iMA Newsletter

Voted top 100 educators in the world by the International Biographical Centre Winner of the Consumers' Choice Award for best music school in the GTA. Winner of the Royal Conservatory of Music Gold Medal for Teaching Excellence. Winner of the York Region Character Community Award.

Markham Board of Trade Business Excellence Award finalist.



International Music Academy

Year XXI, No. 10 October 2017

WELCOMING OUR NEW STUDENTS

Abel C. (clarinet)

Aashwin A. (piano)

Victoria D. (voice)

Nathan W. (piano)

Mikayel B. (saxophone)

Ani B. (trumpet)

Dalia A. (piano)

Dayna S. (clarinet)

Anick B. (piano)

Seth B. (piano)

Clarisse L. (piano)

Alex W. (piano)

Reena S. (piano)

Mitchell B. (vocal, piano)

Daria P. (piano)

Nathaniel F. (piano)

Kailyn C. (piano)

Hayden C. (piano)

Mark C. (piano)

Jessica C. (violin)

Gina F. (guitar)

Alexander W. (piano)

Kevin L. (piano)

Ryan L. (piano)

Isabelle D. (piano)

Mariella G. (voice)

Hugo Q. (guitar)

Harry H. (piano)

Andy L. (piano)

IMA STUDENTS BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

Moheng W., Bernadette B., Isabel F., Jessica W., Madeleine J., Kavish V., Janice C., Johnny K., Charvi G., Isabella B., Mitchell B., Rohin F., Colin Z., Alice L., Grace K., Darius B., Samantha C.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN OCTOBER

October 1. International Music Day.

October 9. Thanksgiving. School is open.

October 15. RCM Winter session applications deadline.

October 24-30. iMA DRAWING CONTEST

October 21. Flato Markham Theatre. Kindred Spirits Orchestra.

Beethoven's Symphony No. 9

October 27. PA day (YR). School is open.

NEWS

IMA DRAWING CONTEST



Do you enjoy drawing?

Do you like creating images?

Take part of the IMA DRAWING CONTEST!

The theme is: 'Music makes people...'

You can use the following materials: pastels, colour crayons, aquarelles, or black pencil on paper size 8" x 8".

The contest is open to all students currently registered at the IMA who are 16 y.o. and under as of November 1, 2017. Only one drawing per student will be accepted. Remember to put your name at the bottom of the drawing and leave it at the IMA Office by **November 1**. The results will be announced in the IMA November newsletter.

The prizes: The top three winners will have their drawings published in the IMA November newsletters, on the IMA website: www.InternationalMusicAcademy.ca and on the IMA Facebook page.

There is more: the top winner will also receive a pair of tickets for a concert of the Kindred Spirits Orchestra at Flato Markham Theatre (value of \$80). The 2nd prize will also include one complimentary 30-minute lesson at the International Music Academy (a \$32 value). The 3rd prize will also include a \$10 iTunes gift card.

'Music makes people...' - start your drawing today!

GET 3 FREE LESSONS WITH THE PURCHASE OF A PIANO

If you are ready to purchase a high quality pre-own piano through one of the IMA partners, 3 of your lessons at the IMA will be free. Call our Office or e-mail Office@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca for more information. Pre-own piano is a great investment that comes at an attractive price, with a free tuning and delivery.

GET A \$30 CREDIT ON YOUR NEXT MONTH TUITION

We have been very pleased with the continued success of our students. They have improved a great deal and we share their excitement with their families, friends, neighbors, and schoolmates. We appreciate your interest towards our programs and services. We are always very happy to welcome new students of all ages, levels, and instruments to the iMA. Please tell your friends about your experience with the International Music Academy.

Do you know someone who is thinking of taking music lessons or who has **children** who may be interested in getting their hands on a musical instrument or singing? Do you know a **teenager** who needs a high school OAC credit? Do you know an **adult** who has wanted for a long time to learn how to play a musical instrument but has never had the time or inclination? **Please tell them about the IMA.**

As an appreciation for your referral, we will give you a \$30 credit for each new student who registers at the International Music Academy as a result of your referral. As we value your friends as much as we value you, we will offer to each referred student a \$30 credit as well.

