

NORTHERN ITALIAN MEDLEY—MAY 2015

Dr. Tudor is finalizing the plans for a Music Department tour of Italy in **May 19 – 28, 2015**. Unlike previous years, this tour includes artist residency in the **Alba Music Festival**, a week-long international music festival that takes place in May. World-renowned artists and ensembles join to present between twenty and twenty-five orchestral, chamber, and solo concerts throughout the city and surrounding region.

The picturesque town of Alba, with a population of 30,000, is nestled in the foothills of the Alps in the Piemonte region in the northwest of Italy. A 12th century town with 21st century amenities, Alba is conveniently located in the geographic center of a triangle whose points are Turin, Milan, and Genoa. Famous for its 290 wineries and thriving white truffle industry, Alba is also the world headquarters of Ferrero Chocolates. It is in a region of Italy that Italians

regard as a prime destination for the best in food and wine.

The Alba residency, however, will be only for four days of the ten-day sojourn that will include overnight stays and tours of Milan, Torino, Pisa, Cremona, Cinque Terre and Rome. Highlights of the trip include daily guided tours and flexibility to participate in the Alba Music festival as artists or—for music supporters and enthusiasts—as patrons. Two days in Rome will include touring the Piazza Navona area—built on the foundation of Domitian’s Stadium (Circus Agonalis)—the ruins of the Roman Empire, and gathering in St. Peter’s square to attend the weekly Papal audience with the Pope. There will be myriad cultural opportunities, and the Music Department invites alumni, current students and Friends of Music to participate in this unique experience. There is something for everyone in this trip.



Students, parents, faculty, alumni, Friends of Music, community members and music supporters are invited to attend an informational meeting on **Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 7:00 PM** in the **W. H. Shipley Recital Hall**. A representative from Worldstrides International Tour Programs will be present to provide details and answer questions, and an information packet to assist with your planning will be provided at this meeting.

For more information, contact Dr. Tudor at rtudor@shepherd.edu.

BACHELOR OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE

The Music Department at Shepherd University is proud to announce that it now offers a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance (Instrumental, Piano, and Voice). The Bachelor of Music degree (B.M.) in Performance provides a professional baccalaureate experience in applied music, providing appropriate opportunities and accessibility for talented students whose intent is to pursue a career

as a music performer. This pre-professional program will enhance the quality of musical performance and instruction throughout the region, as well as Shepherd University’s reputation as a regional center of cultural excellence.

A goal of the program within the B.M. in Performance is to provide and inspire student growth in

professional, artistic and creative terms by providing a climate conducive to the development of comprehensive musicianship. Graduate programs in music often require remedial work for students who do not have the Bachelor of Music as part of the undergraduate experience. Because of the limited offering of the Bachelor of Music

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Bachelor of Music, continued

performance degree in West Virginia, this puts West Virginia students at a distinct disadvantage when applying to graduate programs in performance. By allowing Shepherd to offer a Bachelor of Music degree, students will have the best opportunity for successful matriculation to graduate study.

Completion of the Bachelor of Music degree will provide performers and teachers with opportunities to extend and develop their musical, academic, intellectual and career prospects. The improved quality of music education and performance benefits school districts and the entire region by producing performers and educators with enhanced skills, creativity and vision.

It has been a long-term goal of the Department of Music to offer this degree. Having heard about the quality of the program at Shepherd, students have been choosing Shepherd as part of that peer group of select schools that offer a Bachelor of Music degree in performance. Students currently choose the Shepherd program based on cost, preference of instructor, but not necessarily the degree program offered. Students, who do not matriculate to Shepherd, frequently choose another institution that offers the professional (B. M.) degree in Performance.

As Shepherd's current students make the decision to attend graduate school, having the appropriate undergraduate degree is crucial

in demonstrating the quality and professionalism of Shepherd and West Virginia's programs.

Department of Music Chair Dr. Rob Tudor recently shared, "It is an honor to stand with my colleagues in front of potential students, parents, colleagues, and music supporters and say that we now offer a challenging, professional performance degree, honoring our tradition of excellence, at a competitive price within an intimate, public liberal arts setting." Shepherd received approval from the National Association of Schools of Music, and is in the process of obtaining the final step of approval at the state level. We look forward to admitting our first class of professional performance-level freshmen in the fall of 2014.

AVENUE Q — JUST LIKE YOUR LIFE, ONLY FUNNIER

Shepherd University Music presented the Broadway hit musical *Avenue Q* on **Friday, February 7** and **Saturday, February 8, Sunday, February 9, Friday, February 14** and **Saturday, February 15** in the Frank Center Theater.

Winner of the Tony Awards "Triple Crown" for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book, *Avenue Q* is a laugh-out-loud musical, an "autobiographical and biographical" coming-of-age parable, addressing

and satirizing the issues and anxieties associated with entering adulthood. Although the musical is notable for the use of puppets, animated by unconcealed puppeteers, alongside human actors, the show is for mature audiences, ages 18 and older.

