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# NEWSLETTER

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***Sierra Pastel, Lana Greenawald, Sivan Magen, Gretchen Van Hoesen, Yi Wen Chang, and Dana Schneider at March 29 Magen Masterclass at Duquesne University School of Music.***

Dear Members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society,

I hope that all of you have had a great spring and are enjoying the warm summer weather now! The year seems to have gone by quickly and our chapter has been VERY busy! As you will read in this newsletter we have very active harpist members performing everywhere, and how impressive to read about all their news and accomplishments.

We enjoyed a Pot Luck dinner on January 4 at my home and held a board meeting on January 20. The chapter, with Duquesne University, co-sponsored harpist Sivan Magen in an excellent and memorable recital and masterclass on March 28 and 29. Our chapter performed for the Tiffany Series on April 26 and we held our annual Chapter Recital on May 9. Hopefully many of you were able to attend these events to hear some outstanding playing by our members and guests.

The recital and master class by internationally acclaimed Israeli harpist Sivan Magen was a huge success. Sivan Magen presented an outstanding solo harp recital on March 28, 2009 at 2:00 PM, Duquesne University, PNC Recital Hall, and received a standing ovation from the audience. Sivan performed solo works for harp by Marcel

Grandjany, J. S. Bach, Pierre Sancan, Yoshihisa Taira, Nicolas Flagello, Frédéric Chopin, and Ekatherina Walter-Kuhne. Our chapter and Duquesne University co-sponsored the event, and our chapter hosted a wonderful reception following the recital. Sivan Magen taught a six-hour harp master class on March 29, 2009 at Duquesne University in Room 206, which was open to all harp chapter members. Congratulations to twelve members of the harp chapter, who performed beautifully in the master class: Angela Liu, Katherine Redlus, Lana Greenawald, Sierra Pastel, Yi Wen Chang, Dana Schneider, Jessica Ding, Sophia Sunha Lee, Hannah Piston, Hannah Stater, Rebecca Yuille and Laura Lockard. As the chair of these events, I would like to again thank our officers and board members, as well as chapter members who contributed their efforts, to help make the weekend a great success. (For any members who were unable to attend the recital and master class, please see the brief biography of Sivan Magen on page six.

Sixteen Members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the AHS performed at the Tiffany Series on April 26 at 4:00 PM at Calvary Methodist Church on the North Side. The following chapter members performed solos or ensemble works: Yi Wen Chang, Olivia DeSimone, Jessica Ding, Lana Greenawald, Cristina Kruk, Sophia Sunha Lee, Emily Mistick, Sierra Pastel, Hannah Piston, Katherine Redlus, Lucy Scandrett, Manon Sohn, Hannah Stater, Debbie Vallin, Gretchen Van Hoesen and Nuiko Wadden. Guest violinist Louis Lev, Acting Principal Second Violinist of the Pittsburgh Symphony, and guest soprano, Laura Very, Assistant Professor of Voice at Carnegie Mellon, also performed. It was an outstanding concert for a large appreciative audience. Special thanks to Debbie Vallin for all of her work on this concert and CONGRATULATIONS to all who participated. The Tiffany Series made a donation to our chapter.

The Annual Chapter Recital and Business Meeting took place on May 9 at 3:00 PM at the home of Laura Mason Lockard. Laura displayed, demonstrated and spoke about her antique harps. I provided a concert grand pedal harp for use by members in the recital. Yi Wen Chang, Jessica Ding, Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton, Tamar Kaminski, Sunha Lee, Laura Mason Lockard, Katherine Redlus, Robert Rondazzo, Dana Schneider, Julia Ann Scott and Hannah Stater performed. Members enjoyed a wonderful reception following the recital. The event was chaired by Debbie Vallin. Thanks to Debbie and to Laura for all of their work on this event.

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the AHS, presently comprised of sixty three members, is growing and I would personally like to welcome twenty one new members. Please see a list of all of our new members on page 9 of the newsletter.

