

Walden Notes

WINTER 2001

Newsletter of the Walden Chamber Players  Christof Huebner, Artistic Director



FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Continuing the Good Work



It is the time of the year again when everyone decides what worthy charities they wish to support. It is not too late to make your tax deductible donation to WCP this year! The combination of the slowing economy and the tragic events of September 11 have drastically changed the philanthropic environment in the US. Many arts organizations are facing substantial budgetary shortfalls. Interestingly though, it is in times such as the ones we are living through that we often call on the arts, and especially music, more than ever to comfort us, uplift us and help us come to terms with the immense sense of grief and sadness within all of us. It is important to remember, especially today, just how much the arts give to us in these sad and difficult times. Thank you for all of your support in the past and we hope you will help us to continue our programs by responding and giving generously to the WCP. Happy Holidays!

Christof Huebner

Celebrating Our Fifth Season

Since our last (and first ever) newsletter WCP has moved ahead at a true whirlwind pace. The current season is in full swing with a total of 12 concerts and a live show on WGBH Radio on May 3, 2002. The concerts have been both in our familiar venues such as the James Library, Kalliroscope Gallery and Boston College, as well as in venues new to WCP such as the Nantucket Musical Arts Society, Tannery Pond in New Lebanon, NY and the Troy Savings Bank Musical Hall in Troy, NY. Along with well-known composers such as Brahms and Haydn, we are featuring the music of Hindemith, Milhaud, Schnittke and Stephen Paulus this year, and audience members consistently comment about the stimulating and thought-provoking programs. The second half of our season will bring WCP to two additional new venues, the New England Artists Series in Westford, and the first season at the just completed Blackman Hall at the Indian Hill Music Center in Littleton, MA.

The WCP's credo that music is the human experience translated into sound continues to provide profound guidance in the program-selection for concerts and also in the development of our educational presentations. Music and the Social Conscience,

our outreach program, has been presented in several school districts in the Berkshires this fall in varying formats. The programs have received

such a positive response that WCP has been invited back by all of the schools to continue the relationship and build on the presentations for next season. Our first cd featuring WCP bassoonist Rick Ranti will soon be available in stores and offered for sale at our concerts. Yet another very exciting development has been WCP's selection to the Touring and Residency Roster of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, as well as the Educational Roster. We are pleased that our continued efforts in youth education are being recognized with this accreditation by the MCC!


As announced in the first issue of our newsletter *Walden Notes* we are about to perform our first dates with Branford Marsalis, saxophonist, as our special guest. The first concert with Mr. Marsalis will take place this summer, July 23rd, on Nantucket presented by the Nantucket Musical Arts



Photographer Lou Jones captured the spirit of the Walden Chamber Players in a recent photo shoot.

Society. WCP has also commissioned a composition, written for Branford Marsalis and the WCP for this occasion, by Nantucket native and composer Dr. Daniel Crozier. Further performances with Branford and the WCP are in the planning stages at various other venues. We hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be a unique concert experience!

Susan Spelman and Christof Huebner, WCP's executive and artistic directors will again attend the Chamber Music America conference in New York in January. Besides exhibiting WCP's accomplishments, our directors will be taking classes as well as networking. Please stop by and see us if you plan to attend the convention!

Time doesn't stand still, especially with "Walden" and so we are already busily working on next season, as well. So, stay tuned! 

WALDEN CHAMBER PLAYERS WINTER/SPRING 2002

LEAF JANUARY 13, 2002
JAMES LIBRARY, NORWELL, MA

LEAF FEBRUARY 16, 2002
NEW ENGLAND ARTISTS SERIES
WESTFORD, MA

LEAF APRIL 7, 2002
CLARK ART INSTITUTE
WILLIAMSTOWN, MA

LEAF APRIL 28, 2002
EDWARD PICKMAN HALL
LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
CAMBRIDGE, MA

LEAF MAY 4, 2002
INDIAN HILL MUSIC CENTER
LITTLETON, MA

WALDEN CHAMBER PLAYERS

TATIANA DIMITRIADES - VIOLIN
NURIT BAR-JOSEF - VIOLIN
ALEXANDER VELINZON - VIOLIN
CHRISTOF HUEBNER - VIOLA
ANDREW PEARCE - CELLO
LAWRENCE WOLFE - BASS
MARIANNE GEDIGIAN - FLUTE
LAURA AHLBECK - OBOE
THOMAS MARTIN - CLARINET
RICHARD RANTI - BASSOON
RICHARD SEBRING - HORN
JONATHAN BASS - PIANO

CONTACT Us!

LEAF For more information about the Walden Chamber Players, contact Susan Spelman at 800/586-8438 or visit us at www.waldenchamberplayers.org

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

What is Music and the Social Conscience?

Music and the Social Conscience was developed in an effort to bring to young audiences, grades 6-12, programs that document the centrality of music to our shared experience. This presentation explores how music and history have impacted each other at various times, and how music has been used as a tool in the struggle for greater social justice and human rights. Music and the Social Conscience is a multi-media presentation utilizing film clips, posters, and many musical examples to immerse

students in various moments in history and different cultures. The musical examples, ranging from Chilean folk songs to Shostakovich's 8th string quartet and Rap encourage the students to make the connection between music and their own social history. The response from students and teachers alike to Music and the Social



Richmond Consolidated School students performing with WCP at a recent outreach program.

Conscience has been enthusiastic and very moving, and has increased student interest in classical music as well as in the music of other cultures. LEAF

NEWS

LEAF Two distinguished artists have joined the Board of Artistic Advisers of the WCP recently. The eminent English pianist **Imogen Cooper** and **Federico Cortese**, assistant conductor of the BSO have joined Branford Marsalis as artistic advisers of the ensemble. We are delighted to



Federico Cortese

LEAF WCP member **Nurit Bar-Josef** has been appointed Concertmaster of the National Symphony Orchestra in

welcome these illustrious artists to our advisory board!

Washington DC as of September 2001. Nurit plans to continue performing with the WCP in the Boston area, and WCP is now looking forward to presenting concerts in the Washington DC area. Congratulations, Nurit, on your accomplishments!

Walden Chamber Players

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Pittsfield, MA 01201

*"A concert season spent
with the Walden Chamber Players*

is a time for discovery"

- CHAMBER MUSIC MAGAZINE -



MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL