

January 2013

MUSIC NOW

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Vacancies: SCL Secretary and Treasurer

It has been an honor to have been a part of SCLs board. As I close my two years as president, I look forward to the continuation of our tradition of board members moving from secretary to vice president to president. At our next Forum, March 1-2, Jonathan McNair will become our new president and Michael Young will become our new vice-president.

That means we have a VACANCY for SECRETARY! Please give some thought to this and consider nominating yourself or someone you know. There are advantages such as a promotion to vice-president after two years, increased name recognition, administrative experience, executive position to list on your CV in your quest for tenure, and, of course, a high position in a prestigious organization. More important than that, however, is your contribution to helping keep going one of America's oldest composer organizations with some of the finest people I've had the lucky opportunity to know. Please email me with your nominations at ken@kendavies.net.

A VACANCY for TREASURER is also available. Having served us admirably, Mark Francis is resigning as treasurer and we are seeking a member to take over. This is an ongoing board position. If you're relatively settled in one place and are comfortable with money and membership tallies, please nominate yourself or another. Email me at ken@kendavies.net.

See you at Morehead State University March 1-2. Many thanks to Chia-Ling Hsieh arranging hosting and her many other efforts.

Happy Scribbling,

Ken Davies



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SCL Forum

Piano Residency and Southeastern Composers League Forum Schedule

Friday March 1st Concert 1 11:30

Price, William Grant Us Peace

Wray, Ron Last Shadow of the Day

Benoit, Kenneth Mosaics

Puckett, Jim Danse de Cirque Custer, Seth Touch and Go

Ball, Leonard One Saturday in June

Davies, Ken Crossroads

Friday March 1st Concert 2 3:00

Mitchell, David The Branch will not break Cohen, Alfred Playing with Matches

Vaughan, Jeremy Rapsodie Vogel, Roger Declaration

Nash, Gary Hot Buttered Omelette

Vosbein, Terry Paris Sonata

Alexander, Joe Minor Thoughts tuba Lee, Mark Music 1 for a Gallery

Friday March 1st Concert 3 8:00

Brian Bevelander Synthecisms No. 5
Brian Bevelander Synthecisms No. 2
Brian Bevelander Songs of Evocation
Willis, Mickie Lost Variations

Anuchin, Artem Dance of Planets: Mercury

Young, Michael Toccata

Saturday March 2nd Concert 1 1:00

McNair, Jonathan A Map of Memory

Kasparov, Andrey Fantasy on Luth. Chorales

Stokes, Harvey DIVA Suite
Kallstrom, Michael improv 9-25-11
Brookshire, Cody Glass, darkly

Puckett, Jim In the Garden: Spring

Saturday March 2nd Concert 2 4:00

Blair, Connor Delphine's Dance McCall, Lauren Shake the Earth

Kanasevich, Gleb Variation Derivative Expl.

Francis, Mark A Tale & Petals

MacLean, John Sonata for horn and piano Riccio, Gabriel From Separation to Unity

Power, Richard Aria

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SCL Forum Hotel Information

SCL Forum 2013 Hotel Info, Morehead, Kentucky

Holiday Inn (3.7 miles from MSU) \$89 + tax (special rate) 110 Toms Drive Morehead (606) 784-5796

Hampton Inn (3.7 miles from MSU) \$109+tax 500 Hampton Way Morehead, KY 40351 (606) 780-0601?

Other hotels in the area Quality Inn (3.7 miles from MSU) 175 Toms Road Morehead, KY 40351 (606) 784-2220

Comfort Inn and Suites (9 miles from MSU at I-64 E Exit 133) 2650 KY 801 North
Morehead, KY 40351
(606) 780-7378

CAMPUS MAP INFORMATION:

http://www.moreheadstate.edu/campusmap/

Notice from Treasurer

SCL Dues for 2012

This is a last call for 2012 dues. Without the support of its membership, the Southeastern Composers League can't exist. It's been around for almost 65 years. SCL depends on your support.

Please pay your dues at the Forum or at our website online through Paypal. go to the SCL website: www.SoutheasternComposersLeague.org

If you are mailing your dues, please wait until a new treasurer is elected.

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Ken Davies

OK, I Got My Composer's Degree. Now What?