The Board and Officers of the AHS Pittsburgh Chapter met on January 20, 2009 and discussed plans for the rest of this year and for 2009-2010. We still hope to present jazz harpist Park Stickney in a solo appearance, and we have discussed plans to bring Nancy Hurrell, the leading expert on historical harps, to Pittsburgh for a presentation. The chapter will hold the Music Education Evaluations again in fall of 2009 and perform a Holiday Ensemble Concert at Carnegie Museum in December 2009. The Holiday Ensemble Concert has been a popular biennial event for our chapter, with more than twenty five harpists participating in past years.

We have a new website designed by Board member and adult harp student Rebecca Yuille. Please log on to the new website <http://www.orgsites.com/pa/harpsocietypittsburgh> to get updates on chapter activities. Our current and former newsletters are available on the website as well.

I look forward to seeing all harp chapter members at our upcoming events. Please look for a mailing to the membership in the next month or so to elect new officers for our chapter. Thanks to board members Richard LeBeau and Craig Johnson whom I have appointed to serve on the Nominating Committee. We will begin our membership drive for the 2009/10 year in August and September 2009. Please continue to support our chapter by being a member and feel free to suggest events to me or other officers and board members for future consideration. Best wishes to everyone and keep harping!

Sincerely,  
Gretchen Van Hoesen  
President, Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society

***The Juilliard School Graduate***  
**HEIDI VAN HOESEN GORTON**



***Gretchen Van Hoesen, Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton, and Nancy Allen after Heidi's graduation recital February 2, 4:00 pm, Paul Hall at the Juilliard School***

On February 2, 2009, Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton presented her senior recital at the Juilliard School of Music on February 2 at 4:00 PM, as partial fulfillment for the Bachelor of Music Degree in Harp Performance. She performed works by Krumpholtz, Bach, Renie, Saint Saens, Houdy and DeFalla. Violinist Genia Maslov performed Saint Saens' *Fantasy* with Heidi.

Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton, who has studied with New York Philharmonic Principal Harpist Nancy Allen during her time at Juilliard, also was recently accepted as a fellowship student at the 2009 Tanglewood Institute Program. Heidi will spend eight weeks living in Tanglewood, MA, rehearsing and performing in the student orchestra with regular coachings with Boston Symphony harpist, Ann Hobson Pilot.

June 7, '09, Heidi performed on the Pittsburgh Concert Society alumni program at the Kresge Recital Hall of CMU at 2:00 PM. She will perform solo works for harp by Andres, Renie, Krumpholz, Defalla and Agocs, as well as the *Songs of the Augvergne* by Canteloube with soprano soloist Kathy Soroka. Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton is a past winner of the Pittsburgh Concert Society Young Artist auditions.

***Duquesne University Graduate***  
**LANA GREENAWALD**

Congratulations to Lana Greenawald who won First Place in the 2008/09 Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Concerto Competition. She was the featured soloist with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony at their final concert at Heinz Hall on May 3, 2009, at 3:00 PM. Lana performed Ravel's Introduction and Allegro under the direction of Musical Director Daniel Meyer.

Lana also distinguished herself by winning one of two spots at this year's National Orchestral Institute in auditions held this past January at CMU. Lana Greenawald is currently attending the Institute in College Park, MD. She will perform Ravel's *La Valse*, as well as pieces by Strauss and Rachmaninoff. Lana graduated from Duquesne University School of Music in May of this year, where she studied with Gretchen Van Hoesen for the past four years. Lana began studying harp with Julia Ann Scott in 2002.



