

The Buckeye Backcheck

Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild

Volume 32 Issue 6 September 2007

President's Message

I hope that everyone has enjoyed both a long and, hopefully, restful summer season. The summer is a good time to play catch-up before our busy season as piano technicians comes upon us.

In September, our meeting will be on Tuesday, September 18th, beginning at 7:30 P.M. at my home - 340 Stonewall Court, Dublin, Ohio 43017 (614.264.0399). My piano is available for technicals, should anyone have a question or wish to show another, or others a process. Come with your questions and suggestions for a better, stronger PTG. refreshments will be served.

In October, we have an opportunity to participate in a presentation on Bosendorfer pianos by a representative of that company for the Dayton chapter. It will be held on Thursday, October 18th, in Dayton. We will also have a regular meeting two days before, Tuesday, October 16th - at a location not yet determined. Tuesday's meeting will likely be held at a restaurant, as a dinner meeting. If possible, I would ask that all officers attend. All others are also invited. We'll go through chapter business and enjoy some fellowship, also I hope that we can do a little brainstorming regarding technicals to be offered.

Thanks to all for your efforts to make our little piece of the world a better place for piano owners and players.

Chris

Annual Picnic August 21 2007

Our summer picnic was hosted by Chris and Barbara Altenburg. We enjoyed great food, great weather, and great conversation. We were all very happy to get a bit of a break from the heat and humidity. Thanks to the Altenburgs for the hospitality and the brats. We learned about backyard woodpecker feeding from Bill Golden, and we spotted a bat or two flying overhead as dusk approached.



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Butts and Flanges

Phil Walters brought his Fujan tuning lever so we could have a look at it. This lever's shaft is a carbon fiber composite tube, which makes it exceptionally rigid and light. Phil has been very pleased with the results he gets because of its rigidity. Pin setting is very controllable and the results are accurate and stable. We were all impressed by its light weight.



PTG ANNUAL CONVENTION JUNE 2007

A Summary of the Council's Actions

Proposal 1 - changed the rules for logo use by individuals promoting non PTG events. Now it is only to be used to promote chapter and regional events. RPTs are still encouraged to use the logo to promote their own business.

Proposal 2 - A new logo was approved for use by RPTs. It reverses the words "Registered Piano Technician" and "Piano Technicians Guild" in the current logo. Both the current logo for RPTs and the round emblem are still there to use this just adds a new one that promotes "Registered Piano Technician" more.

Proposal 3 - Changes were made to the Awards Committee rules to make them more clear and consistent with present practice.

Proposal 4 - A couple of changes were made to Exam Committee rules about distribution of copies of exams.

Proposal 5 - which would have radically changed the PTG membership structure was defeated. The membership structure remains as it is now.

Proposal 6 - Changes to the disciplinary code adding a line about requirement for not having past convictions for crimes of "moral turpitude"

Proposal 7 - which proposed far reaching changes to the Disciplinary Code was referred to Bylaws committee.

New PTG officers for 2007-2008

President: Dale Probst

Vice President : Allan Gilreath

Secretary/Treasurer: Jim Coleman, Jr,

Regional Vice Presidents:

Northeast: Chris Solliday

Southeast: Clarence Zeches

South Central: Norman Cantrell

Central East: Richard Bittner

Central West: Trevor Nelson

Western: Bill Shull

Pacific Northwest: Michael Reiter

Awards

Jack Greenfield Award for the best Journal article of the year:

Kevin Hancock

Members of Note:

Michael Drost

Ward Guthrie

Guy Nichols

Martin Wisenbaker

Hall of Fame:

Michael Travis

Edward "Ted" Sambell

Golden Hammer:

Jack Wyatt

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FROM THE ARTS JOURNAL ...

How Do You Move a Career Into High Gear? By Breaking the Rules

The New York Times

If you want to be a concert pianist when you grow up, there are certain rules. You do start playing as a young child. You don't drop out of Juilliard. You do win competitions and get the attention of managers at a young age. You don't end up at 30 with no management and no bookings, raising the money yourself for your first recording. And you definitely don't make your New York recital debut with Bach's demanding "Goldberg" Variations, which are supposed to reflect the wisdom of long experience, and Baroque style.

Simone Dinnerstein, 34, has made her career by breaking every rule in the book.

