

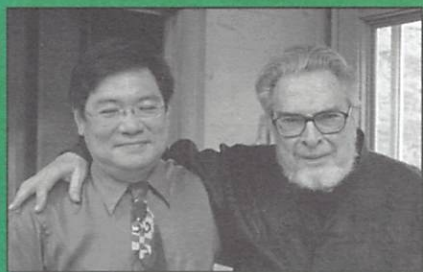
THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians

NEWSLETTER FALL 2010



Past Meets Present as Leon Fleisher Returns to Hancock



Maestros Jinbo and Fleisher, backstage following the concert.



Mr. Fleisher thanks concertmaster Kensho Watanabe following rehearsal of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 12 in A major, K.414

A little-known fact among Fleisher aficionados—and many associated with the Pierre Monteux School, as well—is the role Fleisher played in the first year of L'Ecole Monteux in Hancock (1943), as described in John Canarina's biography, *Pierre Monteux, Maître*:

"The first enrollees were just ... a small group of students. They met in the Monteuxs' summer home, a kind of large cabin on the shore of Taunton Bay. There was no orchestra to work with, 'merely' two teenage pianists named Leon Fleisher and Vera Franceschi, who played scores four-handed at a single keyboard. Leon and Vera were both from San Francisco, where they had come to Monteux's attention (pp.223-224)."



Leon Fleisher leads the Monteux School Orchestra in rehearsal.



Mr. Fleisher backstage with violists Maija Anstine (L) and Jennifer Bockstege (R)

In accepting our invitation to visit, our 2010 Artist in Residence Leon Fleisher said he was truly pleased to return "to the scene of a most powerful influence in my life." As early as the drive from the airport, Mr. Fleisher began to recall memories and re-live experiences that had great meaning to him: the church, the beautiful scenery, the names of people he would again be meeting after an absence of sixty-five years. Upon entering Hancock and learning that Pierre and Doris were laid to rest in our own Riverside Cemetery, it was the first—in fact, the only request he made for a place that he wanted to visit. For several silent and very personal moments, one great master paid homage to another.

Just a few hours after settling in at The Crocker House, Mr. Fleisher and his wife Kathy—herself an accomplished pianist—arrived at The Forest Studio for an evening

screening of the 2006 Oscar-nominated documentary film *Two Hands*, written and directed by Nathaniel Kahn. Following the film, the audience of Monteux students, donors, volunteers, and others, rose to their feet to welcome Mr. Fleisher. Astride a conductor's chair, he graciously spent the next hour answering questions and commenting on his career, his return to Hancock, the value of his time with Monteux, and the physical and emotional challenges he faced with focal dystonia.

During the next two days Mr. Fleisher rehearsed members of the Monteux School Orchestra, both at the podium and from the keyboard. He challenged and supported the musicians at every turn, and from the reactions of performers and audience alike, succeeded not only in demonstrating his own mastery, but also in helping students reach

one of their highest levels of performance all summer.

The All-Mozart Benefit Concert was a sold-out affair. In fact, some audience members from across the country, and still others who knew Mr. Fleisher, but had not seen him in some time, planned their trips to Downeast Maine to coincide with the event. The level of anticipation was palpable as 5:00 p.m. approached on July 18 and concert-goers awaited his arrival onstage to lead members of the Monteux School Orchestra—his own gift, to benefit the School. The program included: *Overture to La clemenza di Tito*, K.621; Piano Concerto No. 12 in A major, K.414; and Symphony No. 35 in D major, K.385, *Haffner*. Following the concert, the applause, and the congratulatory ovations, Mr. Fleisher graciously agreed to autograph CDs

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

and to chat with students and others who eagerly waited to meet him. The audience left with the exhilaration of having witnessed an alumnus—one of the twentieth century's great musical artists—work with our own students.

