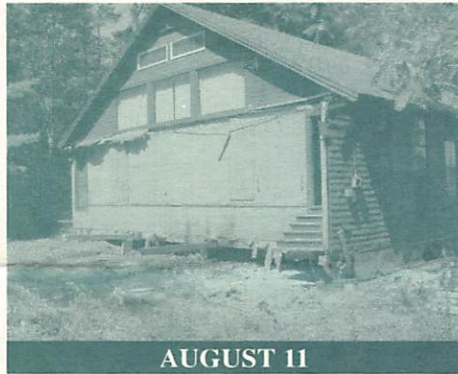


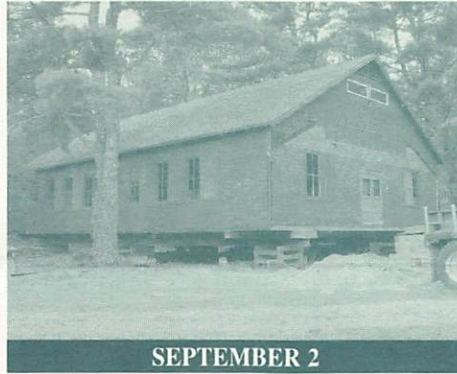
THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL *Newsletter*

Sponsored by *The Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, Inc.*

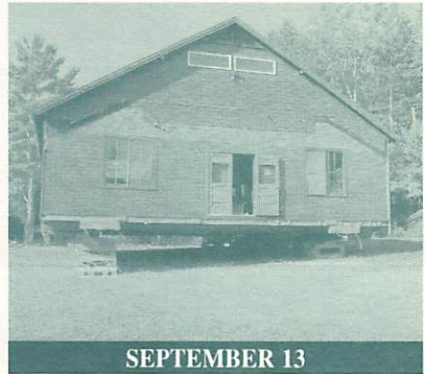
FALL 2002



AUGUST 11



SEPTEMBER 2



SEPTEMBER 13

Monteux School Hall "Up In The Air"

In 1947, Doris Monteux had a "Forest Studio," built as a surprise for her husband, Pierre, while he was away on tour. He returned to find what we now call "the Monteux School Hall" amidst the giant pines that flank it on both sides. The Hall has given us fifty-five consecutive summers of rehearsals and Sunday concerts.

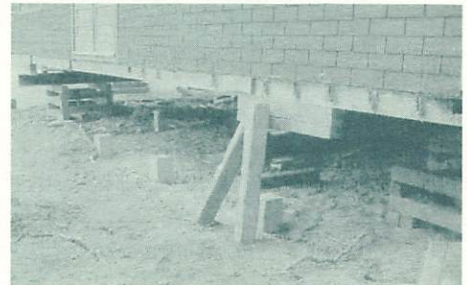
Over the past several years, it had become evident to the Board of Trustees of the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation that substantial repairs and improvements to the Hall were necessary. The backstage was too small and insufficiently ventilated, the Hall itself no longer had the seating to accommodate all who wanted to attend the Sunday concerts, the rest rooms were inadequate, and the exits did not allow for the access we needed. Most important, in the course of inspecting the building, we discovered that the wooden foundation piers on which the right rear of the building sat had deteriorated badly, and that this section of the Hall had sunk ten inches from the level. The time had come not just to renovate, but to save the Hall!

In July, after careful consideration of several alternative plans, the Board unanimously adopted one with the following features:

- Replacing the old foundation with a continuous concrete frostwall;
- A new front porch, twice as large that will provide sixty additional seats with an unobstructed view of the stage;
- Two double exit doors on either side front of the stage;
- A new backstage structure that will include a music library, instrument storage room, more than twice the current space for musicians to congregate, and a screened porch;
- New restrooms and a new septic system;
- Handicap accessibility throughout the Hall;
- Enlarged parking area;
- A new Memorial Garden in the woods on the west side of the Hall.

All of this will be achieved without changing the basic look and feel of the Hall.

Work began in early August and will be completed by March 1, 2003, well in advance of the 60th Summer Season. Building plans have been drawn and all permits obtained. Bellows Woodworks of Hancock is the contractor for the project. Within a week, the front porch was removed and the backstage building demolished. An arborist pruned the giant pines and removed two that were deemed too close to the building. A new septic system has been built. And, as the above pictures make clear, the Hall has been moved to the parking area to allow construction of the new foundation. The Monteux School Hall is literally "up in the air!"





Ming-Feng Hsin, Nancie Monteux-Barendse and Michael Jinbo

SUMMER 2002

Monteux Musical Tradition Continues

Audiences filled the Forest Studio to capacity for each of the six Sunday symphony concerts this summer, continuing our recent trend of sold-out houses. They were excited to have music return to the Hall once again and generous with their warm support and enthusiasm. There were many new faces in the orchestra this summer, which included musicians from 18 states and countries as distant as Thailand and Brazil. The symphony concerts featured a variety of works, including standards such as Beethoven's *Symphony No. 2*, Brahms' *Haydn Variations* and *Dvorak's Symphony No. 8*, and other challenging works such as Bartok's *Dance Suite*, Falla's complete ballet *The Three-Cornered Hat* and Lutoslawski's *Concerto for Orchestra*.

