

## **Penn State's Center for the Performing Arts Classical Music Project – funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**

In our fourth semester since receiving the grant, we continue to fulfill the project's mission and goals in creative ways. Below is a summary of our accomplishments during the past five months and an outline of future plans.

### **Major Residency Program**

This spring, we featured Opera Atelier's production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and a week-long residency:

- Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg, co-artistic directors of Opera Atelier visited campus in February and met with students, faculty, and community members, participating in a variety of classes and public discussions.
- Opera Atelier was engaged in a residency April 15<sup>th</sup> – April 18<sup>th</sup> that culminated in the public performance of *The Magic Flute*.



### **Student Engagement Activities**

#### **Student Affairs at Penn State**

The CMP team has continued to build a relationship with our Student Affairs partners: Philip Burlingame, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, and Barry Bram, Senior Associate Director of Unions. Together, we are working to help raise the level of student awareness and engagements by:

- Meeting with numerous student organizations, including the Association of Residence Hall Students, Council of LionHearts (Penn State Service Leaders), and the Greek Governing Council. Together with these student groups, we are promoting the arts and brainstorming ways to involve student organizations organically and meaningfully in the Classical Music Project.
- In the fall of 2013, in collaboration with our student affairs partners, we will be holding a Focus Group with students to learn more about how to engage the broader Penn State student population in the Classical Music Project.

#### **Hillel Event: An Evening with Matt Haimovitz**

The Penn State Hillel organization hosted an intimate performance and discussion event with cellist Matt Haimovitz on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>.

- 57 students, faculty, and community members attended the event, held downtown at a local restaurant. The informal performance and



discussion focused on themes in Jewish music, was well received by all in attendance.

- Many of the students who attended the Hillel event were present at the evening performance on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> in Schwab Auditorium, a signal that interacting with the artist provided a positive impetus to explore this music further.

### **Classical Music Project Branding**

- In the spring of 2013, our marketing team created a Classical Music Project Brochure that highlighted our spring events, including the Interdisciplinary Lecture Series and the Film Series. These brochures were distributed at all CMP-affiliated events and could also be found at many locations in town and around campus.
- Moo cards (small business cards with striking CMP images) and Classical Music Project buttons were distributed to students at many meetings and educational events.



### **Curriculum Partnerships**

#### **Penn State School of Music Courses:**

In spring 2013, Eric McKee, associate professor of music theory, led the Classical Music Project Interdisciplinary Lecture Series titled: *Hearing the Body in Motion: The Dance Music of Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven*. There were 24 students enrolled in the course and all lectures were open to the general public. This eight-part lecture series featured renowned speakers from the United States and Canada.

- January 10<sup>th</sup> – *French Court Dancing*, Eric McKee (Associate Professor at Penn State)
- February 5<sup>th</sup> – *Beethoven in Hollywood*, Michael Broyles (Professor of Musicology at Florida State University)
- February 12<sup>th</sup> – *Mozart's Minuets*, Eric McKee
- February 19<sup>th</sup> – *Habits of the Viennese Ballroom*, Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg (Co-Artistic Directors of Opera Atelier, Toronto, Ontario)
- March 19<sup>th</sup> – *Mozart and the Brain*, Craig Wright (Professor of Music at Yale University)
- March 26<sup>th</sup> – *The Persistence of Minuets in the Music of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert*, Neal Zaslaw (Professor of Music at Cornell University)
- March 28<sup>th</sup> – *Could Beethoven Dance?*, Eric McKee
- April 16<sup>th</sup> – *Engaging the Spiritual in Beethoven*, Robert Hatten (Professor of Music Theory at the University of Texas)



### **Online Course Modules:**

Also in spring 2013, an online component was added to Music 005, the general education music appreciation course. Two School of Music faculty, Jennifer Trost, associate professor of music (voice), and John Packard, instructor in the School of Music, worked with the College of Arts and Architecture's e-Learning Institute to produce an online opera module for use in this course and in Music 480 (Opera Literature). The online materials provided details to assist students with a variety of themes. Professor Packard also worked with CMP staff to incorporate visiting artists into the course and arranged for students to attend Opera Atelier's performance of *The Magic Flute*.

### **Film Series:**

The Classical Music Project presented a film series highlighting classical composers and musicians, co-sponsored by Penn State's Institute for the Arts and Humanities during spring semester 2013. Our community partner, The State Theatre in downtown State College, provided the venue and screened the films.