Following the concert, Mr. and Mrs. Fleisher were honored at a fundraising reception and dinner at Le Domaine Restaurant, the superb inn and culinary establishment in Hancock that played a significant role in the early life of the School. Seated at the head table with the Fleishers were Executive Director Ron Schwizer; Maestro Jinbo and his partner, Joe Klapatch; alumnus and colleague, Michael Charry and his wife, Jane; Lois Johnson and Alice Souther, known to him as the Crabtree sisters when they played *Monopoly*™ together at their dining room table during his students years in Hancock; and Jean O'Meara, a longtime friend of Pierre and Doris who last year retired as a Trustee of the School after 59 years! At the dinner, Mr. Fleisher remarked that the last few days were very emotional ones for him and that he would cherish the memories of these days for as long as he lived.

We echo Mr. Fleisher's sentiments, again offer him our deep gratitude for sharing his stories, experiences, and talent with us and our students, and sincerely hope that we may some day meet again at the Monteux School.

Application Process Goes Green

Effective with applications for the 2011 Summer Season – our 68th Year – applicants will access our application form on our web site (www.monteuxschool.org) and complete the entire application process online. We have contracted with CitizenGroove, Inc. to enable students to submit conducting and instrumental audition tracks, complete the application form, and upload all files and supporting documents to a secure server for downloading and review.

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*We apologize for
 errors or omissions.
 Call 422-3280 to report any errors.*

Congratulations to the Newlyweds!



Chris Wild (conductor/cello '09) and Eliza Brown were married at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum in Chicago on June 12, 2010. Since attending the Monteux School, Chris has been invited as a conductor for concerts of the Composition Department at Columbia College Chicago and will debut his new group, ensemble dal niente, co-founded with Eliza in the spring of 2011. Eliza is currently a doctoral student in music composition at Northwestern University. Chris continues to work as a public school orchestra director and as cellist for his ensemble. Following their marriage, Chris and Eliza went with the ensemble to the Darmstadt new music festival, where they were awarded the Kranichsteiner Stipendium Preise for their performance.

May We Announce YOUR News?

We are eager to report on the musical achievements of our former students. If you attended the Monteux School and would like for us to share your news, send your clips to us at admin@monteuxschool.org.

*We would love to
 hear from you!*

Meet Our 2010 Conductors

Conducting Associate

William C. White (viola) was pleased to return for his second year as the Monteux School's Conducting Associate, having attended the school as a conducting student during the summers of '04, '05 and '06. Mr. White recently completed a Master's degree in Orchestral Conducting at Indiana University, Bloomington, studying under David Effron and Arthur Fagen. He completed a B.A. in Music at the University of Chicago in 2005, studying Composition under Easley Blackwood.

§

Daniel Nesta Curtis (2nd year; bassoon) currently serves as the Associate Conductor of the Bleecker Street Opera, Assistant Conductor of the Amor Artis Chorale and Period Instrument Orchestra in NYC, and Principal Guest Conductor of the Key West Pops. Daniel is the assistant to David Jackson, staff conductor at the Metropolitan Opera, and Principal Bassoonist of the Brooklyn Conservatory Orchestra. Daniel graduated from Amherst College in 2008 (*summa cum laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*) and is a founding member of the Keys Community School of the Arts. Daniel began his studies this fall at the Carnegie Mellon School of Music to obtain his Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting.

Scott J. Dunn (1st year; trombone) is Director of Bands at Baldwin (NY) High School, where he directs the Wind Symphony, Chamber Winds and Jazz Ensemble. In addition to his public school duties, Scott serves as the Associate Conductor of the Long Island Youth Orchestra, and in 2012 will

become its Music Director. Scott earned his B.M. from Rutgers University and his M.M. from the Cincinnati Conservatory. In recent demand as a guest conductor and clinician, Scott has conducted various All-County and Regional Honor Bands. Twice he has been invited to direct ensembles at the Eastern U.S. Music Camp at Colgate University.

Anna Edwards (1st year; violin) is director of the Roosevelt High School Orchestra program in Seattle, WA, overseeing 100+ students enrolled in the school's Concert, Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. Under her direction, Roosevelt has become one of the top orchestra programs in the Pacific Northwest, frequently earning top honors at local, state, and national high school orchestra festivals and producing graduates who regularly gain admission to the nation's elite music conservatories and universities. Anna has been a freelance violinist in the Seattle metropolitan area for the past 18 years and is a member of the Auburn Symphony Orchestra.