Conceived by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx, who wrote the music and lyrics. Shepherd's production of *Avenue Q* was directed by **Rob Tudor**, with musical direction by **Barbara Irvine**. Kudos to the talented cast of

Shepherd students who made the show come alive: **Eduardo Rivera, Arielle Pizaña, Yanira Diaz, Shannen Banzhoff, Jordan Bushong-Taylor, Alora Ray, Ross Tamaccio, Matthew Rothenberg, Patrick O'Grady, Mark Adelsberger, Emily Reinhardt** and **Nick Etheridge**.

The show was one of Shepherd University's most successful musical productions, bringing in record audiences despite the intermittent inclement weather during the run.





NOTES FROM THE CHORAL AREA

J.S. Bach's *Mass in B Minor* is considered the pinnacle of Bach's output, and often thought of as the greatest work of music in the Western world. It was intentionally composed and compiled by Bach as his "artistic legacy," his dissertation laying out everything that he knew about composing in one *magnum opus*.

The Mass was probably not performed in Bach's lifetime. There certainly would have been no place for a Catholic Latin mass in the Lutheran churches where Bach

worked, and we know that it was not commissioned by anyone else. Many of the movements had existed in earlier forms, and were reworked for this Mass, but other movements were written solely for this final product.

The *B Minor Mass* encompasses Bach at his best, from simple *stile antico* writing that suggests Palestrina, to passionate, soaring melodies that bring forth Baroque writing at its finest. Each of the twenty-seven different movements of the Mass are the pinnacle of Bach's compositional

style, and taken as a whole, the Mass is possibly the most satisfying work of music in the Western canon.

The Masterworks Chorale and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Dr. Erik Jones, brings the Bach *B Minor Mass* to life for one performance only, on Saturday, April 26 at 7:00 PM. Brooke Evers, Melanie Regan, Joe Regan, and Rob Tudor are the featured soloists. This performance of Bach's lifetime achievement is not to be missed.

— Dr. Erik Jones

ANNUAL HONORS RECITAL

A select group of student musicians and ensembles from Shepherd University will perform on the annual Honors recital to be held **Sunday, March 23, 2014, 2:30 PM** at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown, Maryland.

This will be the twelfth year the recital has taken place at the museum and the fourteenth year the Music Department at Shepherd has honored its outstanding student performers. Established in 2000 by Dr. Scott Beard, the first recital took place as part of the Reynolds Hall Recital Series. The Honors recital was seen as an additional performance

opportunity for students, as well as a chance to showcase the talented musicians in the music department.

The students performing on the recital were selected and nominated from the numerous recitals, juries and other performances at Shepherd each semester. The program will feature solo and ensemble works for voice, piano, strings, bassoon, percussion and saxophone, encompassing works by American and European composers.

Performing in the Honors recital this year are: **Jessica Adkins**, voice, Summersville, WV; **Andrew Seaman**,

voice, Gaithersburg, MD; **Nathan Arch**, piano, Hagerstown, MD; **Ryan Stewart**, violin, Hagerstown, MD; **Rachel Bani**, trombone, Camp Hill, PA; **Nathan Biedzynski**, percussion, Catonsville, MD; **Sarah Ciaccio**, clarinet, Baltimore, MD; the **Shepherd Jazz Combo**.

For more information about this concert and other Shepherd University Music events, visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb. For directions to the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts go to www.wcmfa.org.

2013 HALL OF FAME HONOREES– ALICE & NEAL BARKUS

Neal and Alice Barkus were inducted into the Friends of Music Hall of Fame at the Saturday, December 7th performance of the Holiday Gala. The announcement was made by Music Department Chair, Dr. Rob Tudor.

For many years, Neal and Alice have been active patrons and advocates of the Friends of Music at Shepherd University, the Department of Music and the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra. Together, they have sponsored FOM series concerts, such as The 5 Browns in April 2013 and have opened their home to musicians of 2RCO.

Neal has served as President of the

Friends of Music Board of Directors for three years. His leadership skills were tapped continuously although he was employed full time in the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson. He led efficiently and effectively throughout his term of office and continues to serve on the Board. All board members benefit from his advice and comments.

Alice has served on the Tuxedo Junction planning committee from the beginning and co-chaired that committee the last two years. In addition, she and her husband have hosted many social events in their home and the last three years have offered a tented champagne

garden party in the beautiful lawn surrounding their home as an item on the TJ silent auction. Each party has been a hotly sought after item and has netted generous donations to the Friends of Music and the Shepherd University Music Department. Alice quietly performs many acts of kindness in the community enriching the lives of all those who know her.

The Friends of Music, the Department of Music, and the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra, thank Neal and Alice for their continuing support of promoting musical excellence at Shepherd University and in our region.

2013-2014 FRIENDS FELLOWS

The Friends of Music of Shepherd University announced the **2013-2014 Friends Fellows** awards at the Annual Holiday Gala on Saturday, December 7, 2013. Each Fellow received a \$1,000 scholarship to assist their academic and financial needs. They were featured on the Friends' Fellow Recital on Saturday, February 22, 2014 at the Frank Arts Center.