Ken Davies

The above is the title of a master class I gave for the composition students of Dr. Andrew Sauerwein at Belhaven University in Jackson, MS late last November. It was a fun-filled, fast paced, two-hour evening survey of many of those composer-related business topics most teachers don't have time (and sometimes knowledge) to cover in their classes. As I explained to them, years ago when I was just out of college and trying to figure out how to get paid to write music, I wished someone had given me a pamphlet or handout telling me what I yet needed to learn about, so that evening I would give them such a handout.

Where did I get my initial information? Well, I got lucky. I was in Miami, FL looking for food and opportunity in the early 1970s when two of my acquaintances said "let's start a publishing company." That's the short introduction. It turned out that one of the friends knew Dr. Alfred Reed who was teaching the nation's first music business course at the University of Miami. Dr. Reed had been a chief editor at Hansen Publications, Inc. and had been a successful composer and arranger since his early days in New York City. Dr. Reed agreed to take, instead of a fee, stock in the publishing corporation he would help us set up. As we three young stumblers floundered without money or connections, we eventually went our separate ways. While I kept trying to work through songwriting, contract making, speculative record productions, and occasional commercial productions with records and TV, Dr. Reed remained a mentor, encouraging and advising. It wasn't hard to "get published." But getting anything out of the publisher's file cabinet was sometimes another matter. Some self-publishing made sense.

So what did our young composers get from my handout and two hours of presentation? Perhaps they got saturated. My handout began with: "Composers' beginning knowledge issues about how to get played, performed, recognized, paid, promoted, exploited, enriched, cheated, made famous, made notorious, or all of the above." I divided my presentation into basically three parts: 1) Money for Music, Income & Sales of Your Services and Products, 2) Commerce and Promotion of Music and the Arts, and 3) Government Influence—Arts, Culture, Subsidies, Politics, Economics and Grants.

Under 1) Money for Music, we discussed income sources for writing music from concert commissions to broadcast royalties to video games to wealthy spouses. Some of the students first heard the term "entrepreneur" here and learned that such individual freelance business managing would be their lots unless they found classified ads reading "composer wanted." Some reading of Business Law 101 and Economics 101 texts could enlighten them concerning basic understandings of legal aspects of business

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dealings and money systems as they exist beyond the bi-weekly day job paycheck.

In 2) Commerce and Promotion, we discussed legal protections of intellectual property like copyrights and patents, the right kinds of lawyers if ever needed, business structures like sole proprietorships and joint ventures, taxes and appropriate business deductions (for the CD and computer software purchases), the forms used for income taxes and ways of promoting and marketing your work. We covered publishing and its multiple aspects such as mechanical licensing, derivative copyrights, royalty amounts, poem and text permissions and procedures for keeping good records of your music's activities. Along with these were introductions to composer organizations like ASCAP, BMI, Songwriters Guild of America, Southeastern Composers' League and American Composers' Forum.

3) Government Influences gave students an awareness of how different nations handle arts funding. They learned a little about how the United States' National Endowment for the Arts and the 50 state arts agencies work to provide funding to symphonies, arts organizations and sometimes composers across the nation. They saw how America's government funded arts budget of \$147 million compares with the National Science Foundation's \$7+ billion government funded budget. Thus they learned that government funding in America covers a lot of areas unequally in addition to the free enterprise we're all aware of. And some organizations are our friends like Americans For The Arts who lobby congress for the purpose of improving the economic climate for the arts and artists. That includes composers.

Along with these, I suggested books, articles and websites that provide broader and deeper knowledge.

SCL member Ken Davies lives in Gautier, MS. His awards include ASCAP awards and the Mississippi Arts Commission's Artist Fellowship in Composition for 2012-2013. His website

is www.kendavies.net. He can be contacted at ken@kendavies.net.

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Terry Vosbein



Kenyon Wilson



Jonathan McNair

Member Notes:

Terry Vosbein released "Stradivarius Christmas," a compact disc of traditional Christmas songs arranged for violin and piano, performed by Jasper Wood and David Riley. The New Jersey Star-Ledger said "Terry Vosbein's settings fancifully spin romantic riffs and jazz forms out of carols and medleys in a way that keeps the listener guessing."

His transcription of The Rite of Spring for wind ensemble was published last fall in time for the centennial of its riotous premiere, by Neal A. Kjos Music Company.

He is currently spending the year on the road, composing as he goes, a commission from Charleston Chamber Music occupying most of his time.