***Lana Greenawald poses for a photograph after performing Ravel's "Introduction et Allegro" with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra on the stage at Heinz Hall***



## ISRAELI INTERNATIONAL HARP COMPETITION WINNER SIVAN MAGEN GIVES BEAUTIFUL RECITAL AND MASTER CLASS IN PITTSBURGH



Mr. Magen presented an outstanding solo harp recital on March 28, 2009 at 2:00 PM, at the PNC Recital Hall of Duquesne University, receiving an enthusiastic standing ovation. Sivan performed solo works by Marcel Grandjany, J. S. Bach, Pierre Sancan, Yoshihisa Taira, Nicolas Flagello, Frédéric Chopin, and Ekatherina Walter-Kuhne. The concert was co-sponsored by our chapter and Duquesne University, and was followed by a wonderful reception organized by Chapter Board members. The following day, Sivan Magen taught a six-hour harp master class at the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University in Room 206. The Master Class was open to all harp chapter members. Congratulations to the following twelve members, who performed beautifully: Angela Liu, Katherine Redlus, Lana Greenawald, Sierra Pastel, Yi Wen Chang, Dana Schneider, Jessica Ding, Sophia Sunha Lee, Hannah Piston, Hannah Stater, Rebecca Yuille and Laura Lockard. Here is a brief biography of Sivan Magen:

*Following Israeli harpist Sivan Magen's April 2006 performance at Alice Tully Hall, the New-York Sun wrote "Sivan Magen dazzled...Mr. Magen delivered a dramatically charged, suitably mysterious, and stunningly strong-handed realization...His tone was superb".*

*Sivan Magen is the First Prize winner of the 16th International Harp Contest in Israel (2006), in which he also won the Propes Prize for the best performance of the required Israeli piece, and the Renié prize for the best performance of Henriette Renié's "Ballade Fantastique". His 2007-2008 season included recital and solo performances in the USA, South America, Taiwan, Israel, Italy, France and England. His debut recital in London's Wigmore Hall was sponsored by the Victor Salvi Foundation, who also sponsored his debut solo CD recording.*

*Since winning the prestigious "Premier Prix" at the Paris Conservatory, Sivan Magen has performed at Le Trianon and Salle Gaveau in Paris, the Kfar-Blum Festival in Israel, recorded for Israeli Radio and Television, and participated in music festivals in Marlboro, the Hamptons, Great Barrington, Giverny (France) and Jerusalem. He has collaborated with artists such as Kim Kashkashian, Nobuko Imai, Carol Wincenc and Marina Piccinini. As a soloist he has performed with many Israeli orchestras, including the Israeli Philharmonic.*

*Born in Jerusalem, Sivan Magen studied piano with Professor Benjamin Oren and Talma Cohen, and harp with Irena Kaganovsky at the Jerusalem Academy for Music. After finishing his military service as an "Outstanding Musician" in 2001, he continued his studies with Germaine Lorenzini and was accepted to Isabelle Moretti's harp class at the Paris Conservatory, from which he graduated in June 2005. He obtained the Master of Music Degree at the Juilliard School of Music in 2008 as a student of Nancy Allen. Sivan Magen has been a winner of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation Scholarships since 1995.*



## CHAPTER RECITAL ON MAY 9, 2009, at 3:00 PM

The Annual Chapter Recital took place at the home of Laura Mason Lockard, at 3201 Mt. Royal Boulevard, Glenshaw, PA, 15116. Laura presented a historical lecture and demonstration as well as offered a "hands-on" opportunity for the Pittsburgh Chapter members to play her antique Erat Harp.

Here is some historical background on Laura's pedal harps:

In 1794, after many years of development, Sebastian Erard took out a patent on a new pedal harp mechanism. This system, using disks with two pins, was a great improvement over mechanisms used throughout most of the 18th century. This first patent was for a single action harp, with one disk per string. Like a modern lever harp, the instrument is tuned to the key of E flat. By applying pedals, the instrument could play in keys with three flats to keys with four sharps.

In 1811, Erard took out another patent using the same disks with two disks per string - this was the first fully chromatic double action harp. This mechanism, with a few small alterations, is the same mechanism used on modern pedal harps today.

There was a great demand for these new instruments and Erard's two workshops (one in London and one in Paris) could not keep up with the demand. Many other makers were trained in Erard's workshop and went on to found their own workshops.