The ten Shepherd University music majors selected to receive scholarships from the Friends of Music as 2013-2014 Friends Fellows fellowship recipients are **Jessica Adkins** (vocal performance), **Nathan Arch** (piano performance), **John Kevin Creed** (trumpet performance), **Cara Hummel** (music education), **Ryan McClure** (music education), **Shannon Mendoza** (music education, organ performance), **Kristin Monroe** (music education), **Alvaro Silva** (music education) – the Scott Beard and Alan Gibson Fellowship, **Dakota Slay-Vincent** (music education), and **Ryan Stewart** (composition and music education).

The Friends of Music Fellowship Program were established in 2008 in partnership with the Shepherd University Department of Music to



2013-2014 Friends Fellows: (left to right) Nathan Arch, Alvaro Silva, Jessica Adkins, Music Department Chair Dr. Rob Tudor, Dakota Slay-Vincent, Ryan Stewart, Shannon Mendoza, Ryan McClure, Kristin Monroe. (Not pictured: Kevin Creed, Cara Hummel)

support talented music majors who demonstrate the highest standards of music excellence at Shepherd University. Fellows are selected through an application process and nominated by Department of Music Faculty, who work with them daily and recognize their work ethic and dedication to their education.

The cash awards can be used to help with studies within the music department at Shepherd or other music-related financial needs of the students. The Friends Fellowship program would not be possible without the continuing support

of the community. Thanks to the many supporters who make this scholarship program possible each Community members interested in sponsoring a Friends' Fellow or who wish to make a tax-deductible donation towards the program should contact the Friends of Music at 304-876-5765 or friends@sufom.org.

The Friends Fellows performed in a recital on **Saturday, February 22 at 5:00 p.m.** in the **W. H. Shipley Recital Hall**.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

The Friends of Music launched a tremendous 2013-2014 Concert Series in October with one of the world's premier mandolin and clarinet players, Andy Statman, followed by the first of two performances by our own Masterworks Chorale in November. The Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra presented *Gift of Fire*, led by music director and conductor, Jed Gaylin, featuring outstanding cellist Stephen Czarkowski.

March roars in like a lion, with Maria Schneider driving the Shepherd University Jazz Festival, followed by another moving performance by the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra, *Life Cycles*, featuring dazzling soprano Natalie Conte. Join pianist Dr. Scott Beard and friends in a program entitled *Café Vienna* in April. Closing out the season is the Masterworks Chorale in a singular performance of Bach's incomparable *Mass in B minor*.

Don't miss these remaining concerts in the Friends of Music Concert Series at the Frank Arts Center Theater:

• **Shepherd Jazz Festival Concert with Maria Schneider**
March 1, 2014 at 8:00pm

The Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble will be conducted by

Grammy award-winning Jazz composer Maria Schneider. Critics hail Maria Schneider's music as "evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization." This program is sponsored in part by Jefferson Security Bank.

• **Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra with Natalie Conte**

March 8, 2014 at 8:00pm

Music director and conductor Jed Gaylin will lead the Eastern Panhandle's very own professional chamber orchestra, in a dynamic program of classical music: Maurice Ravel—*Le Tombeau de Couperin*, Samuel Barber—*Knoxville: Summer of 1915* featuring soprano Natalie Conte, Richard Strauss—*Songs: Wiegenlied (Lullaby), Muttertändelei (Mother's Dalliance) and Morgen (Tomorrow)* featuring Natalie Conte, soprano, and Franz Schubert—*Symphony No. 5 in Bb, D. 485*.

• **Café Vienna—Scott Beard and Friends**

April 5, 2014 at 8:00pm

Join pianist Scott Beard and musicians from the Mid-Atlantic Region for a multi-media concert that explores the music of café and salon society, including Mozart's *Overture to The Magic Flute*, Beethoven's



Scott Beard

Sonata, Op. 81a "Les Adieux," works by Franz Schubert, études by Chopin, Ravel's sparkling "*Jeux d'eau*" and American composer Paul Schoenfield's jazzy *Café Music* for violin, cello and piano.

• **Bach "Mass in B Minor" — Masterworks Chorale**

April 26, 2014 at 7:00pm

The Masterworks Chorale, the Eastern Panhandle's premiere vocal ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Erik Reid Jones, presents a singular performance of Johann Sebastian Bach's crowning achievement, *Mass in B Minor* with full orchestra and guest soloists.

FOM Concert Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$18 faculty, staff, seniors, \$10 for students 18 \$ under. For subscription, tickets and FOM information call 304.876.5785, email friends@sufom.org, or visit www.sufom.org.

WIND ENSEMBLE AND SYMPHONIC BAND

The Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Bands look forward to another exciting season! The Wind Ensemble started off the year with a performance at the **Tenth Annual Honor Band** weekend. Over 140 area high school students performed in two Honor Bands with a concert on Monday, **January 20, 2014 at 1:00 pm** at the Frank Arts Center.

On **February 21, 2014** both the Shepherd Symphonic Band and the Wind Ensemble performed a concert entitled "**Raise the Roof.**" Selections from both bands support the theme of progress and celebration. **Dr. Michelle Humphreys** performed as our guest timpani soloist on a

stunning selection called *Raise the Roof* by Michael Daugherty. Other selections included: *Onward Upward* (Goldman), *Sheltering Sky* (Mackey), *Whirr, Whirr, Whirr* (Hultgren), *Armenian Dances I* (Reed), *Albanian Dance* (Hanson), and many more.