Jason William Ethridge (1st year; contrabass) began his musical training in the Georgia Elementary Honors Chorus and began playing bass at age 12. Conducting training began abroad in Arezzo, Italy, while working towards his Bachelor of Music degree from Furman University. As assistant conductor to the orchestra there, he conducted Nielsen's Fourth Symphony and Saint-Saëns' *Organ Symphony*. His most recent conducting teacher is Edvard Tchivzhel of the Greenville Symphony (SC). Festivals attended include the California, South Carolina, and Bard Conductors' Institutes. Jason made his professional debut with the Carolina Pops and was quickly invited

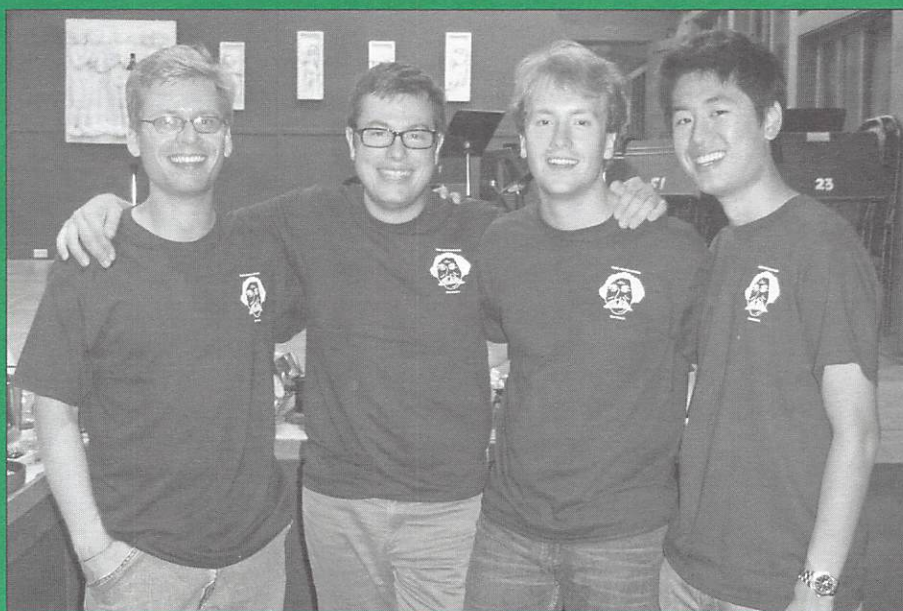
back. He began his Master's in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Maryland this fall.

Chad Heltzel (1st year; piano) is a native of Portland, OR. Mr. Heltzel completed his studies at the University of Montreal in the fall of 2009 with a D.M.A. in piano interpretation. He has performed regularly as a soloist in both the U.S. and Canada, including orchestras in Montreal, Toronto and Portland (OR). His conducting debut was with the University of Montreal's chamber orchestra in 2007, where he directed piano concertos of Bach and Mozart from the keyboard. He formally began his conducting studies in September as a graduate assistant to both the opera department at Ithaca College and the Syracuse Opera.

Matthew Kasper (1st year; violin) holds degrees in violin performance from Queens College and The Chicago College of Performing Arts, where his principal teachers were Burton Kaplan and Shmuel Ashkenasi. While in Chicago, Matthew played in the Chicago Civic Orchestra and conducted the Chicago College of Performing Arts Orchestra and Wind Ensemble. He returned to Queens College this past year to study conducting under Maurice Peress, and serves as assistant conductor of the orchestra. This past summer marked the inaugural concert of the Chicago Composers Orchestra, which he helped to start and for which he will serve as Music Director.

Anthony Kim (1st year; violin) received his B.M. and M.M. in Piano Performance from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he was a student of Charles Asche. During his graduate years, he was the Assistant Conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra and was also the Founder and Music Director of the Dead Composers Society Orchestra, a campus-based community orchestra. Anthony studied conducting with Kenneth Kiesler at the Conductors Retreat at Medomak and with Harold Farberman at The Conductors Institute at Bard. In recent years, he has performed in master classes of Julie Bees, Noel Engbreton, Leon Fleisher, and the Juilliard String Quartet.

