

# THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

*for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians*

## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2010



### 2010 Artist in Residence



Leon Fleisher returns

“to the place of a most powerful influence” in his life.

*“Suddenly I realized that the most important thing in my life wasn’t playing with my two hands; it was music.”*

-- Leon Fleisher

This is exactly the spirit Leon Fleisher brings to the podium.  
It is not about him, it is not about the orchestra,  
it is about the music.

**O**n Sunday July 18, renowned concert artist Leon Fleisher will appear as conductor and solo pianist with the Monteux School Orchestra in an All- Mozart Concert to benefit The Pierre Monteux School. Mr. Fleisher, who first came to Hancock in 1943, will be returning after an absence of almost five decades.

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* (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 was born in San Francisco in 1928. He had his piano debut at the age of eight, began studies with Artur Schnabel at nine, made his San Francisco Symphony debut at 14, and had his Carnegie Hall debut at 16 playing with the New York Philharmonic under Pierre Monteux. He won the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Piano Competition in Belgium in 1952, became one of the most sought-after soloists and recitalists in the world's finest concert halls, and began a rich series of recordings. His

landmark version of Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms concertos as well as his solo recordings of Schubert would become cult classics.

When the loss of the use of his right hand in 1965 forced a radical change in his musical life for more than 30 years, Fleisher followed two parallel careers - in teaching and conducting, which he studied with Pierre Monteux. He began conducting in 1967, founding the Theatre Chamber Players at the Kennedy Center and shortly thereafter in 1970 becoming the music director of the Annapolis Symphony. He made his New York conducting debut at the 1970 Mostly Mozart Festival and in 1973 became Associate Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony. He has appeared as guest conductor with the Cleveland Orchestra and the Symphony Orchestras of Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Montreal and Detroit, among others. He also had a regular association with the New Japan Philharmonic as its Principal Guest Conductor, leading the orchestra in a series of concerts each season, as well as with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and the Gustav Mahler Chamber Orchestra. His 2007-08 US tour conducting the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra was met with popular and critical acclaim and led to subsequent concerts and recording sessions in Germany in the summer of 2008.

Fleisher never gave up the idea of playing piano with both hands again. Experimental treatments using a regimen of rolling and ‘botulinum toxin’ (botox) injections finally restored the mobility in Fleisher's hand, and for nearly a decade he has played with both hands, winning enormous acclaim for his recital and orchestral performances.

A dinner reception will be held following the concert at Le Domaine to give patrons an opportunity to meet Mr. Fleisher and enjoy a wonderful dining experience in a truly special establishment that has had close links to the School since its founding.

Concert tickets, \$50. Concert/dinner reception package, \$150; seating is strictly limited. Use enclosed ticket order form. Checks payable to: Pierre Monteux School. Send to Benefit Concert, PO Box 457, Hancock, ME 04640-0457.

*Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, Inc.*  
*All Contributions - September 1, 2009 - MAY 15, 2010*

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(\$10,000+)

Maine Community Foundation

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<sup>e</sup> In memory of George & Vesta Putnam  
<sup>f</sup> In memory of Daphne Crocker  
<sup>g</sup> In honor of Kurt Wray  
<sup>h</sup> In memory of Erich Kunzel

*We apologize for any errors or omissions.*



Monteux Associates preparing 2010 recruitment documents for the mailing of over 5,000 pieces.

(Clockwise from lower left: Doug Kimmel, Nadine Murphy, Kurt Wray, Torj Wray, George Draper, Allan Benson, Charles Collison, Jr., Mary O'Meara)

See "Message from Monteux Associates" on outside back



Maine Community Foundation President and CEO Meredith Jones presents a check for \$25,000 to The Pierre Monteux School. They are (L to R): Ron Schwizer, Executive Director; Bruce Mallonee, Board President; and Douglas Kimmel, Co-Chair, MCF 25/25 Challenge Campaign Committee. The School is one of 19 nonprofits that successfully completed endowment challenge campaigns through the Maine Community Foundation.