Kenyon Wilson's *Fearful Symmetry* will be performed by the Armed Forces Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble on Friday, February 1, 2013 as part of the 30th Annual U.S. Army Band Tuba-Euphonium Conference. The Armed Forces Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble includes members from all four U.S. military branches plus guests from military musicians throughout the world.

Kenyon's *Antepenultimate Tango* was commissioned by the 2013 Southeast Regional Tuba/Euphonium Conference (SERTEC) to serve as the quartet competition piece, and Tennessee Tech University commissioned *Solace *for wind ensemble to be premiered on February 15 as part of the 50th Annual Festival of Winds and Percussion.

Jonathan McNair had three works premiered in September and October, 2012: "A Map of Memory" for tenor saxophone and piano (Sept. 13), "Dance!" for oboe, violin, cello, and piano (Oct. 7), and "Like a Breath in a Bubble, Spinning," for tenor voice and mixed percussion (Oct. 7 and Oct. 9).

McNair hosted The Alexander-Soares Duo at UT Chattanooga on Jan. 23-25, when they performed a recital including his work "Digressions" for violin and piano, along with music by Liduino Pitombeira, Debussy, and Szymanowski. He also presented a "60 x 60" music and video event on Jan. 28.

McNair's recent work "The Gathering" for flute/alto flute, oboe, and clarinet/bass clarinet, will be performed at the SCI National Conference on Feb. 15.

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Fred Cohen



Bruce Mahin



Joe L. Alexander

Member News

Fred Cohen's new work for solo trombone--doubling bass and alto--and trombone ensemble, *Laps and Llaha*, was premiered in November 2012 at the Schwob School of Music, featuring bass trombonist Charlie Vernon of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. A recording will appear on the Summit label in time for this summer's International Trombone Festival in Columbus, GA. His new film score, commissioned by the Columbus Museum of Art for daily showing in the museum's Chatahoochee Valley history area theater, receives its unveiling in February, 2013, at the Columbus Museum.

Bruce Mahin has been awarded a residency at the Cité des Arts in Paris during the spring semester where he has been writing a new set of piano preludes. London-based pianist Martin Jones will perform the premiere of four of these works there on February 19. He will record the complete set of 12 this summer for eventual release on CD. Mahin's recordings performed by the Glasgow-based Scottish Voices set to texts by poet Robert Penn Warren will be released on the Parma Ravello label later this spring. This recording also features works composed by Graham Hair. Mahin also released an iBook on the Apple iTunes book store titled "I Love Music" in November 2012 which has been used successfully over the past two years as a text for courses in music appreciation. A free preview of this text is available at the iTunes store by conducting an author name or book title search.

The Louisiana Music Teachers Association has selected Joe L. Alexander as it's 2012 commissioned composer. He create Scenes from Heinrich Heine's North Sea Pictures, a sextet for soprano, guitar, violin, clarinet, trumpet and vibraphone. Fellow Louisiana Tech University faculty members premiered the piece at the Louisiana Music Teachers Association's meeting held at the University of Louisiana at Monroe on October 19, 2012. The piece consists of 5 movements, with the 2nd and 4th movements being the songs Fragen and the Phoenix.

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Kenneth R. Benoit

About SCL

Music Now Editor: Paul Schreiber paul@psmus.com

Member News

Kenneth R. Benoit's "Meditation" for handbell choir was performed on October 28, 2012 by the Handbell Choir of First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood (FL), Dr. Robert Remek, director.

The Southeastern Composers League

Founded in 1950, the Southeastern Composers' League is an organization comprised of serious classical modern new scored and electronic art music composers and scholars located throughout the southeastern United States. It is one of the oldest organizations of its kind in America. Many of our members fill distinguished faculty positions throughout the universities and educational institutions in the southeastern states (AL, AR, DE, DC, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV). Membership is for, but is not necessarily limited to, these states and Washington DC. Membership options include Composer, Associate and Student Memberships. Any SCL member can assist you in answering questions or in recommending you for a membership. If you are unfamiliar with the organization and would like information, contact one of the Current Officers (below) with your comments and questions. To obtain an application, click the membernew application under Site Navigation. Look for us on the Web:

http://www.southeasterncomposersleague.org or Facebook – search for "Southeastern Composers League"

Current Officers:

President: Ken Davies - ken@kendavies.net

Vice President: Jonathan McNair - Jonathan-McNair@utc.edu

Secretary: Michael Young - tamiliana@gmail.com Treasurer: Mark Francis - marklfrancis@hotmail.com