*Thirty-Two Short Films about Glenn Gould [on Bach's Goldberg Variations]* – Introduced by Christopher Guzman, Assistant Professor of Music (piano) at Penn State

*Immortal Beloved [on Beethoven]* – Introduced by Michael Broyles, Professor of Musicology at Florida State University

*Tous les Matins du Monde [on Marin Marais and the Court of Louis XIV]* – Introduced by Marica Tacconi, Professor of Musicology at Penn State

*Amadeus [on Mozart]* – Introduced by Charles Youmans, Associate Professor of Musicology at Penn State

### **Penn State Altoona Campus Project**

Cellist Matt Haimovitz took part in "An Afternoon with Bach," a lecture and performance on the Penn State Altoona Campus that was moderated by Tim Melbinger, lecturer in music. Later that evening Haimovitz was joined on the PSU Altoona Campus by pianist Christopher O'Riley for performance and discussion.

- The "An Afternoon with Bach" lecture and performance with cellist Matt Haimovitz was held in the Titleman Study of the Misciagna Family Center for the Performing Arts and had a full house of more than 120 people in attendance, the majority of whom were students.
- Later that afternoon, Matt Haimovitz performed a flash concert in the Port Sky Café on the Altoona Campus, with approximately 40 students in attendance.
- The evening performance, featuring Matt Haimovitz, cello, and Christopher O'Riley, piano, was held in the Paul R. and Margery Wolf-Kuhn



Theatre in the Misciagna Family Center for the Performing Arts. The duo performed to an audience of 224 students, faculty, and community members. The free performance was followed by a post-concert reception.

- We received very positive feedback from our partners in Altoona, as well as Brian Black, Head of the Division of Arts and Humanities at Penn State Altoona.
- Interest is so great in this project that we have decided with our Altoona partners to bring two ensembles to the Altoona campus next year, the American Brass Quintet in the fall and Cantus in the spring.

## **2012-2013 Season/Spring Semester Recap**

### **Matt Haimovitz & Christopher O’Riley**

- Matt Haimovitz began the residency at Penn State with “An Afternoon with Bach,” a lecture and performance moderated by Tim Melbinger, lecturer in music at Penn State Altoona. (open to the public)
- Matt Haimovitz performed a flash concert in the Port Sky Café at Penn State Altoona later in the afternoon. (open to the public)
- Matt Haimovitz and Christopher O’Riley presented “An Evening with Haimovitz and O’Riley,” a lecture and performance at the Paul R. and Margery Wolf-Kuhn Theatres in the Misciagna Family Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State Altoona. (open to the public)
- Christopher O’Riley visited a ComMedia Class hosted by faculty members Ann Kuskowski and Steve Reighard.
- Christopher O’Riley performed and held Q&A for staff and students at Innovation Park hosted by Patty Kunes and the coolBlue Community. (open to the public)
- Matt Haimovitz held a cello master class hosted by Kim Cook, Professor of Music (cello). (open to the public)
- Christopher O’Riley held a piano master class hosted by Steven Smith, Professor of Music (piano). (open to the public)
- Matt Haimovitz participated in the Hillel sponsored event “An Evening with Matt Haimovitz,” hosted by Gerardo Edelstein, director of orchestral studies at Penn State’s School of Music, and Ruth Edelstein, lecturer in Penn State’s Jewish Studies Program. (open to the public)
- Haimovitz and O’Riley presented a public performance in Schwab Auditorium of their program entitled *Shuffle.Play.Listen*. The artists participated in an Artistic Viewpoints preconcert presentation.



### **Brentano String Quartet**

- BSQ began their second Penn State visit with a Salon Evening performance and discussion moderated by



Charles Youmans, Associate Professor of Musicology (open to the public)

- BSQ presented a strings master class hosted by Jim Lyon, Penn State School of Music. (open to the public)
- BSQ, led by violinist Mark Steinberg, presented a lecture and demonstration on the influence of Eastern Philosophy on Beethoven's late quartets with Daniel Purdy's Comparative Literature: Romantic Spaces class (CMLIT 597) and Erica Brindley's students from Chinese Thought (HIST 484Y).
- The BSQ presented a program of Beethoven String Quartets, continuing the three-year cycle of these masterworks. Members of the BSQ participated in an Artistic Viewpoints preconcert discussion.

### **Beethoven Orchestra Bonn**

- Concert pianist Louis Lortie presented a master class, hosted by faculty member Christopher Guzman. (open to the public)
- The Beethoven Orchestra Bonn, conducted by music director Stefan Blunier and featuring piano soloist Louis Lortie, presented an all-Beethoven program that included the 5<sup>th</sup> Piano Concerto and 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony. Principal horn player, Geoffrey Winter, participated in an Artistic Viewpoints preconcert discussion.