## Class Notes



**Michael Griffith**  
(conductor/oboe; '79-'85) was elected President of the Conductors Guild in 2008 after serving on the Board since 1999, on

which he has also served as Secretary and Vice President. During Dr. Griffith's two-year term the Guild will host conferences in Copenhagen and San Francisco and offer workshops with the Buffalo Philharmonic and the Cabrillo Music Festival. In his 21st year as Director of Orchestra Activities at the University of Wyoming, he was named a Top Ten Teacher by the 2006 graduating class and selected to teach UW's London Semester in 2008. In 2005 he won the ASCAP/American Symphony Orchestra League Adventurous Programming Award. His guest conducting engagements have included Orquestra Petrobras Pro Musica in Rio de Janeiro, Denver's Mercury Ensemble, the Ft. Collins Symphony, Cheyenne Symphony, Opera Fort Collins, and the Colorado Music Festival (Boulder). His broadcast performances include the Nigerian Broadcasting Company, CBC, the Minnesota, Nebraska, Wyoming, and University of Illinois Public Radio stations, KUSF San Francisco, and Wyoming Public Television.



**Steven Huang**  
(conductor/cello; '97, '98) serves as Director of Orchestras at Ohio University. He

has also served as Music Director of the Bach Society Orchestra of Harvard University, where he received his undergraduate degree. He subsequently earned the Master of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Michigan, and has held the position of Music Director of the University of Chicago Chamber Orchestra, the Central Illinois Youth Symphony, the Gilbert and Sullivan Players of Chicago, and served as conductor for the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras. Mr. Huang has conducted programs with the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, the Lawrence University Wind Ensemble, and the Lake Shore Symphony; led the New Symphony Orchestra of Bulgaria, the Attergau Kultursommer

Orchestra in Austria, the Jeunesses Musicales Festival Orchestra in Romania, and L'Orchestre Philharmonique de Sainte Trinité, Haiti, where he volunteers to teach young Haitian musicians. In addition to his studies with Michael Jinbo, Mr. Huang studied conducting with Kenneth Kiesler, Gustav Meier, and Leonard Slatkin. Huang received a Fulbright Fellowship for study at the National University of Music in Bucharest, where he received an Artist's Diploma, and twice received the Herbert von Karajan Fellowship for Young Conductors for study at the Salzburg Festival.



**Ming Luke**  
(conductor/piano; '02-'07) is the Associate Conductor and Education Director for the Berkeley Symphony, the

Chorus Master for the Sacramento Opera, Music Director of the Modesto Symphony Youth Orchestra, Associate Conductor of the Modesto Symphony, and the General Director and Conductor of the Napa Valley Youth Symphony. He is also on faculty with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival and is a frequent guest conductor and accompanist. As a performer, Luke has soloed on piano with the Pittsburgh Symphony and the Sacramento Philharmonic, and has performed as a tenor chorister with the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, and Pittsburgh Symphony. Prior to his appointments in Northern California, he was a staff conductor for the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh and helped prepare the choir for such conductors as Charles Dutoit, André Previn, Mariss Jansons, Michael Stern and Lucas Richman. He has also served as a panelist for the National Endowment of the Arts.



**Dwight Oltman**  
(conductor/trombone; '63) serves as Professor of Conducting and Director of the Bach Festival,

Symphony Orchestra, and Symphonic Wind Ensemble at the Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music. He is also Music Director and Principal Conductor of Ballet San Jose. Founding Music Director of the Ohio Chamber Orchestra, a position he held for twenty years,

Oltman collaborated with Leonard Rose, Oscar Shumsky, Josef Gingold, Jaime Laredo, Grant Johannesen, Anton Kuerti, and many other eminent artists. As Music Director and Principal Conductor of Cleveland Ballet, he conducted at the Edinburgh Festival, working with Rudolf Nureyev, Agnes de Mille, and many others. His other international conducting engagements include orchestras in Rome, Russia, Bulgaria, Canada, and China. A partial listing of orchestras Maestro Oltman has led in the U.S. include the San Jose and Denver Symphony Orchestras, the Evansville Philharmonic, the Canton Symphony Orchestra, the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, and the Michigan Opera Theater Orchestra. As a leading Bach conductor, Mr. Oltman has performed most of the orchestral works of J.S. Bach, dozens of cantatas, and multiple performances of Bach's four large choral works.