PERSONALIZED IMA GIFT CARD



The IMA offers personalized Gift Cards that could be used as thoughtful birthday, holiday, bar/bat Mitzvah, graduation gift or for any other occasions as well as to encourage someone to start learning a

musical instrument or singing. The card can be used for any products or services.

The gift card is available for **any amount**. As cards are personalized with the name of the person who will receive it as well as with the name of the person who purchase it, requests have to be made 1 day in advance. Cards can be ordered in person, by phone at 905.489.4620 or by e-mail at info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca. At the time the card is ordered, a non-refundable \$5 deposit is required. The full value of the card is paid upon pick-up (and the deposit is

credited towards the purchase price). Payments can be made by any major credit card, cheque or cash as well as through the accounts of the IMA Clients.

FOLLOW US ON facebook

Stay in touch and follow the IMA latest news on Facebook. Visit https://www.facebook.com/International-Music-Academy-1944567629154903 and become a friend of the International Music Academy.

COMPOSERS' ANNIVERSARIES IN OCTOBER

1/10/1865 Paul Dukas born 2/10/1920 Max Bruch died 3/10/1931 Carl Nielsen died 9/10/1813 Verdi born 9/10/1835 Saint-Saëns born 11/10/1896 Bruckner died 12/10/1872 Vaughan Williams born 14/10/1990 Bernstein died 17/10/1849 Chopin died 18/10/1893 Gounod died 20/10/1874 Charles Ives born 22/10/1811 Liszt born 24/10/1725 A Scarlatti died 25/10/1825 J Strauss Jr born 25/10/1838 Bizet born 26/10/1685 D Scarlatti born 27/10/1782 Paganini born

Where you born or do you know someone who was born on the same day as these famous composers? Drop us e-mail at info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca to let us know.

FEATURED TEACHER OF THE MONTH

Maciej Bujnowicz, M.Mus., B.A. Voice studies and interpretation, Piano, Guitar and Music Theory

Mr. Maciej Bujnowicz has earned a M.Mus. in vocal performance degree from the University of Ottawa, Artist Diploma in vocal performance from the Glenn Gould Professional School and a



M.A. in vocal performance from the Bacewicz's Music Academy in Poland. He brings several years of teaching experience at the Musaic School of Music, the Wandering Minstrel, the Heritage Music Academy and other private music schools in the GTA. Mr. Bujnowicz has also performed as a

soloist at the International Chamber Music Festival and the Niagara Music Festival as well as a chorus member of the baroque opera company Opera Atelier. He is the Recipient of the National Arts Center Music Bursary for International Students and of the Thomas Logan and Elisabeth Thomas Scholarship. Mr. Bujnowicz is the prizewinner of the North York Concert Orchestra Mozart Competition, the Brahms International Competition, and the International Chamber Music Competition.

Mr. Bujnowicz was happy to answer a few questions for our students and parents:

- 1. What do you like most about teaching? In my teaching, I really enjoy moments when students become passionate about music. It usually takes some time before it actually happens. This usually does not happen at the first lesson. It takes time and students should come to lessons and practice regularly.
- **2.** How do you inspire students to practice more? I try to inspire students to practice more by asking them to listen to good recordings and videos of songs they are working on. Great recording or performance can be a great inspiration and thanks to them students work much harder.
- 3. What roles does performance play in student's development? Performance is very important for each student. It is opportunity to share great music with the audience and to show students' talents. It is also a great experience for performing students to share a stage with other performers. Thanks to this, students can learn about each other and are able to see and listen to all kind of musical instruments.
- **4. Who are your favourite composers?** I like many composers, among them both classical and contemporary. If I would have to choose one classical composer, it would George Frederic Handel and from more contemporary I would choose Samuel Barber.
- **5.** What was the last piece of music (sheet music or a recording) you purchased for yourself? The last score I have purchased for myself at the music store was Handel's Oratorio-Messiah HWV 56, Vocal score.