### **Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra**

- Penn State Faculty presented a Salon Evening inspired by Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra's production *House of Dreams*. Faculty panelists included Charlotte Houghton (art history), Nancy Locke (art history), Marica Tacconi (musicology), and Robin Thomas (art history). (open to the public)
- Alison MacKay, double bassist and the creator of the *House of Dreams* program, presented a lecture on the art used in the production to graduate students in an Art History Seminar (514), hosted by faculty member Robin Thomas.
- Jeanne Lamon, director of Tafelmusik, presented a master class with the Penn State Baroque Ensemble, hosted by faculty member Rob Nairn. (open to the public)
- Jeanne Lamon presented a strings master class, hosted by faculty member Jim Lyon. (open to the public)
- Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra presented a performance of *House of Dreams*. The creator of the work, Alison MacKay, participated in an Artistic Viewpoints preconcert discussion.



### **Opera Atelier**

- In February, Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg, co-artistic directors of Opera Atelier participated in several educational activities:

- Marshall and Jeannette presented a lecture of baroque gesture and dance, hosted by faculty member Eric McKee (Music 463W). This lecture was part of the CMP Interdisciplinary Lecture Series. (open to the public)
- Marshall presented a voice master class on Baroque gesture in singing, hosted by faculty member Edward Christopher. (open to the public)
- Marshall and Jeannette held a discussion about the creation and management of a professional opera company with students in faculty member Jennifer Trost's Opera Literature Class (Music 480).
- Marshall and Jeannette presented information about opera and their production of *The Magic Flute* to students in Music 005, a general education course, hosted by faculty member John Packard.
- Marshall presented a lecture on baroque gesture in art to graduate students in an Art History (514) seminar, hosted by faculty member Robin Thomas.
- Jeannette presented a Baroque Dance Workshop for members of the Baroque Ensemble as well as dance and theatre students, hosted by faculty members Rob Nairn from Music and Elisha Halpin from Theatre.
- Marshall and Jeannette made a presentation about Opera Atelier's and their production of *The Magic Flute* to members of the Center for the Performing Arts.
- In April, Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg and David Fallis presented a Salon Evening at the Nittany Lion Inn. The event included discussion and audience question and answer moderated by George Trudeau. (open to the public)
- Opera Atelier presented its production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* for over 2,000 patrons. Set designer for the production, Gerard Gauci, participated in an Artistic Viewpoints preconcert discussion.



## **2013-2014 Project Overview**

### **Classical Music Project Artists – 2013/14**

We have begun planning residency activities for artists in the 2013/14 season and will be working to engage students from all across the institution, including: the Penn State Dickinson School of Law, Student Activities and Leadership, Smeal College of Business, Penn State Athletics, Schreyer Honors College, coolBLUE Team at Innovation Park; and student groups including Students Engaging Students and Penn State THON, with more collaborations currently in the works.

- St. Lawrence String Quartet – Oct. 7-10, 2013 (concert on 10/9, Schwab Auditorium)

- American Brass Quintet – Oct. 27-30, 2013 (concert on 10/30, Schwab Auditorium) Altoona campus residency/performance on 10/29
- Apollo’s Fire – Nov. 6-8, 2013 (concert on 11/7, Schwab Auditorium)
- Jeremy Denk, pianist – Jan, 27-29, 2014 (concert on 1/29, Schwab Auditorium)
- Vienna Concert-Verein Orchestra, conducted by Philippe Entremont with Sebastian Knauer, piano soloist – Feb. 6, 2014 (concert on 2/6, Eisenhower Auditorium)
- Brentano String Quartet – Feb 19-21, 2014 (concert on 2/21, Schwab Auditorium)
- Cantus – Mar. 30-April 2, 2014 (concert on 4/1, Pasquerilla Spiritual Center) Altoona campus residency/performance on 4/2.

Residency planning is in development for all artists with additional opportunities being explored.

### **Penn State School of Music Courses:**

#### Classical Music Project Online Course Integration

- For Music 005, a general education course, additional course enhancement modules are being developed. In fall 2013, a module on orchestral music will be introduced to the course. In spring 2014, a module on chamber music will be introduced to the course.
- *Under the Hood: How Classical Music Works*, an online general education course developed by Stephen Hopkins, assistant professor of music, will be offered beginning in the fall semester, 2013.

#### Interdisciplinary Lecture Series

- A second Interdisciplinary Lecture Series is being developed for fall 2013 and spring 2014, hosted by Penn State School of Music faculty members Eric McKee and Mark Ferraguto. Lectures will include and feature guest lecturers, as well as artists in residence.

### **Salon Evening – Reinvented**

The first two years of the project featured Salon Evening programs with a selection of artists. These programs, held at the Nittany Lion Inn, allowed students and local community members to engage with the artists in personal, unique ways. In year three, we plan to reintroduce these programs as “Classical Coffeehouses” and move them to the Hetzel Union Building in the heart of the Penn State Campus. Through collaborations with our partners in Student Affairs and student groups we hope to engage a greater range of the campus community in these programs.

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