One of these makers was Jacob Erat. Laura owns one Erard Harp and one Erat Harp. The older of the two instruments dates from between 1805 and 1808. It is a single action harp using the system detailed in Sebastian Erard's 1794 patent. This instrument is of the type commonly called an "Empire" or "Ram's Head" harp, with palm leaves and gilded rams' heads decorating the column. This harp has its original soundboard complete with the original artwork, and also has the older style two-piece pedals, with the pedal springs located in the neck.

The second harp is a double-action harp produced under Erard's 1811 patent. It was built in the 1830's after Jacob Erat had died and passed his workshop on to his two sons, I & I Erat. It is of a style known commonly as a "Grecian", which was the first type of double-action pedal harp. Grecian harps have gilded angels and other Greek-influenced decorative elements on their columns, and have 43 strings. This particular harp was completely restored by Howard Bryan in Virginia.

Thanks to those who came to the Chapter Recital in May, and had a chance to see, hear, and play these historical instruments. The Recital also featured performances by our Chapter members on modern pedal and troubadour harps.



**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Katie Ventura who was selected as substitute for the New World Symphony in Miami, Florida. Katie is currently studying with Sarah Bullen, Principal Harpist of the Chicago Symphony, at Roosevelt University.

Congratulations to harpists Jordana Kleiner, Sunha Lee, Hannah Piston and Jessica Ding, astudents of Miss Van Hoesen, who participated in the Duquesne Young Artist Competition in various age divisions on March 5-6. Congratulations to harpist Hannah Piston, who won 2nd place and a cash prize in the solo strings division, performing John Thomas' *The Minstrel's Adieu to His Native Land* in the winners' recital on March 7.

Congratulations to four Pittsburgh harpists whose CD's were accepted into the Final Round of AHS 2009 National Competition, to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, in June, as part of the National AHS Conference: Jessica Ding, Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton, Hannah Piston and Katherine Redlus. We wish them the best!

Congratulations to Susan Katz, a returning Pittsburgh AHS chapter member. She has written a 68-page book about an enchanted harp and the book is intended for children ages 6-12, due to be published in June. The enchanted harp in the book is modeled after the famous purple harp, *The Lavender Lady*, owned by Gretchen Van Hoesen. Ms. Katz can be reached at 412-252-2569 or [sekatz@pianoforkids.net](mailto:sekatz@pianoforkids.net)

Congratulations to Jessica Sikes, Graduating Senior of Mt. Lebanon High School, who has been accepted as a Freshman for Fall 2009 at Grove City College, where she will major in accounting and continue her studies in harp with Julia Scott.

Congratulations to Samantha Dreyer who was accepted (by national audition) into the Summer 2009 Interlochen Musical Theatre Intensive Program.

Congratulations to Dana Schneider, high school junior and new member of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra. Dana will attend the Advanced Chamber Music Seminar at Shady Side Academy in Fox Chapel from July 19-24 where she will perform Ravel's *Tombeau de Couperin* with woodwind quintet.

**MEMBER NEWS**

Jan. 4: a Holiday Pot Luck Party was held at the home of Gretchen Van Hoesen. About 50 members shared a great evening of food and conversation. Members who participated in the Music Education Evaluations in October and November were presented with certificates of participation. Thank you to all members for bringing the excellent food.

Jan. 17: Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton performed as Principal harpist with the Hartford Symphony in a "Martin Luther King Celebration" at Hopewell Baptist Church in Hartford, CT. She performed works by Copland on January 29 and 30 at 7:30 PM in the Belding Theater, Bushnell Center for the Arts, under the direction of Edward Cumming.

Jan. 17: Julia Ann Sott performed Second Harp with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in John Adam's *Transmigration of Souls* and Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem*, with John Adams, conductor.

Jan. 22- 25: Katherine Redlus performed as Principal Harpist in Kurt Weill's opera "Street Scene" at Chosky Theatre, Carnegie Mellon University under the direction of

Robert Page, Maria Sensi Seller and Sean Taylor.