FEATURED STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Caleb Yang

What instrument do you play? – I play the clarinet – I love its ability to express my emotions.

How long have you taken lessons? - I

have been playing the clarinet for nearly three years.

Who are your favourite musical artists? – My favorite musician currently is Lin Manuel Miranda - an American musician who composes and preforms on Broadway.

What are your other hobbies, besides music? - Besides music, one of my favorite pastimes is playing badminton. It is a thrilling sport, which requires a great amount of skill.

Favourite food? – My favorite food is pizza.

What is the coolest thing you've learnt in your lessons in the past three months? - The coolest thing I've learnt in the past three months was probably my current piece. It is filled with expressive melodies and has a very difficult key signature.

Do you have any performance coming up? - Not yet.

E-mail to info@InternationalMusicAcademy.ca a photo of yourself (or your child) together with the answers of the questions above. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. We will feature you in one of the next issues of the newsletter.

PET OF THE MONTH

Send a photo of your pet together with following information and we will publish it in one of the next issues of the IMA newsletter. What is the name of your pet? How old is he/she? What kind of breed our pet is (if applicable)? How long have you had him/her for? Any special circumstances around getting the pet (i.e. a gift, foster pet, etc.)? The funniest story about you pet? Any special skills or abilities.

FEATURED ARTICLE



The Last Night of the Proms

Watched by millions on TV, it's the most famous annual concert in classical music and now part of the British social calendar. Roderick Swanston explains how the Last Night of the Proms began...



Sir Henry Wood

So traditional has the Last Night come to seem that one might imagine it has been the same since Queen Victoria hummed 'Rule Britannia' to herself in the bath.

But like many traditions it is a much more recent invention. Every one knows, as Henry Wood knew, that you have to end with a party, but what kind of party should it be?

Initially the Proms under Henry Wood and Robert Newman had been much more populist than nowadays. Somewhere in their background there had been experience of organising concert series involving promenading audiences (standing, or rather walking around – forbidden now), as well as popular ballad concerts. The latter lay behind the idea of having the audience join in singing, perhaps in preference to coughing or fainting. But the adventurousness and high-mindedness of Wood led to an expanding repertoire of classical music including new works by Richard Strauss, and cycles of Tchaikovsky and Beethoven symphonies. All the more reason to let one's hair down at the last concert to emphasise that work was now done and it was time for a party.

The first element in the current Last Night sequence was Wood's *Fantasia on British Sea Songs* of 1905. Initially, this had been written as another piece in a series introducing the orchestra to new listeners: Wood often included an operatic fantasia at the beginning of concerts for this purpose. Each player who played a solo was named in the programme and newcomers to symphony concerts could learn how to appreciate the joys of concert-going. By the 1930s the Fantasia had become entrenched as the first piece in the Last Night. Too entrenched for some, as there was a move in 1953 to remove the Fantasia from the Last Night, a move which was bitterly opposed by some Promenaders. Who won is history.

The second element to appear (of course apart from the National Anthem that ended the concert and the series) was 'Land of Hope and Glory'. This had been first performed in its instrumental form in 1901, when it was encored twice, and then conducted by Elgar in 1902 with the words as part of the *Coronation Ode*, for which they were written. It appeared again in 1945 in the Last Night as part of the victory celebrations marking the end of World War II. But it still was not enshrined as a permanent fixture at the final concert.

Read more: Why is 'Land of Hope and Glory' performed at the BBC Proms?

The last piece to be part of the 'traditional' Last Night was Parry's *Jerusalem*. A strange inclusion in some ways as it is not 'patriotic' in the way 'Rule Britannia' or 'Land of Hope and Glory' are, and there is an irony in the way half-crazed audiences filled with flag-waving euphoria shout the words 'nor shall I cease from mental strife'. But, then, not knowing what Blake's words mean when you sing them has become another British tradition not confined to the Proms.