The bands will present "**Journeys**" on April 11, a concert reflecting our travels through life. The Wind Ensemble will perform the Mid-Atlantic premier of a new work commissioned for Shepherd University entitled *Requiem* by composer David Maslanka. Other selections include: *Ghost Train* (Whitacre), *Sanctuary* (Ticheli), *Apocalyptic Dreams* (Gillingham),

Liturgical Music (Mailman), and others. Please join us in April as we celebrate progress and the journey of the life in music.



Michelle Humphreys

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. David Gonzol, Associate Professor and Director of Music Education, is on sabbatical this spring. He will be writing articles on Otto Rudolph Ortmann's ideas about music education and the physics of sound, Orff Schulwerk, and the Kodály approach. Dr. Gonzol has already published research on Dr. Ortmann, who was the topic of Dr. Gonzol's dissertation. Dr. Ortmann led Peabody Conservatory for many years and was the first to understand the physics of sound (as frequency, intensity, and duration) as we know it today. He also was the earliest to sketch a nearly complete understanding of cognitive music perception as we yet understand it today. In addition, Dr. Gonzol will compose Orff Schulwerk elemental-style pieces as well as elementary choral music.

Dr. Mark Andrew Cook performed with David Detwiler's White House Band at Blues Alley and the New State Theater in December. He will be performing with the Mike Kamuf Little Big Band at Loyola University in Baltimore in February and at Anne Arundel Community College in March.

Clarinet professor **David Drosinos** was chosen by Tim Smith the review for the Baltimore sun paper chose his "stand out" performances for 2013 in Baltimore.

In September, adjunct music director/pianist **Barbara Irvine** rehearsed with American Idol singers LaKisha Jones, Matt Giraud, and Haley Scarnato before their performance with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra, their first in a series of symphony performances around the country. In October, Irvine attended a League of Professional Theatre Women Networking Monday in New York City, which included a panel discussion on crowdfunding.

A CD featuring two pieces by **Dr. Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis** was nominated for a Grammy for best surround sound. The Inscape Chamber Orchestra's recently released album, *Sprung Rhythm*, received a Grammy nomination in the category of Best Surround Sound Album. It features six works commissioned by Inscape from three emerging American composers: Justin Boyer (Bethesda, MD); Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis (Frederick, MD); Joseph Hallman (Philadelphia, PA). The album was recorded and released by Sono Luminus, a leading record label in the area of surround sound recordings.



Nathan Lincoln-DeCusatis

SPRING 2014 SENIOR RECITALS

Nathan Arch Piano

Sunday, March 2 at 3:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Justin Loizos, Saxophone

Friday, March 21 at 5:00 p.m.
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

Eduardo Rivera, Voice

Friday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Wayne Hawkins, Saxophone

Friday, March 28 at 3:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Jessica Adkins, Voice

Sunday, March 30 at 3:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Arielle Pizana, Voice

Sunday, March 30 at 5:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Nathan Biedzynski, Percussion

Friday, April 4 at 5:00 p.m.
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

Andrew Seaman, Voice

Friday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Shannen Banzhoff, Voice

Sunday, April 6 at 3:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Gregory Woodward, Composition

Sunday, April 6 at 5:00 p.m.
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

Miranda Bias, Voice

Friday, April 11 at 5:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Johnna Leary, Voice

Sunday, April 13 at 3:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Tyler Arnold, Composition

Sunday, April 13 at 5:00 p.m.
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

Michael Pekala, Piano

Friday, April 25 at 5:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

Jordan English, Composition

Sunday, April 27 at 3:00 p.m.
W. H. Shipley Recital Hall

William Kristopher Nigh, Trombone

Sunday, April 27 at 5:00 p.m.
McCoy Rehearsal Hall

All senior recitals are free and open to the public.

LIFE CYCLES—TWO RIVERS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Music director and conductor **Jed Gaylin** will lead the **Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra**, the Eastern Panhandle's very own professional chamber orchestra, in **Life Cycles**, a dynamic program of classical music, on **Saturday March 8** in the **Frank Arts Center Theater**. The concert will feature Shepherd's rising star soprano **Natalie Conte** in Samuel Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and Richard Strauss's *Wiegenlied (Lullaby)*, *Muttertändelei (Mother's Dalliance)*, and *Morgen (Tomorrow)*. Also on the program are Maurice Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin* and Franz Schubert's *Symphony No. 5 in Bb, D. 485*.

Samuel Barber's masterpiece depicting American childhood, *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, is set on text by American novelist James Agee. Portraying the same era, Ravel's most exquisite *Tombeau de Couperin* pays homage to friends lost in World War One. These two works act as the bookends of life. After intermission, romance and new life are in the air with intoxicating songs by Richard Strauss and Schubert's delicious *Fifth Symphony*.