Jan. 30: Katherine Redlus was Principal Harpist in the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic's tour to NY's Carnegie Hall with Keith Lockhart, conductor. Katherine performed Lalo's *Symphonie Espagnole*, Frank's *Three Latin American Dances* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 1*.

Jan. 30- 31: Julia Ann Scott performed Second Harp with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in a concert featuring Yan Pascal Tortelier's orchestration of the Ravel's *Piano Trio* with Tortelier conducting.

Feb. 1 & 22, and March 15: Gretchen Van Hoesen presented harp master classes at her home. Yi Wen Chang, Jessica Ding, Jordana Kleiner, Lana Greenawald, Sunha Lee, Sierra Pastel, Hannah Piston, Robert Randazzo, Katherine Redlus and Dana Schneider participated.

Feb 2: Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton presented her senior recital at The Juilliard School of Music as partial fulfillment for the Bachelor of Music Degree in Harp Performance. She performed works by Krumpholtz, Bach, Renié, Saint Saens, Houdy and DeFalla. Guest violinist Genia Maslov performed.

Feb. 3: Yi Wen Chang performed as Principal Harpist with the Carnegie Mellon University Wind Ensemble in a recording of Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*.

Feb. 12, 14 and 15: Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton performed Strauss's *Four Last Songs* at the Bushnell Center for the Arts in Hartford, CT.

Feb 15: Lana Greenawald and Sierra Pastel performed Copland's *Appalachian Spring* with the Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Music Hall, directed by Jeffrey Turner.



Feb. 18: Sara Stern performed with her trio Ensemble Seiren. J. Micaela Grau, flute, and Begona Roche, bassoon, joined Sarah in works by Jolivet and Guiraud in the Elisabethankirche, Basel, on the Mimiko afternoon concert series. To view a video clip of the concert, go to <http://fbannwart.magix.net/>. Then click on Kalngwelten and choose the fourth box on the bottom of the screen, entitled "Ensemble Seiren." Also, Sarah performed Stravinsky's *Petroushka* with the Musik Akademie der Stadt Basel's orchestra in the Stadt Casino, Rodolfo Fischer, conducting.

Feb. 24: Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton performed Debussy's *Afternoon of a Faun* with the Juilliard Conducting Lab Orchestra at the Peter Jay Sharp Theater in New York City.

Feb. 28: Lana Greenawald and Sierra Pastel performed DeFalla's *Three Cornereed Hat* and Copland's *Appalachian Spring* with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra at Heinz Hall with conductor Lawrence Loh.

In March, Suzanne Hershey played three Viennese Waltzes for the annual meeting of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Austrian Society.

March 2: Gretchen Van Hoesen, Principal Harpist of the Pittsburgh Symphony, and Louis Lev, Acting Principal Second Violinist of the Pittsburgh Symphony, presented a benefit recital of music for violin and harp for and at the Smithfield United Church of Christ in downtown. WQED manager Jim Cunningham introduced the music and soloists. The concert featured two Pittsburgh Premieres for violin and harp: Valeri Kikta's *Sonata* and Bernard Andres' *Zerbina*. Also, the duo performed were works by Saint-Saens, Massenet, Ravel and Rajna. Miss Van Hoesen performed as pianist in Schubert's *Sonatina for Violin and Piano*. Special

discounted tickets were available to harp chapter members. WQED-FM recorded and streamed the recital live via the internet, as well as later archiving the recital in their library. Excerpts from the concert were featured on WQED-FM on the 3rd.

March 6-8 and 12-14: Samantha Dreyer performed Principal Harp with the Pit Orchestra of Upper St. Clair High School in a production of "Forty Second Street."

March 13 & 15: Julia Ann Scott performed Second Harp with the Pittsburgh Symphony in John Adam's *Dharma at Big Sur*, with the composer conducting.