**James M. Orent**  
(conductor/violin; '76, '77) graduated Magna Cum Laude from Amherst College and studied conducting with Charles Bruck and at Yale

and Tanglewood with Otto Werner Mueller. His violin teachers were Philipp Naegle (Marlboro Music) and Stanley Benson of the BSO. Maestro Orent's 1790 Helmer violin belonged to Arthur Fiedler's father, Emmanuel. He has served as Music Director of the Erie Ballet, Holyoke Orchestra, Amherst Contemporary Music Ensemble, and has conducted the numerous orchestras and ensembles, including the Boston Festival Pops, Hartford Ballet, Leonard Bernstein Festival, the Pro Arte and Newbury Chamber Orchestras, and the Newton, Indian Hill and Melrose Symphonies. In his 22nd season as a Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra first violinist, he also substitutes with the Boston Symphony and is concertmaster of the Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra. Mr. Orent has conducted the Boston Pops on fifty occasions at venues including Symphony Hall, Ravinia, Wolf Trap and Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco and has coordinated telecasts for such luminaries as Yo Yo Ma, Peter Jennings, and Sen. John Kerry. Maestro Orent was appointed Music Director of the Brockton (MA) Symphony Orchestra

in 2007 and became Music Director of the Newton (MA) Symphony Orchestra and the Phillips Andover Academy Symphony and Chamber Orchestras in 2008. Maestro Orent also serves as Principal Conductor of The Boston Conservatory Repertory Orchestra and, as President of Windvoyager Enterprises, Inc., Mr. Orent lectures to musicians, pilots, skydivers and public speakers on Performance Anxiety/Performance Enhancement through his Fearless Living Seminars.



**Scott Jackson Wiley** (conductor/horn, guitar; '89-'91) has held the position of Music Director of the South Shore Symphony of Rockville Centre in

Long Island for twelve seasons. He is also Principal Conductor of Brooklyn's long-established Regina Opera and Principal Guest Conductor of both Manhattan's Centre Symphony and the Staten Island Philharmonic. Mr. Wiley began his career in music as a classical guitarist with a degree and first prize awards from the Conservatory of Barcelona, later studying under the great Spanish guitarist, Narciso Yepes. After turning to conducting, he earned a Masters Degree in Orchestral Conducting at the Mannes College of Music, studying under Maestro Michael Charry, and continuing his training for four summers at the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors under Maestro Charles Bruck. [At the Monteux School, Mr. Wiley played French horn in the orchestra and performed as soloist in Rodrigo's "Fantasia para un Gentilhombre" and Maurice Ohana's "Tres Graficos" for guitar and orchestra, the latter a work premiered by Narciso Yepes under the direction of Maestro Bruck.] Mr. Wiley is a specialist in Romance languages and has conducted well over fifty opera productions. He is a faculty member of the Preparatory Division of the Mannes College of Music, where he teaches conducting, ear-training and theory. Many of his conducting students have gone on to pursue conducting at major conservatories and colleges. Mr. Wiley's many years in Spain have given him an enduring interest in the music and culture of that country and he is music director and guitarist for Caprichos Boleros, a company specializing in Spanish Classical Dance.



## Pierre Monteux School

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### 2010 Season

June 20 - July 25

#### Symphonic Concerts

Sundays - June 20, 27; July 4,  
July 11 (Memorial Concert),  
July 25 (Pops) 5:00 p.m. and  
Wednesday, July 7 at 7:30 p.m.

#### Chamber Concerts

Wednesdays - June 23, 30;  
July 14, 21 at 7:30 p.m.