Ms. Dinnerstein's recording of the "Goldberg" Variations is a distinctive approach to the work: colorful and idiosyncratic, a contemporary pianist's rather than a harpsichordist's account. It starts with a long, thoughtful, hesitant Aria that seems to be struggling to lift itself uncertainly out of silence.

"Everyone is somewhat taken aback by what she does with the opening Aria," said Robert Woods, the president of Telarc.

But precisely because she puts such an individual stamp on it, Ms. Dinnerstein's interpretation has won a lot of critical attention.

Ms. Dinnerstein has gone after what she wanted since she first begged her parents for piano lessons at age 4, and they started her on the recorder instead. Her father, the painter Simon Dinnerstein, knew little about music. She finally began lessons at 7 - late in life for a future pianist.

"I auditioned for festivals, I did the whole thing, and I just never had any luck", she said.

She began to let go of her dreams of a glamorous career, and to understand, that she was most interested in making music for its own sake.

And so began what appears to be a Cinderella story. Ms. Dinnerstein is now represented by IMG Artists. Her concert schedule is suddenly packed with orchestral engagements, solo recitals, debuts in Paris, London, Berlin. She is finding herself living out her childhood dreams, and trying to balance it with what she calls real life.

Read the complete article at :
http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/28/arts/music/28simo.html?_r=2&ref=arts&oref=slogin&oref=slogin

Alexander Ghindin Wins Cleveland Piano Competition

By Kevin Shihoten *Playbill Arts*

Alexander Ghindin of Russia, age 30, has won the 2007 Cleveland International Piano Competition. He receives \$50,000, an Alice Tully Hall recital, a compact disc recording on the Naxos label, two years of concert management, and engagements.

Ghindin performed Rachmaninoff's Concerto No. 3 in the final round; his solo repertoire included Beethoven's Pathétique Sonata, Czerny's Variations, Op. 12, Ravel's Gaspard de la Nuit, Scarlatti's Sonata, K. 380, and Stravinsky's Trois Mouvements de Petrouchka. A graduate of the Moscow State Conservatory, he placed second at the 1999 Queen Elisabeth International Music Competition.

Israeli pianist Yaron Kohlberg, 24, received second prize and the special Contemporary Prize. He trained at the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem Academies, and won first prize in the 2006 Israel Radio Young Artists Competition in Jerusalem.

Third prize was awarded to Manhattan School of Music alumnus Alexander Moutouzkine, 27, of Russia. The laureate of the 2004 New Orleans and Iturbi International Piano Competitions.

Moutouzkine also received the Beethoven Prize and a prize from a Junior Jury comprising local teenaged pianists.

Fourth Prize, was awarded to Ran Dank, a 25-year-old Israeli Juilliard graduate.

Read the complete article at:
<http://www.playbillarts.com/news/article/6889.html>



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www.ptgcolumbus.org

Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting

Tuesday Sept. 18, 2007, 7:30 pm
Chris Altenburg's, 340 Stonewall Ct, Dublin
(There's a map at ptgcolumbus.org)

Exam Prep Seminar

Sept. 21-22, 2007
PTG Home Office, Kansas City

Central East Regional Seminar

Oct. 3 - 7, 2007
Madison, WI

Dayton Chapter Meeting

Thurs. Oct. 18
The Dayton chapter has invited us to join them. They will be hosting a technical representative from Boesendorfer.

INTERNET NEWS

Be sure to keep checking in to the PTG National Website's Blog at: <http://ptg.org/blog>
It has up-to-the minute information about PTG happenings and every sort of odd and interesting news about the piano world.

And here's an article I stumbled upon the other day:

<http://plus.maths.org/issue31/features/woodhouse/index.html>

It's about violin strings but the general concepts about string harmonics remain true for piano strings. I found it entertaining and instructive. *-ed.*

This newsletter was created using the open-source program *Scribus* running on the Linux/Ubuntu operating system.

Disclaimer:

All expressions of opinion and all statements of supposed facts are published on the authority of the author as listed and are not to be regarded as expressing the views of the Columbus Chapter of the Piano Technicians Guild unless such statements or opinions have been adopted by the chapter or the guild.

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Comments, articles, and advertising requests may be sent to the editor.

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