

The MUSIC & VISION Classical Music Newsletter

ISSUE 55, DECEMBER 2003

\* WHIRLWIND OF ACTIVITY

'History is a malleable thing. Each era has its own history; the things about the past it deems important. Some things are buried only to resurface many years or even generations later. Goethe said that history belongs to those who leave a clear record.'

Gordon Rumson recommends Charles Barber's book 'Lost in the Stars: The Forgotten Musical Life of Alexander Siloti':

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/siloti1.htm?0312>

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GERMAN MUSIC EXPRESS CLASSICAL MUSIC CHARTS - TOP CLASSICAL SALES

<http://www.musicexpress.com/bin/nph-html/?source=mvdnews&f=classical>

- 1 Beethoven: Fidelio. Vienna Phil/Furtwaengler (EMI Classics 7644962)
- 2 Bach Cantatas Vol 1 - Advent and Christmas. Karl Richter (Archiv)
- 3 Beethoven Symphony No 5, Violin Concerto. Furtwaengler (DG 4747282)
- 4 Beethoven Piano Sonatas. Wilhelm Kempff (DG 4747272)
- 5 Mozart Jupiter Symphony, Schubert "Unfinished" Boston SO/Jochum (DG)
- 6 Domenico Scarlatti: Sonatas Vols 1 and 2. Christian Zacharias (EMI)
- 7 Wagner, Brahms, Strauss, Tchaikovsky / Frederick Stock (Biddulph)
- 8 Arturo Toscanini conducts Verdi's "La Traviata" (Lyrica 11097)
- 9 Crumb: 11 Echoes, 4 Nocturnes, Vox Balaenae, Dream Seq. (Jecklin)
- 10 The Sound of Cellos, incl David Popper Requiem - Yale Cellos (Delos)

<http://www.musicexpress.com/bin/nph-html/?source=mvdnews&f=classical>

Specialists in hard-to-find music & videos from all parts of the world

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\* RIVER SPIRITS - RECORDING OF THE MONTH

Daniel Catan: Florencia en la Amazonas  
Houston Grand Opera / Patrick Summers Albany TROY 531/32 (2 CDs)

'... shimmering iridescent music' - Maria Nockin

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/florencia1.htm?0312>

Robert Anderson, Ron Bierman, Rex Harley, David Wilkins and John Bell Young also review CDs featuring music by Samuel Barber, Ora Bat Chaim,

Chopin, Franck, Ginastera, Ernest Gold, Benjamin Lees, Matthew Locke, Friedrich Nietzsche, Astor Piazzolla, Rachmaninov and Peter Sculthorpe.

Read these reviews, all with representative sound extracts :  
<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/issertlis1.htm?0312>

Browse our latest reviews  
by sound samples :  
<http://www.mvdaily.com/cdbrowse/mvcdrrad.cgi?0312>  
or by CD covers and details :  
<http://www.mvdaily.com/cdbrowse/?0312>

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The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is to give three performances of Patric Standford's Christmas Carol Symphony:

17 December at the Concert Hall, Lighthouse (Poole Arts Centre)  
18 December at Portsmouth Guildhall, and  
20th December, Great Hall of Exeter University.  
The conductor will be Michael Lloyd

A Christmas Carol Symphony is available on NAXOS 8.557099  
City of Prague Philharmonic/Gavin Sutherland.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/concerts/item.cgi?id=214606>

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\* COMMUNICATION - PROVOCATIVE THOUGHTS FROM PATRIC STANDFORD

'How many performances of fine music have we heard, given by players who have learnt the notes 'phonetically', but do not really understand the language? It is surely no surprise if these superficial performers are mystified by the cool or even derisory reception given to their recitals.'

Patric Standford meets an imaginary traveller from Beijing and asks some questions about communication and intelligence:

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/ptcommunication.htm?0312>

Join in the debate:

<http://www.mvdaily.com/contact/?0312>

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\* 'MESSIAH' AS NEVER BEFORE

'In 2001, when conductor Lygia O'Riordan hit on the idea of bringing

the first ever Messiah to Eastern Russia she could never have imagined the formidable task her bold plan would entail.'

In a specially illustrated feature, Howard Smith describes O'Riordan's quest to take Handel's masterpiece to the ecologically rich Pacific-facing island of Sakhalin:

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/messiah1.htm?0312>

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\* JAZZ YATRA - REVIEWS OF LIVE CONCERTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

'Jazz is arguably the most argumentative form of music (even has diminished and argued chords!). So at the outset let me present my side of the argument. Jazz is musical improvisation, right? Indian classical music is improvisation, still right?'