#### Leon Fleisher, Artist in Residence

Sunday, July 18 at 5:00 p.m.

*2010 Ticket Information Enclosed*

## *A Message from the Monteux Associates*

The Monteux Associates are looking forward to the exciting 2010 Monteux School Season. An emerging organization, this group of volunteers ended 2009 with a clear vision of contributions we can make to this special community of orchestra and conducting students.

Our mission of providing community support to the students in order to enrich their campus and off campus experience received great support from many of the students last year. Their feedback expressed appreciation for the volunteers' efforts to make the accommodations more comfortable, their chores less burdensome, and invitations from families more frequent—thus making them feel more a part of the local community. Little acts of kindness and assistance can, and did, produce a positive difference not only for the students but for the volunteers as well.

For this, our second full year of

operation, we have outlined activities that especially help students feel comfortable with their surroundings and fellow students by the end of their first week on campus. Our plan includes opening, cleaning, and stocking the cabins and other student buildings; maintaining the gardens; providing transportation to the school from the airport and bus terminals; providing students with a welcome packet and resource guide for the school and the area; hosting a potluck supper for all the students on their first full day together at the school prior to their first on-stage rehearsal (Monday, June 14 at 5:00 PM); hosting "first week" suppers in homes for a small orchestra section (or subsection); encouraging other meals and/or gatherings for small groups of students hosted in private homes; facilitating student outings; helping students connect with churches or other places of interest; and locating local families who would be willing to provide

overnight lodging for a student's parents when they attend one of the concerts.

As you can see, our hopes are high and our goals ambitious. To provide the students with this level of support will require many dedicated volunteers. If new volunteers would be willing to volunteer for just one event, it would be extremely helpful and meaningful to the overall program for the students. So, whether it's bringing one dish to the potluck, donating a used bicycle, or hosting one event at your home, we encourage you to join in. You and the students will be enriched.

If you are interested in joining in any of these activities or being kept informed of our activities, please contact us.

Allan Benson and Nancy Hill,  
[ben-hill@ecentral.com](mailto:ben-hill@ecentral.com)  
(tel. 207-963-2623)

George and Charlotte Draper,  
[cgdraper@roadrunner.com](mailto:cgdraper@roadrunner.com)  
(tel. 207-422-3130)

*See photo of Monteux Associates on Page 2*

# LEON FLEISHER

All-Mozart Concert to benefit The Pierre Monteux School



Photo credit: Joann Savio

**Sunday, July 18**

**5:00 pm**

**Forest Studio**

Pierre Monteux School,  
Old Track Rd, Hancock  
(across from village monument)

2010 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

**Leon Fleisher, Conductor and Piano Soloist  
with the Monteux School Orchestra**

**PROGRAM:**

Overture to *La clemenza di Tito*, K. 621

Piano Concerto No. 12 in A major, K.414

Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K.546

Symphony No. 35 in D major, K.385, *Haffner*

Tickets \$50.

Call 422-3280 or visit [www.monteuxschool.org](http://www.monteuxschool.org).



The  
**PIERRE  
MONTEUX  
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for Conductors and  
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**MICHAEL JINBO** Music Director

1943                      **67<sup>th</sup> Season**                      2010

**SYMPHONY CONCERTS**

Adults \$18    Students \$5

**Sundays at 5:00 p.m.** - June 20, 27; July 4, 11, 25

**Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.** - July 7

**CHAMBER CONCERTS**

Adults \$12    Students \$5

**Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.** - June 23, 30; July 14, 21

**ALL-MOZART CONCERT**

**Leon Fleisher**

conductor & piano soloist

**Sunday, July 18 at 5:00 p.m.**

Advance Sale Tickets by Mail \$50

(Benefit Concert, Pierre Monteux School, PO Box 457, Hancock, ME 04640)

**The Forest Studio**

**Pierre Monteux School, US 1, Hancock**

For Season Tickets and Information: 207-422-3280

[www.monteuxschool.org](http://www.monteuxschool.org)