

THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians



NEWSLETTER FALL 2005

With Love and Gratitude to Nancie

All of us who love the Monteux School owe an enormous debt of gratitude to Nancie Monteux-Barendse. Since the death of her mother, Doris Monteux, in 1984, Nancie has been the heart and soul of the school and of the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, which oversees the school and its activities.

Until this past August, Nancie served as both president of the foundation's board of trustees and as administrator of the school. With her extraordinary charm, her saucy wit, and her huge heart, she presided over the growth of this unique school from a small, basically kitchen-table operation into a well-run, enthusiastically-supported organization that is in the midst of an ambitious capital campaign designed to make the school financially secure well into the future.

Nancie has also been a guide and mentor for a generation of students, both conductors and orchestra musicians. She has welcomed them into her home, encouraged them, kept up with many of them, and left them with no doubt about her unwavering support, her admiration for their abilities and their hard work, and her gratitude to them for carrying on the traditions of the school that has meant so much to her.

Nancie's anecdotes about the years she spent with Maestro Monteux – her beloved Chummy – have delighted everyone fortunate enough to hear them, and have brought one of the greatest musicians of the 20th century to life again each time she has reminisced.

In August, Nancie decided to resign as both president of the foundation and administrator of the school. She thought it



Genia Davis Wexler was elected President of the Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation at the annual meeting in August. Ms. Wexler has a long history with the School as she was one of the original students. As the daughter of bandleader Meyer Davis, she grew up in a home filled with music. Her mother, Hilda, was a sister to Nancie's mother Doris, who was her voice teacher. After studying voice in Europe, Genia performed often with Monteux in concerts and opera. She also performed with Monteux in numerous cities throughout this country and also with the Belgian Opera, The BBC Symphony and the London Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Wexler brings commitment, passion, and the knowledge necessary to bring long term success to the School.

was time to hand the reins over to someone else. Her cousin, Genia Davis Wexler, who studied music with Monteux as a singer and was closely involved with the school in its earliest days, has been elected president. The future administration of the school itself is under discussion by the board.

No words are adequate to express our

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Claude Monteux, who has been a sterling musical and personal presence for so long, has retired from the board and been named trustee emeritus. He will continue his invaluable supervision of the school's chamber music program.

New Trustees

Philip R. Standel, a native of Boston, MA has lived in Maine since 1965 and in Lamoine for the past 22 years. Phil and his wife Nancy have been attending the Monteux School summer concerts for the past 15 years. The Standels enjoy attending the concerts and have been pleasantly surprised at the high level of ensemble playing and quality of musical performance available in Hancock. Phil's primary avocation and personal activities revolve around music. He studied music as a young man, but only worked as a musician for a short time. Phil is a retired business consultant and executive.

Phil brings essential aspects of business knowledge and executive experience to the Monteux Board.

Steve Crabtree was raised in a musical family in Needham, MA and spent summers on Hancock Point. In 1958 he was invited to augment a depleted brass section under the tutelage of Pierre Monteux. "Too young to understand the enormity of the experience and too naïve to understand how over my head I was, my love of classical music was rooted on the Domaine Forest Stage during those rehearsals." Steve and his wife Marcia served as a volunteer Peace Corps couple teaching school in Ethiopia, followed by Citibank assignments in Liberia, Beirut, Calcutta, Lahore, Karachi, Dubai, San Juan, Geneva and London. They retired to their home in Hancock two years ago and Steve is looking forward to getting involved as a trustee and lending his vast business experience to the Monteux Board.

Kurt Wray received his BA in Chemistry from Alfred University and his PhD in Physical Chemistry from Brown University in 1955. He has thirty years of science research, college teaching and management experience and co-founded Physical Sciences, Inc in Andover, MA in 1973. Kurt also co-founded Gull Rock Pottery in Hancock Maine in 1980. Kurt has had a lifelong interest in science and art, and a lifelong love of music, particularly classical music, "but alas a complete lack of talent, although I come from a family with musical abilities." Kurt feels strongly that as with science and art, music must be communicated to the public. "The Monteux School is a wonderful asset to this community and I am honored to be asked to serve as a trustee."



Where to Rehearse?

For instrumentalists who live off campus, this is not such a problem. You just sit on the porch, and your neighbors hear the sounds of your cello or trombone drifting through the woods! But for those on campus (or perhaps with immediate neighbors), the Hall is always booked solid, and the walls of the bedrooms in the Barn or Cabins are pretty thin.