We were delighted to welcome violinist and alumnus Ming-Feng Hsin as Guest Artist-in-Residence this summer. Ming-Feng spent a week in Hancock, working with the orchestra and participating in both Sunday and Chamber concerts. He performed Brahms' *Violin Concerto in D major* with the orchestra on July 7.

The annual Memorial Concert on July 21 featured students conducting Mendelssohn's *Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage* and Debussy's *La Mer*. Maestro Michael Jinbo conducted Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 6 (Pathétique)* and a new work by Robert Rohe, Hancock resident and principle bass for the Bangor Symphony

Orchestra, entitled *Elegy* 9-11-01. Well before the start of the closing pops concert, an overflow audience filled the hall and porch area. The program included light classics, music from Broadway and Hollywood, and charming podium patter by each of the conductors.

Five chamber music concerts on Wednesday evenings also drew enthusiastic audiences. Musical Advisor Claude Monteux provided excellent coaching for many of the participating chamber groups and the concerts were ably organized by Chamber Music Coordinator Allison Kiger. Ming-Feng Hsin joined students Kate McQuiston, Alison Sharkey and Ming Luke in a wonderful performance of Brahms' *Piano Quartet in C minor* at the July 10 concert. A few chamber orchestra works from the curriculum were also featured in chamber music concerts, in performances conducted by student conductors under the tutelage of Michael Jinbo. These included Stravinsky's *Symphonies of Wind Instruments*, Revueltas' *Homenaje a García Lorca* and Piazzolla's *Tangazo*.

Between the Sunday and Wednesday concerts, a total of 29 orchestral works were performed over the course of the school session. Some audience members might be surprised to find out that our students studied another 31 works in rehearsal, covering a total curriculum of 60 orchestral and chamber pieces!

Alumni News

Ever wonder what your colleagues are up to these days? With this volume of the newsletter, we begin a new column: "Where are they now?"

Lorin Maazel recently concluded the inaugural Maazel-Vilar Conducting Competition in New York City. Several Monteux alumni were participants in the various regional rounds. Among them were **Mei-Ann Chen**, the new Music Director of the Portland Youth Philharmonic in Oregon, **Shizuo Kuwahara**, **Taras Krysa**, and **Ludovic Morlot**, conductor in residence with the Orchestre National de Lyon and cover conductor for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. (Apologies to any whose names were missed). In addition, **Maestro Maazel**, a member of the Monteux School's Honorary Advisory Board, is in his first season as Music Director of the New York Philharmonic.

The Danbury Music Centre (CT) houses the Danbury Symphony Orchestra, the Danbury Concert Chorus, and the Danbury Community Orchestra. Two of the three groups have Monteux alumni as their new Music Directors – **David Katz** heads the Symphony Orchestra and **Richard Price** directs the Concert Chorus -- while the third is undergoing a search for its new Music Director....and two of the three finalists are Monteux alumni (**Vera Jhung** and **Oscar Bustillo**).

In other news: **David Rahbee** is in Vienna, where has been attending the Universität für Musik (formerly known as the Hochschule) and giving a few concerts, most notably seven concerts with a youth orchestra at Goppisberger Music Weeks, in Grächen, Switzerland last summer. **Sarah Hicks** is the new Resident Conductor of the Florida Philharmonic. She was a participant this summer in the National Symphony Orchestra's Conducting Insititute with fellow alumni **Jean-Philippe Tremblay** and **Mei-Ann Chen**. Jeffrey Rink conducted a program in Carnegie Hall on October 5, 2002 featuring the three most famous Chinese classical works of the 20th century: the Yellow River Cantata, the Yellow River Piano Concerto, and the Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto.

Alumni news items may be sent via email to Vera Jhung (Vjhung@aol.com).

Mark Your Calendars!

The 60th Season of the Pierre Monteux School will be held from June 16 to July 27, 2003.

The opening symphony concert is scheduled for Sunday, June 22.



Help Bring The Hall Back Down To Earth!

The Board's decision to embark on this construction project is based on the twin goals of **RENOVATING** and **SAVING** the Monteux School Hall. Piecemeal repairs were no longer enough. A major renewal was required.

With the help of your generous donations, we have matched the Giroux Family Challenge Grant of \$50,000 for the past year. At the same time, additional funds are needed to meet construction costs for the Hall Renovation Project, for which the estimated total cost is \$160,000.

We ask that you consider a special gift to the Pierre Memorial Foundation to be designated for the Hall Renovation Project. Help bring the Monteux School Hall back down to earth for the summer concert season of 2003!

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Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2002

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