Colin D'Cruz visits India's Jazz Yatra; Malcolm Miller attends the launch of the ninth series of Music at the Wallace Collection; Keith Bramich reviews the Finchley Choral Society Centenary Concert; Lawrence Budmen is impressed with Festival Miami's celebration of Ned Rorem's eightieth birthday; David Thompson listens to Angela Hewitt's Bach, Couperin and Ravel; in our most recent review, Robert Hugill was at a concert performance of Handel's 'Serse' :

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/12/serse1.htm?0312>

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- Advertisement

'Sharp, wise and perfectly in tune' - Libby Purves

With her award-winning book, Alice McVeigh finally blows the lid off the world of classical music. In a series of hilarious "rules", she describes exactly how to succeed in the music profession (or not?). It's the book every conductor will want to ban!

<http://www.allrisksmusical.com/> - All Risks Musical

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\* THE MONTEVERDI ALLURE

'Monteverdi contended that good music was in consonance with the rhythm of life: a metaphor, a potion of fascinatingly structured, yet precisely composed form of therapy. He also believed that music was a renewal of divine balance, synchronisation of human mind, and its emotions.'

On the 360th anniversary of the death of Claudio Monteverdi, Rajgopal Nidamboor pays tribute to the first great composer of opera :

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/monteverdi1.htm?0312>

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\* AROUND THE WORLD - DECEMBER 2003 CONCERTS

Belgium: Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time

France: Evgeni Mikhailov plays Scriabin sonatas

Mexico: Bach, Debussy, Delius, Handel, Haydn, Rameau and Ravel

Romania: Jimenez premiere; Music by Beethoven, Boccherini, Brahms, Falla, Schubert, Strauss, Tchaikovsky and Weber in Brasov

Spain: Josue Bonnin de Gongora, composer and pianist

Switzerland: Inauguration of new great organ in Lausanne

UK: Birtwistle's 'Theseus Game' - London premiere; Leeds Concert Season (including Camilla Bisengaliev); Baobab - African Rhythm and European Classics; Milena Bendakova; I Gemelli; Tavener's Svyati; ECO Ensemble; various Christmas concerts including 'L'enfance du Christ' at Westminster Cathedral

USA: Jerome Lowenthal - Piano at Pringle-Ward; New York Philomusica Chamber Ensemble; First annual classical guitar celebration cruise; New York Choral Society Christmas Concert at Carnegie Hall

Full details of these and other events:  
<http://www.mvdaily.com/concerts/?0312>

Add details of your own concerts :  
<http://www.cadenza.org/events/add.php?mv0312>

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\* ASK ALICE

'Is it true that choristers are actually a race of vile subhuman mutants, or is it just that orchestra players treat them that way?'

Alice McVeigh enters the spirit of Christmas ...

<http://www.mvdaily.com/articles/2003/11/mutants.htm?0312>

Write to classical-music's agony aunt:  
<http://www.mvdaily.com/contact/askalice.htm?0312>

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- READERS' FREE CLASSIFIED SHORT TEXT ADS

Short text ad entry form:

<http://www.mvdaily.com/contact/textad.htm?0312>

- Personal

I am looking for the sheet music of chansons of Hildegard Knef (Neff).  
Can anyone help? [martinpackham@netscape.net](mailto:martinpackham@netscape.net)

Grade 8 distinction euphonium player/singer/songwriter seeks pianist in  
London area to form a duet [Daniel@burrowssw20.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:Daniel@burrowssw20.fsnet.co.uk)

- Recordings

The musical saw & bells CD - Your favorite Christmas tunes like  
you've never heard them before! [www.sawlady.com](http://www.sawlady.com)

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Elizabeth School of Music in Miami, Florida. All methods and levels  
\$12 half hour, \$20 an hour [elizabethschoolofmusic@yahoo.com](mailto:elizabethschoolofmusic@yahoo.com)

Classical guitar, theory, harmony and counterpoint. London. All levels  
Also available for home visits [music-resources.0catch.com](http://music-resources.0catch.com)

Bubbly and friendly flute and music theory teacher wants more students  
in Manchester UK area. Will travel [Rach5162@hotmail.com](mailto:Rach5162@hotmail.com)

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