Soprano Natalie Conte is a devoted performer in the Mid-Atlantic. She most frequently appears as a soloist in Outreach programs for the Lyric Opera Baltimore. She also has performed concerts at the

Russian Embassy, with the Baltimore Vocal Arts Foundation, the Young Victorian Theatre Company, Live Arts Maryland, at the State Department, and with Opera Lancaster where she was described as a "show stopper." In addition to recitals, Ms. Conte's opera and oratorio credits include the roles of the title role in *Aida*, Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni*, Rosina in *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Musetta in *La Bohème*, Rosalinde in *Die Fledermaus*, Alice Ford in Verdi's *Falstaff*, the Countess in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and the soprano soloist in Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, Britten's *War Requiem*, and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

Ms. Conte has performed in her hometown Detroit, Michigan as well as internationally in Rome, St. Petersburg, and Moscow. Along with her performance credits, Natalie teaches voice both privately and at Shepherd University where she has held an adjunct voice faculty position since September of 2008.

She is a graduate of the Peabody Conservatory of Music of Johns Hopkins University where she earned a Master and Bachelor of Music. While there, she won awards for excellence in both performance and academics, and studied with John Shirley-Quirk and Phyllis Bryn-Julson. In April, 2011 she won second prize



Natalie Conte

in the Russell C. Wonderlic Memorial Competition. In March of 2013, she was a finalist in the Washington International Competition. In May 2013, she was awarded first prize in the DC Vocal Arts Society Competition.

The public is cordially invited to "**Lunch with Friends**" at the **Bavarian Inn**, Shepherdstown on **Friday, March 7**. The Friends of Music Guild hosts this event and special guests are soprano Natalie Conte and conductor, Jed Gaylin, who will be giving a preview of his program. Lunch with Friends is open to the public, but reservations are required and can be made by calling Betty Lou Bryant at 304-876-3897.

For more information and concert tickets call 304-876-5765, email friends@sufom.org or visit www.sufom.org.



Join the Friends of Music for a Sunday matinee performance of "Singing in the Rain" on **May 4, 2014** at **12:30 p.m.** at the **Way Off Broadway Theatre** in Frederick, MD, hosted by the FOM Guild. The luncheon and performance cost is \$55 for Guild members, \$60 for non-Guild members and \$40 for children 12 and under. For more information contact Joan Ergin 304-876-2775.

FOM FUNDRAISERS

The Friends of Music presents the **Seventh Annual Tuxedo Junction** on **Friday, May 9, 2014** at the always elegant **Bavarian Inn**. Guests will be transported back to **Prom Night**, a magical night filled with fun, friends, and fabulous music. Be prepared to dance the night away to the sounds of the **Shepherd Jazz Ensemble** under the direction of **Dr. Kurtis Adams**.

The evening will feature specialty cocktails and champagne, dining and dancing, the election of prom royalty and a chance to win a fabulous

getaway or any number of wonderful offerings in our Tuxedo Junction silent auction.

All proceeds from this spectacular evening will go to the Friends of Music, a non-profit organization, in its mission to support music programs at Shepherd University, bring world-class music performances to the Frank Center stage, and promote music excellence and music education in our Eastern Panhandle community.

For reservations and information call 304.876.5765 or visit www.sufom.org.

SHEPHERD CLASSICAL GUITAR FESTIVAL

This summer, Shepherd University Music will premiere the Shepherd Classical Guitar Festival. The four-day festival—the only one of its kind in the region—will be held **Thursday, July 17** through **Sunday, July 20, 2014**, and will include master classes, one-on-one guitar lessons, guitar ensemble rehearsals, and concerts by guest artists **William Feasley** and **José Manuel Lezcano**.

William Feasley, director of Shepherd's guitar program, was the first guitarist to be awarded the Peabody Conservatory's coveted Artist Diploma. He has since been the recipient of numerous prizes and awards, including a gold medal in the 1987 PanHellenic Guitar Competition in Athens, the 1990 and 1995 Baltimore Chamber Music Awards and a 1996 Governor's Citation for Outstanding Achievements in the Arts in Maryland. Selected to play for Andrés Segovia at the master's historic last class at the University of Southern California in 1986, he was later featured on the CBS special, *Eulogy of Segovia*.

He has appeared in the Ohrid Spoleto Festival in Macedonia and venues such as St. Martin in the Fields in London, the National Gallery of Art, the Phillips Collection, the Washington National Cathedral and the Yale University Centre for British Art. He has toured with the Russian Chamber Orchestra, Music Viva, in the former Yugoslavia, with the Moyzes

String Quartet in Slovakia, performed live on ABC International Radio in Australia, with New York's Bacchanalia Ensemble under the direction of Nina Beilina and Washington's 20th Century Consort.