Edward Leonard (2nd year; piano) was accepted on full scholarship to study Orchestral Conducting with Juan Pablo Izquierdo at Carnegie Mellon University, where he earned his Master's Degree and completed the Performance in Residency Program. As a conductor, he has worked extensively with Carnegie Mellon ensembles, not only conducting his own programs, but preparing them for conductors such as Sir Andrew Davis, Erich Kunzel and Thomas Baldner. Mr. Leonard has also been a frequent guest conductor in the Pittsburgh area. He conducted the Edgewood Symphony and the Butler Symphony, after winning the 2007 BCSO Young Conductors' Competition. In 2008, Mr. Leonard was asked to be the Assistant Conductor



2010 Orchestra Assistants Eddie Leonard (left), Matt Wardell (2nd from left), and Kensho Watanabe (far right), pose with Will White at the end-of-season potluck dinner in the Forest Studio

of the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh. In addition, last season he was the Principal Guest Conductor and Music Advisor for the Pittsburgh Philharmonic, where he is currently a finalist in their search for a new Music Director.

John Norine, Jr. (2nd year; cello) first attended the Monteux School in 2007. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Crane School of Music, and Master's and D.M.A. degrees in Conducting from the University of North Texas, where he studied with Anshel Brusilow (a Monteux alum from the 1940s). For the past two years, John has worked as the Music Director of Music Theatre of Denton (TX). He has also worked with the Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra, leading the senior orchestra in several performances between 2007 and 2009. In addition to conducting, John maintains an active role as an orchestrator and arranger; one of his recent larger projects was a new orchestration of Paul Kletzki's Piano Concerto, Op. 22. The work was recorded by the Russian Philharmonic Orchestra with Joseph Banowetz on the piano and was released internationally this past April by Naxos.

Stan Renard (3rd year; violin) has been a violin pupil of Veda Reynolds, Alexandre Brussilovsky, Philip Setzer, Marylou Speaker Churchill and Theodore Arm. Stan was a member of the Versailles Piano Trio and is the founder of the new Bohemian Quartet, which has just released its latest CD, *Beyond Tradition*. He founded the Opus 1 chamber orchestra, which is now in residency at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, as well as the ensemble NOVA Musica, recently in residency at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. Stan studied with Maestros Lanfranco Marcelletti, Harvey Sollberger, Jeffrey Reinshaw, Benoit Baumgartner, and Michael Jinbo.

Kyle Ritenauer (1st year; percussion) is a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy and has just completed the third year of his Bachelor's degree, studying orchestral percussion at the Manhattan School of Music. In the summer of 2009, Kyle served as principal timpanist of the Castleton Festival Orchestra, under the baton of Lorin Maazel. In the fall of 2009 Kyle spent the semester abroad studying percussion and conducting at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam with musicians from the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. Kyle's future plans involve pursuing a Master's degree in orchestral conducting.

Stefano Sarzani (1st year; piano) was born and raised in Italy and is currently a Master's student in the Orchestral Conducting Program at Indiana University, under the guidance of Maestros David Effron and Arthur Fagen. He studied Piano and Composition in Pesaro (Italy), at the Conservatorio Statale di Musica-G. Rossini, graduating in Piano in 2007 and Composition in 2009. He previously received the conducting degree of the Accademia Musicale

Pescarese, where he studied with Gilberto Serembe, and has also studied conducting with Donato Renzetti, Otto-Werner Mueller and Harold Farberman. He has worked as a vocal coach, diction coach, and piano accompanist.

Samuel Stapleton (2nd year; violin) is currently in his second season as music director of the Boston New Music Initiative. This season he will conduct works by Barber, Pärt, Schoenberg, and Stravinsky, along with many other contemporary works. He is also the associate director for the Boston String Players, for whom he is transcribing works by Ravel and Radiohead. As a violinist, Sam plays with many orchestras in and around Boston and recently appeared in recitals at the New England Conservatory, the University of Connecticut, and on Cape Cod. Sam holds master's degrees in orchestral conducting and violin performance and spent two summers on violin scholarship at the Aspen Music Festival.

