



Newsletter

Series VIII, Volume I, Number 2

Summer 2008

WAC in the 21st Century

Since WaC's conception, the world has changed. Its membership has changed. Has WAC's mission changed? WAC's general meeting on November 1, 2008, will address this question. Join us at 11AM at the Madison Public Library, 201 W. Mifflin St., Madison, WI 53703 for a brainstorming session, in anticipation of the creation of a new mission statement for the organization. In addition, other matters, including the election of new board members will be discussed as well. It promises to be an exciting time!

La Crosse New Music Festival 2008 Call for Scores

WAC members are encouraged to submit scores for the La Crosse New Music Festival, 2008. The festival will be held November 4—6, 2008. Works for all orchestral instruments (except harp) solo or in ensembles of up to 5 players plus electronic works are welcome. Composers are also welcome to bring their own performers. Student string quartets and brass quintets are available for performances as well. Composers are expected to include recordings when possible and self addressed, stamped return envelopes. Send submissions to the following address:

Dr. Christopher Frye
136 Center for the Arts
Music Department
UW-La Crosse
La Crosse, WI 54601
email: frye.chri@uwlax.edu
608 785 6729

Alabama Orchestra Association Competition

The Alabama Orchestra Association, announces its annual Composers Competition for a work to be performed by the Alabama All State Festival Orchestra during our annual All State Orchestra Festival. We seek compositions for full orchestra composed within the last two years and never performed in public. The winning composer will win \$1,000 and a public performance plus residency at the Alabama All State Orchestra Festival. 2008-2009 submission deadline is November 15, 2008 for rehearsal and performance February 12-15 2009 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Complete info and application are available at: alabamaorchestraassociation.org.

2009 Truman State University/MACRO Composers Competition

The Upsilon Phi Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, The Epsilon Pi Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, The Mostly Live Composers Society, and the Macro Analysis Creative Research Organization (MACRO) Announce the 2009 Truman State University/MACRO Composers Competition.

PRIZE: \$1000 from MACRO, a \$500 commission from Truman State's music fraternities. (One or more Honorable Mentions may be awarded at the discretion of the sponsors.)

ENTRY GUIDELINES AND SUBMISSION PROCEDURES:

* Submit one or more works for CLARINET ENSEMBLE or a CHAMBER ENSEMBLE FEATURING CLARINET that has/ have been composed within the past three years. Works must be unpublished, and must not have previously won any award. There are no duration restrictions. There is no entry fee.

* Submit one copy of each score and a CD recording (required~MIDI acceptable). Remove your name and other identifying marks from your score(s) and CD(s).

* Complete an entry form for each submission, and send the form(s) with your materials.

Include a resume or biographical sketch. POSTMARK DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2008.

For Further information, contact:

Dr. Warren Gooch
Truman State University/MACRO Composition Chair
Department of Music
Truman State University
Kirksville, MO 63501
(e-mail: wgooch@truman.edu) (phone: 660/785-4429)

(doc and txt files with further information available at:
<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/wiscomposers/files/>

Reports from our membership

Requiescant in pace

La Crosse native Robert Moevs, a composer of a rich body of orchestral, chamber, vocal and instrumental music passed away December 10, 2007. He was 87. Moevs was a 1938 graduate of Central High School who studied and taught at Harvard University. His sister, Marilyn Helminiak, said he had suffered from Parkinson's disease. He was buried two weeks ago in Oak Grove Cemetery in La Crosse. In 2003, Moevs was inducted into Central's Hall of Excellence.

Moevs graduated from Harvard in 1942. He served as a pilot and intelligence officer in the U.S. Air Force. He then studied for five years at the Fontainebleau School and at the Paris National Conservatory under Parisian music theory instructor Nadia Boulanger, who also taught Aaron Copland.

Moevs received his master's degree from Harvard in 1952, and was one of 12 Americans to receive the Prix de Rome. He was composer-in-residence at the American Academy in Rome and a Guggenheim Fellow. In 1978, he received the Stockhausen International Prize in Composition for his concerto grosso for piano and orchestra. The Boston Symphony, George Szell and the Cleveland Orchestra, and Leonard Bernstein also presented his works.

Article courtesy of Terry Rindfleisch of the La Crosse Tribune.

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Congratulations to composer Dan Maske who has been selected as the winner of the 2007 UW-La Crosse/Wisconsin Alliance for Composers Symphony Orchestra Commission. Maske was chosen from the pool of Wisconsin composer entrants submitting works for consideration in the first annual commissioning project between the Wisconsin Alliance for Composers and UW-La Crosse's Symphony Orchestra. He received \$1000 to write a work for full orchestra that will be premiered by the UW-La Crosse symphony orchestra, directed by Dr. Enaldo Oliveira in the spring of 2008. Maske was also be invited to work with the orchestra members and director in residence before the premiere of the work.

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Composer Christopher Frye was commissioned to write a work for Jazz band and choir for the inauguration of chancellor Joseph Gow at UW-La Crosse. The work, "Let the Truth be Told" was performed October 19, 2007 for the inauguration ceremony in La Crosse.

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Joseph Koykkar's composition Panache, was released on the new Relache Ensemble CD-"Eight Point Turn"-in March 2008 on the Meyer Media label. In addition, his new orchestral work, "Beyond Circumstance" was premiered by the Wisconsin Youth Symphony on March 9, 2008. WYSO also commissioned the composition. Finally, His work for 2 pianos, "Keyboard Dances" will be featured on the January 25, 2009 concert of the MacDowell Club in Milwaukee. This concert is part of a series celebrating the 100th anniversary of the music organization. The concert will be at Cardinal Stritch College.