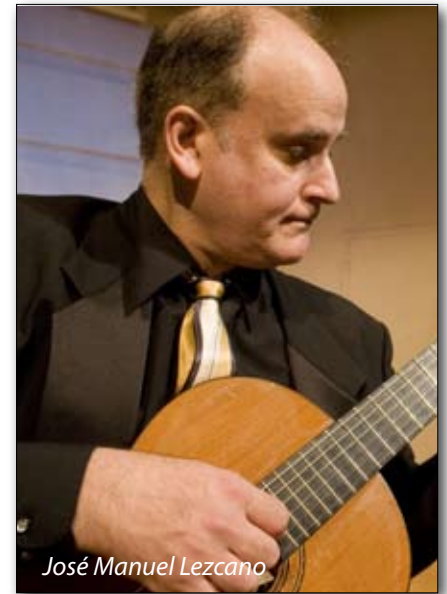
Cuban-born guitarist, composer, educator, and folklorist José Manuel Lezcano has captivated audiences on four continents. His programs of traditional and South American guitar repertory, and his own solo, concerto, and chamber works, have taken him from Carnegie Recital Hall in New York City to major venues and festivals in the US, Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, China, Spain, Greece, Germany, and the Czech Republic, appearing as recitalist, collaborative musician, concerto soloist, and composer.

Described in 2012 by Fanfare Magazine as "an excellent guitarist as well as an imaginative composer," José has earned numerous professional recognitions, the NH State Council on the Arts Individual Artist Fellowship, twice NHMTA Composer of the Year, and a Fulbright Award to Ecuador where he performed as orchestral soloist and pursued research on indigenous guitar traditions. He premiered his second guitar concerto, "Concierto Cubanero," in 2011 in New York City and in Quito, Ecuador. In 2012, José's "Tango-Overture" for strings, conducted by Max Lifchitz, received its debut recording on the North-

South label as Cross-Currents.

This festival takes place simultaneously with the nationally recognized Contemporary American Theater Festival, and will attract followers and students of classical guitar music to the area to enrich the cultural offerings. Nightly concerts by guest artists at St. Agnes Catholic Church, free and open to the public, will be the centerpiece of the festival, with a final concert of participants to be offered on Saturday night. Participants will include young people and adults, open to anyone with an interest in studying classical guitar.

For more information, contact Dr. Robert Tudor at 304-876-5237 or rtudor@shepherd.edu.



José Manuel Lezcano

ALUMNI NEWS

Thad Garrett (BME 2009) recently assumed the position of Instruction and Marketing Librarian at The Catholic University of America.

Matthew Fowle (BME 2013) is now Assistant Director of the Oakdale High School Marching Band.

Kaziah White (BA, Composition 2013) has been accepted to the graduate program in Music Composition Bowling Green State University and Syracuse University.

Thom Huenger (BA, Composition 2011) has been accepted into the Graduate Composition program at Shenandoah University.

Austin Showen (BME 2011) is an Elementary Music Teacher for Putnam County Schools in Eleanor, WV and Director of Children's Music at Cross Lanes United Methodist Church, Cross Lanes, WV. He is working towards his Master of Music in Music Education, Kodaly Emphasis at Capital University in Columbus, OH.

Christina Schirf (BME 2011) is an Orchestra director for Fauquier County Public Schools, Warrenton, VA.

Leslie Bailey (BME 2010) is now the Upper School Band and Choral Director at the Red Lion Christian Academy in Bear, DE.

Scott Paddock (BA, Performance 1997) just released his first music video for one of his original songs *From Within & Another Day* now available on iTunes.

SHEPHERD JAZZ FESTIVAL WELCOMES MARIA SCHNEIDER

Shepherd University is thrilled to bring Grammy award-winning Jazz composer and musician **Maria Schneider** to Shepherdstown for the inaugural **Shepherd Jazz Festival** that will take place **February 27 through March 1, 2014** at Shepherd University.

Local audiences will not want to miss the opportunity to hear Maria Schneider's music, hailed by critics as "evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization." The culminating **Jazz Festival Concert**, featuring the Shepherd University Jazz Ensemble conducted by Maria Schneider, will take place at **8:00 pm on Saturday, March 1**, in the Frank Arts Center Theater of Shepherd University.

The three-day Jazz Festival will have many events and activities at the Frank Center for the Arts with guest artist Maria Schneider that are free and open to the public, including rehearsals with the Shepherd Jazz Ensemble, a composition seminar and master class, a music business master class and clinics with guest college jazz ensembles.

In conjunction with the Shepherd Jazz Festival, the Shepherd University Women Studies Program will have a panel discussion of *Women in the Arts and Music* in the Byrd Center Auditorium 12:30-2:00 pm on Friday, February 28. In addition to Jazz Festival Artist-in-Residence composer and director, Maria Schneider, the panel will include: assistant professor of History, **Dr. Julia Sandy-Baily**; writer and assistant professor of English, **Dr. Carrie Messenger**; chair of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, **Rhonda Smith**; adjunct professor of Dance, **Esperanza Alzona**; and musician, pianist and Director of Keyboard Studies, **Dr. Yu-Hsuan Liao**.

Maria Schneider's residency for the Shepherd Jazz Festival and this exciting concert are made possible through the generous support of Jefferson Security Bank, the Bavarian



Inn, the Friends of Music of Shepherd University, and the Shepherd University Department of Music. American arranger, composer, and big-band leader Maria Schneider studied music theory and composition at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1983, and earned a Masters of Music in 1985 from the Eastman School of Music. Upon leaving Eastman, she was hired by Gil Evans as his copyist. She collaborated with him for the next several years, producing arrangements commissioned by Sting, and scoring the films *The Color of Money* and *Absolute Beginners*. Schneider went on to study with Bob Brookmeyer from 1986 to 1991, as she concurrently worked as a freelance arranger in New York.