March 14: Lana Greenawald performed the Durufle *Requiem* at the Duquesne University Chapel at 6:00 PM with the Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra and the "Voices of Spirit" under conductor Christine Jordanoff.

March 17: Brianna Dillon and Julia Scott performed with the Grove City Harp Ensemble in a St. Patrick's Day Noon concert in the Recital Hall of the Pew School of Music. Brianna performed four duets for flute and harp by Cesar Franck with flutist Beth Lincoln. Miss Scott performed in several ensemble pieces with other harp students at Grove City College.

March 20 & 28: Rebecca Pfungstl performed with the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra, of which she is a member. Rebecca also performs with the Shaler Middle School String Orchestra.

March 22: Lana Greenawald and Sierra Pastel performed with the Duquesne University Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Music Hall at 8:00 PM. They played Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and Ravel's *Rhapsodie Espagnole*.

March 22: Brianna Dillon accompanied flutist Beth Lincoln in four pieces by composer César Franck on Miss Lincoln's Senior

Recital at the Pew School of Music at Grove City College.

March 26: Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton performed works by Bernstein and on April 4 performed a Family Concert with the Hartford Symphony, both at Mortensen Hall, Bushnell Center for the Arts.

March 31: Julia Ann Scott performed Kerrith Livengood's *Song of the 144,000* in the Encore Concert Series with Pittsburgh-based contemporary music ensemble ALIA MUSICA. The concert was held at Synod Hall in Oakland.

April 6: Katie Ventura performed works by Mahler and Bernstein in Auditorium Theater in Chicago, with the Roosevelt Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Stephen Squires.

April 8: Lana Greenawald performed Ravel's *Introduction et Allegro* at Duquesne University in the PNC Recital Hall during Common Hour. The following Duquesne University music students accompanied Lana: Didi Tuturilova, violin, Matt Pickart, violin, Margaux Matz, viola, Eleanor Graham, cello, Maegen Mchugh, clarinet and Bridget Rodina, flute.

Craig Johnson performed with the Beulah Instrumental Ensemble at the Beulah Presbyterian Church in Churchill on Easter Sunday morning, April 12, 2009.

Sierra Pastel performed the first movement of Bax's *Fantasy Sonata* with Violist Daniel Urbanowicz on April 15, at 3:00 PM in the PNC Recital Hall, Duquesne University.

April 15: Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton performed in Morse Recital Hall at the Juilliard School of Music. Rose Lombardo, flutist and Lisa Stetenpohl, violist, joined Heidi in Debussy's *Trio for flute, viola and harp*.

April 17: Lana Greenawald presented a Senior Recital at Duquesne University at 6:00 PM in

the Duquesne University PNC Recital Hall. Lana performed works by Krumpholtz, Renie, Ravel, Fauré, Saint Saens and Del Tredici.

April 18: Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra Principal Harpist Julia Ann Scott performed Ravel's *Tzigane*, De Falla's *Three-Cornered Hat*, and Enesco's *Rhapsody*. The concert was conducted by Kyprous Markou at the Palace Theatre in Greensburg.

April 19: Katie Ventura will perform "And then I knew 'twas Wind" for flute, viola, and harp by Toru Takemitsu as part of the Roosevelt New Music Ensemble concert in Ganz Hall, Chicago.

April 24: Julia Ann Scott performed solo harp works for the annual "Celebration of Life" ceremony at the LHAS Auditorium of Montefiore Hospital to honor both organ donors and recipients in a special memorial.

May 6-9: Jessica Sikes and Rudi Vanzin performed in the Mount Lebanon High School Pit Orchestra for the musical "Beauty and the Beast." Both girls are students of Julia Ann Scott.

May 3: Lana Greenawald, Winner of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Concerto Competition, was the featured soloist in a performance of Ravel's *Interduction et Allegro* with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra at Heinz Hall at 3:00 PM, with conductor Daniel Meyer. Sierra Pastel performed John Harbison's *Mary Lou* on the same concert.

