

Arts Club of Washington
2017 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20006
THE FRIDAY NOON CONCERT SERIES
William Montgomery, Producer
MAY 2008

The Arts Club of Washington presents its May 2008 series of concerts every Friday at noon from May 2 through May 30, 2008. The concerts are held in the historic Monroe House, home of the Arts Club of Washington, at 2017 I St., N. W. (near the intersection of 21st and Penn. Ave., midway between the Foggy Bottom and Farragut West Metro Stations on the Blue/Orange Lines and 3 ½ blocks from the Farragut North Station on the Red Line). The concerts are free and open to the public.

Friday, May 2, 2008—OPERATIC SCENES BY THE MARYLAND OPERA STUDIO (Part I)

The acclaimed MARYLAND OPERA STUDIO, Leon Major, artistic director, is both a degree program and a performance ensemble within the University of Maryland School of Music. As a two-year program leading to the Master of Music in Opera Performance degree, the Studio provides complete education and training of the opera singer in preparation for a professional performance career. They will perform scenes from *Giulio Cesare in Egitto* by Handel, *The Bartered Bride* by Smetana, *Così fan tutte* by Mozart, and *Carmen* by Bizet.

Friday, May 9, 2008—HELEEN Du PLESSIS, cellist; with MYRIAM AVALOS, pianist

They will perform movements of Brahms' Sonata in E Minor, Opus 38; Elgar's Cello Concerto in E Minor, Opus 85; and Shostakovich's Sonata in D Minor Opus 40. HELEEN DU PLESSIS, a native of South Africa, is a graduate of the University of Pretoria and did her graduate work in Geneva. While in Geneva she performed for occasions such as the United Nations celebration for Nelson Mandela and F. W. De Klerk's ceremony upon receiving the Nobel Prize. She then returned to South Africa to teach at the University of Pretoria and to perform solo recitals and chamber music concerts. MYRIAM AVALOS, a native of Peru, was trained at the National Conservatory of Music in Lima, Peru and made her orchestral debut with the National Symphony of Peru. She was a recipient of the grant from the OAS to study music in the USA. She has performed with the National Symphony here in DC, and she has performed locally at the Phillips Gallery, the Kennedy Center, and Dumbarton Oaks. Dr. Avalos has been conferred the title of Cultural Ambassador by the Government of Peru.

Friday, May 16, 2008—OPERATIC SCENES BY THE MARYLAND OPERA STUDIO (Part II)

The acclaimed MARYLAND OPERA STUDIO, Leon Major, artistic director, is both a degree program and a performance ensemble within the University of Maryland School of Music. As a two-year program leading to the Master of Music in Opera Performance degree, the Studio provides complete education and training of the opera singer in preparation for a professional performance career. They will perform different operatic scenes from those performed on May 2 (Part I).

Friday, May 23, 2008—AUDREY ANDRIST, pianist

AUDREY ANDRIST is an outstanding, as well as an internationally known, pianist living in the Washington area, who grew up on a farm in rural Saskatchewan. She received her doctorate from the Juilliard School of Music, and has won the San Antonio Keyboard Competition and the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition. She has performed as soloist with the National Arts Center Orchestra of Ottawa, the CBC Vancouver Symphony, and the Juilliard Orchestra in New York; and she has performed as recitalist in New York's Tully Hall, Chicago's Ravinia Festival, and Montreal's Place des Arts. Locally she has appeared in chamber music performances with the Kennedy Center Chamber Players, the 21st Century Consort, the Smithsonian Chamber Players, and the Left Bank Concert Society. Her CDs are on the Albany, AUR, Capstone, CRI, and Summit recording labels. She has been a music faculty member of the Cleveland Institute of Music and a Resident Artist of both the Banff and Ravinia summer festivals. She will perform the monumental Fantasy by Robert Schumann.

Friday, May 30, 2008—To Be Announced

Friday, June 6, 2008—THE COVINGTON STRING QUARTET: GREG PINNEY and LUKE WEDGEOLIN, violinists; WILLIAM HURD, violist; and FRANK McKINSTER, cellist

The Quartet will perform Debussy's String Quartet and the Scherzo from Rubinstein's String Quartet.

The Arts Club of Washington was founded in 1916 and is located in the historic James Monroe and MacFeely Houses. The mission of the Arts Club is to generate public appreciation for, and participation in, the arts in the Nation's capital through ongoing educational programs that include seminars, literary events, art exhibitions, and musical and theatrical performances. The Arts Club is also dedicated to promoting the appreciation of historic preservation through the study, restoration, and preservation of the historic James Monroe House. Its galleries are open to the public free of charge Tuesdays through Saturdays. The Arts Club welcomes inquiries (the web site is www.artsclubofwashington.org) from persons who would like to support the Arts Club's activities or to consider membership in the Arts Club.

For further information contact the Arts Club online at www.artsclubofwashington.org, by email at artsclub.membership@verizon.net, or by telephone at 202-331-7282.