The Maria Schneider Jazz Orchestra, formed in 1993, and became more widely known starting in 1994 with the release of their first recording, 'Evanescence.' With that recording, Schneider began to develop her personal way of writing for her 17-member collective, comprised of many of the finest musicians in jazz today, tailoring her compositions to distinctly highlight the uniquely creative voices of the group. They have performed at festivals and concert halls worldwide since. Schneider herself has subsequently received numerous commissions and guest conducting invitations, working with over 85 groups from over 30 countries spanning Europe, South America, Australia, Asia and North America.

Maria Schneider and her orchestra have a distinguished recording career with nine Grammy nominations and five Grammy awards. Unique funding of projects has become a hallmark for Schneider through the trend-setting company, ArtistShare®. For these projects, she documents her creative process for participating fans, who "fan-fund" her recordings through pre-orders. She has composed four works for her own orchestra with the participation of commissioners coming directly from her ArtistShare® website fan base. In 2012, her alma mater, the University of Minnesota, awarded Schneider an honorary doctorate.

The Jazz Program at Shepherd University has an outstanding faculty of accomplished musicians including **Dr. Kurtis Adams, Dr. Mark Cook, Dr. Nathan Lincoln-Decusatis, Kevin Pace, and Ronnie Shaw**. The Shepherd University Music Department is committed to providing extraordinary experiences and each year the ensembles work in clinics and present concerts with major jazz artists such as Anat Cohen, Gary Hobbs, Kenney Werner, Bill Watrous, Paquito D'Rivera, Alan Vizzutti, Ingrid Jensen, Claudio Roditi, and Tim Hagans.

For more information and a complete schedule of Shepherd Jazz Festival events or to purchase tickets to the Saturday, March 1 Shepherd Jazz Festival Concert, call 304-876-5765 email friends@sufom.org or visit www.sufom.org.

PREPARATORY DIVISION NEWS

The Shepherd University Department of Music Preparatory Division has many great opportunities to offer in 2014! Students can take private music lessons, participate in the early childhood music classes, perform with the Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra, join the Shepherd Preparatory Chorus, or enjoy our summer String and Jazz Camps!

Private lessons for the study of strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, voice, and guitar with music faculty members or collegiate music students are offered to all ages, on all instruments, at all levels! In addition to taking private lessons, string students have the opportunity to participate in the **Shepherd Preparatory Orchestra**, now in its fifteenth season this spring! The fall concert was a great success, including works by Tchaikovsky, Bartok, and Borodin. The highlight of the concert was a rousing performance of Bedřich Smetana's *The Moldau*. **Dr. Scott Hippensteel**, Director of Instrumental Activities, is the ensemble's Music Director, while **Kari Edge** serves as Assistant Conductor. The Preparatory Orchestra is very fortunate to enjoy the guidance of an exceptional string faculty who serve as sectional coaches and teachers. This year's string faculty members include **Heather Austin-Stone**, violin 1; **Jeffry Newberger**, violin 2; **Kathy Shrader**, viola; and **Stephen Czarkowski**, cello and bass. The orchestra rehearses on Wednesday evenings, with the junior ensemble meeting from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and the senior orchestra rehearsing from 7:30-9:00 p.m. each week. The spring Preparatory Concert will take place in the Frank Arts Center on **Wednesday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m.** The concert will include Bizet's *L'Arlésienne Suite No. 2* and the exhilarating *Danzon No. 2* by Arturo Marquez, just to name a few!

The Preparatory Division offers early childhood music classes for children ages two to seven years of age, throughout the spring 2014 term. Classes are taught by Frauke Higgins

and meet in the Frank Arts Center. Ms. Higgins is an experienced early childhood music educator, who has actively been teaching students of this age group since 1990! Our early childhood music offerings include: **Musical Discoveries** (2-4 years with parent/caregiver)--This interactive class for children and parents introduces the young student to the rudiments of music. The class will explore songs, echo songs, creative movement, rhythm instruments, rhymes, finger-play, and creative movement. We also offer **Dalcroze Eurhythmics/Intro to Piano** (5-7 yrs.)--Children learn to express the elements of music, such as rhythm, time, tempo, melody, pitch, and dynamics through movement. These movement activities will be accompanied by piano. Students also work on their singing voices using solfège and playing many different Orff instruments during the lesson. We are excited to add an introduction to piano to this course as well. Students will be given foundational techniques for playing the piano that will transition easily to private study and continued musical learning!

The **Shepherd Preparatory Chorus**, under the direction of **Dr. David Gonzol**, Director of Music Education, and Assistant Director, **Mrs. Angela Weaver**, performed a program titled, "The Future" for the fall concert, including folk songs and spirituals from America, England, and our own great state of West Virginia. The Preparatory Chorus membership is comprised of both male and female vocalists who are currently in grades 3-8. The chorus meets Wednesday evenings from 6:10-7:30 p.m. at the Frank Center. The chorus will join the Preparatory Orchestra for the concert presented on **April 30** at 7:30 p.m. in the Frank Center Theater.