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Reports from our membership

La Crosse New Music Festival 2007

The 8th annual La Crosse New Music Festival was held November 13, 14 and 15, 2007. The event featured a wide variety of instrumental, vocal, choral and electronic pieces. Christopher Burns was the guest composer while David Bohn, organist, was the guest performer. Burns presented a fascinating Lecture/Presentation on Laptop Improvisation Tuesday, November 13. The November 14th concert, held at Christ Episcopal Church, featured works for organ and choir. The festival showcased performances by the UW-La Crosse Concert Choir, Percussion Ensemble and Korean Percussion Ensemble and the Saint Mary's University Chamber Singers. Compositions by student composers including Emily Cooley, winner of the WAC Student Composition Contest were programmed throughout the festival. WAC composers who were represented include Christopher Burns, Gary Kent Walth, Christopher Frye, Wallace Cheatham, James Chaudoir, Michael Cunningham and Jerod Sommerfeldt. The La Crosse New Music Festival 2008 will be held November 4-5, 2008.

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The MacDowell Club of Milwaukee is celebrating its centennial this season, and its concert series features works by a number of Wisconsin composers: James Crowley's *Impromptu* will be heard on their concert on October 5th; works by S. Marion Verhaalen and Peter Baime on November 9th; Daron Hagen and John Downey on December 14th; Jeffrey Honoré, Roger Ruggieri, Joe Koykkar, and Hildegard Fischer on January 25th; S. Marion Verhaalen, Sigmund Snopek, Hildegard Fischer, Wallace Cheatham, S. Theophane Hytrek, and David Bohn on February 1st; and S. Theophane Hytrek, John Downey, and Michael Torke on March 8th. All these concerts are at 2:30 and will occur in the Nancy Kendall Theater of Cardinal Stritch University, with the exception of the February 1st concert, which takes place at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Wauwatosa.

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Joel Blahnik's work *Our Home* was premiered at the Gibraltar High School in Door County on May 20th, 2008. Scored for chorus and band and featuring a text by Gary Jones and the composer, the work was written in honor of the Gibraltar Township Sesquicentennial, and was performed by the High School's band and chorus, conducted by Charles Eckhardt.

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David Bohn performed four programs around the state featuring works by Judith Baity, James Chaudoir, Wallace Cheatham, Robert Crane, Michael Cunningham, John Downey, Christopher Frye, and Charma Lepke. The programs were at St. John's Cathedral, Milwaukee (June 13, 2007, as part of the Cathedral's summer concert series), Holy Cross Catholic Church, Kaukauna (July 31, 2007, as part of the 2007 Lunchtime Concert Series in Appleton and environs), Christ Episcopal Church, La Crosse (November 14, 2007, as part of the La Crosse New Music Festival), and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside (March 14, 2008).

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Got news to report? Send it to your intereim newsletter editor at <dbohn@ticon.net>. We can't report it if we don't hear about it! Articles are also welcome.

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**The Wisconsin Alliance for Composers, Inc. (WAC)** is a non-profit tax-exempt corporation formed to promote the composition and performance of music by composers with present or past affiliations with the State or Wisconsin. Full membership (\$25 annually, \$10 for students) is open to any composer currently or previously residing in the State of Wisconsin. Associate membership (\$15 annually) is open to performers and other interested individuals supportive of new music in Wisconsin, regardless of place of residence. Institutional membership (\$25 annually) is open to orchestras, schools, music departments, libraries, foundations, and similar institutions, regardless of location. **Members of the Board of Directors** are listed below, along with their term expiration date. Officers are elected annually.

David Bohn, Milwaukee ('10) Vice President <dbohn@ticon.net  
 Keith Carpenter, Milwaukee ('08) Vice President <carpentk@uwp.edu>  
 Christopher Frye, La Crosse ('10) Sec./Treas. <frye.chri@uwlax.edu>  
 Ed Martin, Oshkosh ('08) <martine@uwosh.edu>  
 Jeff Gibbens, Madison (09) <jeff\_gibbens@yahoo.com>

James Chaudoir, Oshkosh ('09) <chaudoir@uwosh.edu>  
 David Drexler, Madison ('08) <david@drexlermusic.com>  
 Ivar Lunde, Eau Claire ('10) <ivar@skylinestudio.com>  
 Joel Naumann, Orfordville ('09) <westerne@aol.com>

**For information or inquiries about membership**, contact Christopher Frye at the official WAC mailing address:  
 Wisconsin Alliance for Composers, 1522 Main St., La Crosse, WI 54601, email <frye.chri@uwlax.edu>

Frequency of publication of the Newsletter is determined by the number and timing of WAC statewide conferences occurring in a given academic year. During those years in which both fall and spring conferences are held, the Newsletter is issued four times—in October, December, February, and June. During those years in which one or more conferences are held in the fall only or in the spring only, the Newsletter is issued three times—in October, December, and June when only fall conferences are held, and in October, February, and June when only spring conferences are held. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication (for example, the deadline for an October Newsletter is September 15th).

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 To join the WAC email list, send a blank email message to [wiscomposers-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:wiscomposers-subscribe@yahoo.com)

Newsletter items (editorials, news, notices, etc.) should be sent to the editor at the above address. Article submissions should be sent via e-mail or on a PC disk using a standard word processing program along with a hard-copy for review purposes. **The Newsletter is now accepting advertisements.** Please contact the editor for current ad rates and submission guidelines. **Please note that the date of your next expected dues payment is printed on the mailing label of this Newsletter.**

To join WAC or renew your membership, fill out this form and mail it with your dues, payable to WAC. Send to:

Wisconsin Alliance for Composers  
 1522 Main St.  
 La Crosse, WI 54601

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*Wisconsin Alliance for Composers, Inc.*  
*1522 Main St.,*  
*La Crosse, WI 54601*  
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