Gretchen Van Hoesen gave a harp master class on May 30, at the home of Hannah Piston, where lunch and a tour of the Piston family farm was given.

May 31: Hannah Piston, Katherine Redlus and Heidi Van Hoesen Gorton performed in recital at Longwood at Oakmont.

June 2: Samantha Dreyer performed Fauré's *Sicilienne* with the Upper St. Clair High School Orchestra. Samantha studies with Julia Scott.

On June 2, Julia Ann Scott performed on the Jewish Music Festival String Orchestra Concert, which featured klezmer clarinetist David Krakauer and was conducted by Lucas Richman.

June 4: Hannah Piston, Katherine Redlus and Heidi Gorton performed in recital on at Sherwood Oaks, in Cranberry.

Gretchen Van Hoesen held harp master classes in Beijing, China and Taipei, Taiwan in May, 2009 during the Pittsburgh Symphony Tour there.

Craig Johnson, harpist and flutist, and Julia Ann Scott, harpist, presented a recital for the members of the McKeesport Symphony Society at the McKeesport Garden Center in Renziehausen Park on June 9th, 2009.

Gretchen Van Hoesen performed in a memorial service on June 7 at Seven Springs Resort for the State Convention of P.E.O. to honor 44 state members who had passed away during 2008/09.

June 7: Heidi Gorton performed as a soloist on the Pittsburgh Concert Society alumni program at the Kresge Recital Hall of CMU. She performed solo works for harp by Andres, Renie, Krumpholtz, Defalla and Agocs, as well as the *Songs of the Augvergne* by Canteloube with soprano Kathy Soroka, who is a past winner of the Pittsburgh Concert Society auditions. Heidi Gorton is a past winner of the PCS Young Artist auditions.

Gretchen Van Hoesen will perform as Principal Harpist in the Sun Valley Summer Symphony in Idaho during August. On the August 15 chamber series, she will perform

the Jongen's *Concert A Cinq* with Linda Lukas, Flutist, Julianna Athayde, Violinist, Marylene Gingras Roy, Violist and Cellist David Premo.

June 8-11: The Historical Harp Society held their 26th annual Workshop and Conference to be held at the Boston Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. A recently-acquired single-action Challiot harp with crochet mechanism, circa 1780, belonging to Gretchen Van Hoesen, was shown at the Conference by Howard Bryan.

June 23: Katherine Redlus and Hannah Piston will perform on at 2:00 PM in Greenville, PA.

July 19-24: Gretchen Van Hoesen will perform and coach at the Advanced Chamber Music Seminar presented in Partnership with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra July 19-24, 2009 at Shady Side Academy in Fox, Chapel, PA. This is the first year that harp has been included in the chamber program and harp students will be participating in daily coachings rehearsals and seminars. The opening recital on July 19 at 7:00 PM will feature Gretchen Van Hoesen performing *Introduction and Allegro* by Maurice Ravel along with other faculty members and the student performance will take place on July 24. Principal players from the Pittsburgh Symphony and other internationally acclaimed musicians will be coaching chamber groups.

From July 9-12: The Somerset Harp Festival will include 70 workshops, concerts, and exhibits for all levels of players. Contact Kathy De Angelo at 856-795-7637 or <http://www.somersetharpfest.com>

Richard LeBeau & Craig Johnson will serve as the Nominating Committee for the next election of Board Officers.



## **A CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS**

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the AHS, presently comprised of sixty seven members, is growing, and we would personally like to welcome the following twenty one new members: Alexis Balog, Yi Wen Chang, Bella Danailova, Jessica Ding, Samantha Dreyer, Jacqueline Gordon, Carol Henley, Tamar Kaminski, Susan Katz, Sophia Sunha Lee, Catherine Morrow, Rebecca Pfingstl, Robert Randazzo, Katherine Redlus, Helen Rudd, Dana Schneider, June Sechrist, Jessica Sikes, Debbie Stackrow, Nuiko Wadden and Merrill Wymer.