Kornel Thomas (1st year; violin) was born in Pittsburgh, PA, and moved at an early age to Budapest, Hungary. He studied at the St. Stephen King Conservatory and High School in Budapest, majoring in Composition. He currently studies orchestral conducting at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Austria with Prof. Mark Stringer. In 2006, he won second prize for composition at the Béla Bartók National Composition Competition in Hungary. He has attended many exceptional conducting master classes in the U.S. and Europe and recently served as Music Director for the Modern Opera Project at the University for Music in Vienna, performing a wide range of compositions by many young composers.

Matthew Wardell (3rd year; percussion) was born in Jacksonville, FL. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Percussion Performance from the University of North Florida and a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Florida. His conducting mentors are Raymond Chobaz and Michael Jinbo, and he has additionally studied with Keith Lockhart, Thomas Cockrell, and in Salzburg, Austria with Peter Wesenauer. In July 2009, Matthew was appointed Music Director of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra. In October 2009, the Ocala Star-Banner declared: "though just 26 years old, Wardell brings an impressive resume of musical and conducting training... Maybe more important than his musical credentials is Wardell's youthful enthusiasm and unabashed zest... Wardell is not only a daring and dynamic choice as the Ocala Symphony Orchestra's new conductor, but a smart one."

Kensho Watanabe (2nd year; violin) began studying the violin at the age of two in Japan with Hachiro Hirose, and now hails from Greenwich, CT. Since moving to the U.S. in 1992, Kensho has studied at the School for Strings, as well as the Pre-College Division of the Juilliard School. A graduate of Yale University with a BS in Biology, Kensho recently graduated with an M.M. in Violin, studying with Syoko Aki of the Yale School of Music. Kensho served as Assistant Conductor of the Yale Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Berkeley College Orchestra from 2007 to 2009. He is also a staff conductor at the Greenwood Music Camp in Cummington, MA. This fall Kensho began studies in conducting at the Curtis Institute of Music under renowned pedagogue Otto-Werner Mueller.

Monteux Legacy Club

We are pleased to welcome the newest members of The Monteux Legacy Club:

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Through a planned gift, a donor can make a commitment for the future and receive a current tax benefit or other cost-saving advantages. Sometimes planned giving affords the opportunity for a donor to make a larger contribution than is possible through an outright gift. Those who make a planned gift become members of the Monteux Legacy Club, which is comprised of those individuals who have remembered the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation in their estate plans through their wills, trusts, or by other means. If you would like more information about The Monteux Legacy Club, contact Executive Director Ron Schwizer (207-422-3280; admin@monteuxschool.org), your financial advisor, or personal estate manager.

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2010 Pierre Monteux School Orchestra

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November 2010

Dear Friends the Monteux School,

Last summer, past met future. Leon Fleisher, who played piano to accompany Monteux's first conducting class, returned after a 65 year hiatus to play and to conduct an ensemble of 58 musicians—splendid young players and conductors who now carry the legacy he has gracefully advanced through a legendary career. Our deep gratitude goes to Mr. Fleisher and all those who worked to make his return such a success.

We are grateful also to another distinguished alumnus, Dayton Philharmonic Music Director Neal Gittleman, and to violist Joan King, both of whom joined in an unusually ambitious season. Our hardworking students played 7 rather than 6 concerts, at one point squeezing three full orchestral performances into 8 days.

These events were of immediate benefit to the students (and the audiences); as well, they helped ensure our future success. Maine Public Radio has offered to broadcast as many as five concerts next year. Generous grant support from The Quimby Family Foundation and the Bernard Osher Foundation was rewarded by the hard work and musical growth of scholarship recipients.

The rest of us who support the school have done well, too. We are close...close...close to our 2010 goal of \$100,000 for our Scholarship Endowment, and Annual Giving has been strong in difficult times. Please help. We are too close to our endowment goal not to succeed, and we incur ordinary operating expenses every day. Your check today will help ensure that today's students, returning to Hancock in 2076, will hear music in which Pierre Monteux's legacy lives and breathes.

Sincerely,



Bruce Mallonee
President