Opportunities to learn and grow with music do not conclude with the close of the school term, as the Prep offers summer string and jazz camps! The **String Orchestra Camp** will take place during the week of **June 16-20** at the Frank

Arts Center. String players in grades 9-12 are invited to participate in the day camp. Camp highlights will include string orchestra rehearsals, master classes, chamber music coaching, faculty performances, and a final concert to close the week. **Dr. Scott Hippensteel**, Director of Instrumental Activities and the preparatory orchestra here, will direct the orchestra for this year's camp at Shepherd. String instructors for the camp will also include members of the Shepherd University faculty and professionals from the surrounding Washington D.C. metropolitan area.

Middle school and high school students will also have the opportunity to study jazz for a week with some of the region's top jazz performers. The **Summer Jazz** camps will take place the week of **June 23-27** and will include a junior jazz camp for students in grades 6-8 and a senior jazz camp for students in grades 9-12. During the week, students will participate in jazz band rehearsals, receive individual and group lessons, study improvisation and theory, and have the opportunity to hear out-standing faculty performances. Directors and instructors for the camp will include Shepherd University Department of Music faculty members **Dr. Kurtis Adams** and **Dr. Mark Cook**.

For information about the Shepherd University Preparatory Division and its programs, contact Kari Edge at 304-876-5555 or email kedge@shepherd.edu, or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb/preparatory.



MUSIC SALON SERIES AT SHEPHERD

On **Thursday, January 23rd**, baritones **Rob Tudor** and **Bobb Robinson**, together with guitarist **Bill Feasley**, and pianist **Deborah Hollis** presented a concert of diverse and provocative programming in the first Shepherd Music Salon Series concert of 2014.

The evening began with selections by renowned 17th century composer and poet Bellerofonte Castaldi. Internationally acclaimed artist Bill Feasley joined Tudor in presenting sensitive and virtuosic selections by Castaldi for voice and theorbo. Bobb Robinson together with pianist Deborah Hollis shared a collection of songs, which he titled: *Sharpsburg*. Robinson chose pieces that in some way speak to him about the various, sometimes contradictory, emotions that permeate the beautiful landscape, changed little since the days of the Civil War, and remembered forever as the site that witnessed the most American bloodshed in a single day. The poetry and prose within explores intimate depths of loss, redemption, and hope.

The program continued with selections for voice and guitar by one of the foremost Argentinian composers of the 20th century, Carlos Guastavino. His *Popular Songs of Argentina* (trans.) feature dance rhythms, gaucho poetry, rich harmony and delightful melodies. Guastavino, who died in 2000, said of his music, "I love melody. I love to sing. I refuse to compose music only intended to be discovered and understood by future generations."

The concert concluded with pianist Deborah Hollis joining Tudor and



Baritones Rob Tudor and Bobb Robinson

Robinson to present the song cycle *Here and Gone* by American composer Jake Heggie. Featuring poetry by A.E. Housman and Vachel Lindsay, the cycle premiered August 6, 2005 at the Ravinia Festival. This sensitive and intense cycle explores the themes of returning home, lost love, and impermanence.

The Salon Series continues on **Tuesday, February 25th** with **The Shepherd Three**—flutist **Anne Munro**, oboist **Gregory Shook** and bassoonist **Richard Polonchak**. The faculty wind trio are also members of the Two Rivers Chamber Orchestra. Performing together since 2006, the ensemble plays mostly Baroque and Classical trios and occasionally Romantic and Contemporary duos and trios for winds. The group has two pieces written especially for them by Shepherd faculty members Mark Cook and Cam Millar. They are joined by **Dr. Laura Renninger**, Coordinator for Music History and

Appreciation, on piano and harpsichord.

The final recital of the series on **Thursday, March 20th**, brings in one of the most profound and monumental work of the twentieth century—*Quartet for the End of Time* by French composer Olivier Messiaen, and much more. Featuring Shepherd music faculty **David Drosinos** on clarinet, **Jeffrey Newberger** on violin, **Stephen Czarkowski** on cello, and **Yu-Hsuan Liao** on piano, the evening will take the listener on a journey of sad, dark, sweet, hopeful, and eventually to transcendence.

The Shepherd University Music Salon Series concerts take place in the **W.H. Shipley Recital Hall** of the Frank Arts Center. Open to the public, admission is free. For more information call 304-876-5555 or visit www.shepherd.edu/musicweb.

STUDENT NEWS

Johnna Leary (BA, Vocal Performance - Music Theater) is playing Sister Margaretta in *The Sound of Music* at the Way Off Broadway Dinner Theater in Frederick, MD from January 17-March 15.

Shepherd University students, through **Dr. Mark Cook**, have been volunteering and donating food to the **Community Café** at St. John's Episcopal Church in Hagerstown, MD.

Tyler Arnold (BA Composition, BME) has been accepted into the Masters Composition program at the University of Michigan.

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