All the jigsaw pieces were there quite early on, but it took a while for the finished Last Night to take shape, bed down and become a 'tradition'. Enter Sir Malcolm Sargent.

Sir Malcolm was invited to take over the chief conductorship of the Proms in 1947, the same year as the Last Night was televised for the first time. Ducks and water have never been so conjoined. His flamboyant platform manner, complete on the Last Night with white carnation just like Henry Wood, and his desire and ability as an ambassador for classical music made him ideal.

Musically much more conservative than Wood, he saw the Last Night as a vehicle for reaching the widest audience with him as the triumphant captain of the ship. One controller of BBC's Light Programme, on which the Last Night was broadcast, observed how close the admiration of Sargent's audience was to that of Frank Sinatra's.

Sir Malcolm insisted on the pattern of the Last Night. The concert must end with the sequence of Wood's Fantasia with 'Rule Britannia', Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance No. 1* with 'Land of Hope and Glory', Parry's *Jerusalem*, all for the audience to sing along under the 'control' of 'Flash Harry' whose greatest conducting gift had been marshalling vast choral forces. And then the speech.

Henry Wood had given the first Last Night speech in 1941 at a time when the Proms' future was in some jeopardy. He gave another in 1942, almost by chance. But from 1947 with Sargent, it became a fixture: one that survived for him until 1967 when, despite the terminal cancer that prevented his conducting, he appeared on the Last Night during Colin Davis's speech. Cheered by the Prommers to the rafters, he held (if memory serves me well) a 'ticket' for the 1968 season, one that everyone knew he would not be able to attend. It was a moving and courageous act.

The Last Night has become a warhorse, for some the enemy within the gates.

Quite early in Sargent's tenure moves were made in the BBC to change the Last Night, but they were seen off by the now militantly party-loving Prommers with their fancy hats and, eventually, party-poppers and streamers. Successive controllers of the Proms despised it.

William Glock in 1969 tried to remove Elgar's march, but howls of protest led to its last-minute reinstatement. In a spirit of 'authenticity' and homage, he restored Wood's complete *Fantasia*, which Sargent had performed with cuts.

In this century John Wilson has had a go at re-scoring these and in 1970 Malcolm Arnold was commissioned to compose a replacement *Fantasy for Audience and Orchestra* where a five-time version of a horn-pipe left a disgruntled audience who couldn't join in easily. It was never done again, just as Malcolm Williamson's *The Stone Wall*, complete with composer ebulliently appearing in a Scottish hat, has gone.

After Glock, Robert Ponson allegedly did not always stay for the second half of the Last Night, and John Drummond despised it. Since then successive Proms directors have worked on the principle: if you can't beat 'em join 'em, indeed outdo 'em. The Last Night, now acknowledged as not part of the 'real' concert series, has been enlarged to include the Proms in the Park. But those for whom the Last Night is a jingoistic, flag-waving, bad-behaving binge got a brief moment when change seemed possible.

This was the destruction of New York's twin towers in 2001. A sober atmosphere prevailed and British patriotism held hands with the US. The American National Anthem joined the British, and the concert contained the last part of Beethoven's Ninth. The American conductor of the BBC SO, Leonard Slatkin, performed Barber's *Adagio for Strings*.

But such an occasion could not be used as an instrument for change, even if the audiences wanted it, which it seems they don't.

The Last Night might eventually change as Britain's ruling of the waves or its world influence stretching 'wider still and wider' become more detached from reality. When mental strife really does come into play and the emptiness of the sentiments becomes apparent, then change will come. But will it be to join forces with the rest of the series? I doubt it.

To comment on this story or anything else you have read in the Newsletter, head over to the IMA Facebook page or message us on Twitter.

International Music Academy

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to schedule your first lesson.

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