Now we have a solution to this problem. Phil Devenish has recently hired three of Dexter Bellows' carpenters, and they have built a new Rehearsal Studio in the woods between the Hall and the Cabins. It will house the small grand piano donated to the School last year by Ginia Davis Wexler and is large enough for a string or piano quartet, or even a woodwind octet.

Phil and his wife, Phoebe, have given the new Rehearsal Studio to the School in honor of Phil's mother, Eva, who has attended concerts at the Monteux School for many years. Now we can look forward to hearing chamber music drifting through the woods on campus for many years to come.

Memorable Summer at the Monteux School

by Michael Sakir ('04, '05)

For the past two summers, I have had the privilege of studying conducting at the Pierre Monteux School. This program, with its long and enduring reputation for excellence, has been the foremost influence on my life as a conductor. No other workshop or festival in which I've participated has compared to my experiences in Maine.

The excellence of the Monteux School lies, in part, to the brilliant teaching of Maestro Michael Jinbo. With the perfect combination of passion, wisdom, and cleverness, he inspires his students –

conductors and instrumentalists alike – to not only become better musicians, but better human beings.

The vast amount of repertoire that is covered each summer is another great feature about the Monteux School. While 60 works in six weeks may at first seem a little intimidating, it has given me a profound sense of perspective on orchestral literature. In addition, it offers a unique and exciting opportunity for instrumentalists who just want to read through a lot of great repertoire.

One of my favorite parts about the School is the people. I've made some memorable friendships during my summers in Maine. I know that I'll stay in touch with many of these individuals – personally and professionally.

In short, my experiences at the Pierre Monteux School have been life-changing. I am grateful for the skills I have learned and the people I have met.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2006 Monteux School Season

June 19 – July 31, 2006

First symphony concert – Sunday, June 25

With Love and Gratitude to Nancie

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gratitude to Nancie for her many years of service, our admiration for all that she has accomplished, and the love we have for her – guiding light, inspiration to us all, and one of the most gracious ladies ever born. Though she is irreplaceable, we dedicate ourselves to working as hard as we can to carry on with the work she is now leaving behind.

“Spellbinding.”
“Deeply Moving.”
“Brilliant.”

David Katz's one-man play
about his studies with Charles Bruck
at the Monteux School



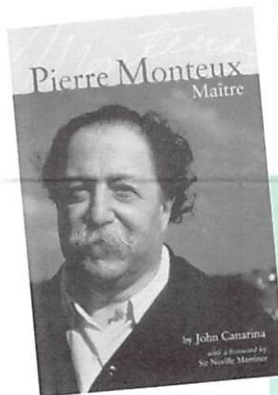
MUSE of FIRE

directed by Tony Award-winning actor and acclaimed Broadway director
Charles Nelson Reilly (*The Belle of Amherst*, *The Gin Game*).

Hailed by audiences and critics at its premiere in Maine this summer, and
praised by such Monteux alumni as Gordon Peters, Michael Charry
and John Canarina.



To learn about the off-Broadway
engagement in 2006, the dates
of performances in Chicago and
Los Angeles, or to arrange a
fundraising performance for your
organization, please email
HatCityMusic@aol.com or call
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Donors who give at the
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autographed by
Nancie Monteux-Barendse.

The Pierre Monteux School is supported in part by the



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We apologize for any errors or omissions in the list above.

THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL
for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians

Sponsored by
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THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

FOR CONDUCTORS AND ORCHESTRA MUSICIANS

Sponsored by The Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation, Inc.

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Music Director

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Dear Friends of our school:

How does it feel to become president of an institution which is 62 years old? First of all it's an honor to have been elected to carry on after my aunt Doris and my lifelong friend and cousin, Nancie Monteux Barendse. And to assist in the work of my beloved uncle Pierre with whom I had the joy and privilege of singing numerous times.

I want to see his work continue in the school he started, training young conductors and orchestra musicians in the whole orchestra repertoire. In six packed weeks in the summer the orchestra reads through an enormous amount of music. The conductors get a chance to conduct much repertoire. At the same time, they are part of the orchestra because that's the tradition here.

And the public benefits their being able to hear our weekly concerts in our lovely improved Forest Studio. I must mention the delightful chamber music concerts on Wednesday nights organized by the students. There you will hear unusual repertoire you may never hear anywhere else!

We count on our friends to keep the school going. Every year we await many scholarships, we pay for housing for our students, we keep our facilities in good condition, and of course we pay our Maestro and Teacher, Michael Jinbo as well as meeting other administrative expenses.

Our endowment campaign, wholly apart from our regular operating expense, is under way, and we hope will ensure the continuation of the school for many more years. Please let us hear from you, and do come to a concert if you possibly can!

Sincerely,



Ginia Davis Wexler