## **HARPS FOR SALE IN PITTSBURGH**

Lyon & Healy Troubadour III lever harp with an ebony finish in good to excellent condition. It comes with a stool, cover, and tuning key and set of nylon strings. Price of \$1,400.00 is not negotiable. Please contact Samara Magnelli, 412-781-2468 or [samaramagnelli@verizon.net](mailto:samaramagnelli@verizon.net)

Lyon & Healy Troubadour V lever harp, natural blond finish in good to excellent condition. The harp has a solid spruce sound board and performance levers and comes with cover and tuning key. Price is \$3000. Please contact Brent Stater 412-427-9979 cell, [bmstater@verizon.net](mailto:bmstater@verizon.net)

Mahogany 85P, 40 string small pedal harp, in perfect condition: Call Brenda Schneider: (724) 368-9866 or (412) 906-4467

Salvi Concert Grand Sculpita model, mahogany finish, in excellent condition, has been appraised by a Lyon and Healy technician at \$18,500. Needs new strings and a regulation. Contact Barbara Hillyer [bjgkelly@wave.hicv.net](mailto:bjgkelly@wave.hicv.net) for more information.

Lyon & Healy Salzedo Moderne Concert Grand is being offered for sale by Debbie Vallin (724) 794-1374. The harp is about 25 years old, has a nice sound, & has been regulated annually.  
E-mail: [dcmv@zoominternet.net](mailto:dcmv@zoominternet.net)

## **TIFFANY CONCERT ON APRIL 26TH, 2009 A GREAT SUCCESS!!!! CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!!!!**

Members of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Harp Society performed on the Tiffany Concert Series on April 26 at 4 PM at Calvary Methodist Church on the North Side. The following seventeen members of our chapter performed solo or ensemble works: Yi Wen Chang, Olivia DeSimone, Jessica Ding, Lana Greenawald, Cristina Kruk, Sophia Sunha Lee, Emily Mistick, Sierra Pastel, Hannah Piston, Katherine Redlus, Lucy Scandrett, Manon Sohn, Hannah Stater, Debbie Vallin, Gretchen Van Hoesen and Nuiko Wadden. Guest violinist Louis Lev, Acting Principal Second Violinist of the Pittsburgh Symphony, and guest soprano, Laura Very, Assistant Professor of Voice at Carnegie Mellon, also performed. Thanks to Debbie Vallin and Gretchen Van Hoesen, co-chairs.

**HARP SOCIETY PERFORMED FOR TIFFANY CONCERT SERIES IN 2009**

Chapter members performed at the Tiffany Series at Calvary Methodist Church on the North Side on April 26, 2009 at 4:00 PM. An exciting variety of harp solos, duos and ensembles were well received by the audience. Proceeds from the concert were donated to the Allegheny Historical Preservation Society.

**HARPS FOR SALE: CHAPTER MEMBERS LIST FIVE HARPS FOR SALE**

From lever harps to pedal harps, we've got it! For more details, please check page nine of this newsletter.

**PLANS UNDERWAY TO BRING JAZZ HARPIST PARK STICKNEY TO PITTSBURGH**

We are still working with the Manchester Craftman's Guild to bring harpist Park Stickney to Pittsburgh to present a solo jazz recital, likely to be held sometime in the 2009/10 year.

**PITTSBURGH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN HARP SOCIETY OFFICERS**

*Gretchen Van Hoesen: President, 412-247-3916, [lavenderharp@yahoo.com](mailto:lavenderharp@yahoo.com).*

*Debbie Vallin: Vice President, 724-794-1374, [dcmv@zoominternet.net](mailto:dcmv@zoominternet.net)*

*Julia Ann Scott: Secretary, 412-922-4344, [harpist@whiterose.net](mailto:harpist@whiterose.net).*

*Denise Ventura: Treasurer, 412-563-2399, [dmventura@verizon.net](mailto:dmventura@verizon.net).*

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Julia Ann Scott  
Secretary, Pittsburgh Chapter AHS  
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