

October 1, 2008  
10:30 a.m.  
Western  
Washington  
University



The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club  
Dorothy Wachter, Editor Emerita

Would you kindly  
sit up front in the  
Concert Hall?  
Please be sure to  
take all your be-  
longings with you  
when you leave.

Join us on  
November 5  
to hear  
**The Orca Wailers**  
at 10:30 at Faith  
Lutheran Church.

Can you bring  
treats for the tea?  
Please sign-up  
in the lobby!

The Bellingham Music Club  
P.O. Box 193  
Bellingham, WA 98227



Today's Program Presented by Arthur Barnes  
**Ford Hill and Friends**  
**Eric Kean, Walter Schwede**  
**and Fred Thompson**

### Opening Notes

Any time musicians of this caliber get together it's an occasion. But this one is doubly special: it's an all-Mendelssohn recital, and February 3, 2009 will be Mendelssohn's 200th birthday. He hit the ground running, and crammed a 30-year career into a 38-year life. Everybody loves the Scotch and Italian symphonies, E-minor vio-

**October 1<sup>st</sup> is International Music Day!** The IMD was initiated in 1975 by **Lord Yehudi Menuhin** to support musical art among all sections of society. On this day, through music, UNESCO promotes the ideals

**The Bellingham Music Club's 93rd season** opened with a bang, thanks to **Skagit Opera**. General Director Ron Wohl brought a formidable trio of singers up, to entertain one of our largest audiences ever. Each singer was showcased in an aria from *La traviata*, as well as a novelty song. Young soprano Megan Chenovick was enchanting, and Marcus Shelton is that rare breed of tenor with a ringing high C and no inhibitions whatsoever. Erich Parce, the com-

**Kudos to Roger Briggs and Karin Saadat** for the first ever **Whatcom Symphony** full-length opera! **Hansel and Gretel** was per-

### From the Board

**The handbook is in!** Be sure to pick up yours in the lobby; **Will Ellender and Sarah Jacobson** will also take your dues if you haven't paid yet.

**We are grateful** to Bob and Colette Millard who are joining the reception committee.

lin concerto, *Midsummer Night's Dream*; we slog through *Elijah* as a kind of penance. But in the salon music his grace, fluency and melodic genius are fully revealed, especially in the piano parts, showing why Liszt called him "one of Europe's two or three finest pianists."

pany's Artistic Director, is a masterful artist, with a splendid baritone voice. Together they provided all the incentive needed to attend the Skagit Opera production of *La traviata* this month (details in "Coming Events"). Quite a few BMC members already have tickets; see Jack Frymire for a brochure. Give or take ten minutes, the trip to McIntyre Hall is really no longer than that to Faith Lutheran.

formed twice to sold-out crowds. Soloists and children alike delighted the audience with beautiful singing and witty acting! Bravo!

**Welcome** to new (and returning) members: Tom Ascher, Don Ernest, Patricia Hawley, Bill Mancha, Sandra Murphy and Lisa Sherry.

**We offer our condolences** to the families of Janet Barker and Marie Wilhem, who passed away recently.



*Our mission is  
"to foster and encourage the  
growth and development of  
music appreciation and per-  
formance in the community."  
We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit  
organization and your dona-  
tions are tax deductible. See  
any Board member for details.*

## Sound Bites

**EMI Classics** is issuing six operas on DVD produced by the Metropolitan Opera for its highly acclaimed series **The Met: Live in HD**, thus extending the reach of the live transmissions. Available at your favorite CD/DVD store are *Hansel and Gretel*, *Macbeth*, *Peter Grimes*, *La Bohème* and *Manon Lescaut* (from the 2007-2008 season) and *The First Emperor* (2006).

**Ehru, kazoo, ocarina, shamisen, ophicleide...** maybe not, but do you have (or know of) a quality instrument gathering dust that could become a tax-deductible donation? **The Whatcom Symphony Instrument Loan Program** is the thing for you. For details, call 756-6752 or go to [whatcomsymphony.com](http://whatcomsymphony.com). More on this program in "Coming Events."

**Taylor DeHaven is looking for talent!** A high school freshman, he is currently producing a massive interactive game and needs help with the background music. Do you know of a young composer who is just dying to display his/her work? This could be big! Pass the word along and reach Taylor at [taylorthetman@msn.com](mailto:taylorthetman@msn.com).

**The Friends of the WWU Music Library** have two tickets for this Friday Oct. 3 **Seattle Symphony** concert featuring cellist Lynn Harrell (\$63.61). Please contact Addis Chapman at [chapman321@comcast.net](mailto:chapman321@comcast.net) if you are interested in this concert; there is also a waiting list for the Nov. 21, Jan. 16 and March 27 concerts featuring pianists Yevgeny Subdin, Yefim Bronfman and André Watts.

## Coming Events

**Fridays, October 10 & 17, 7:30 pm**  
**Sundays, October 12 & 19, 2 pm**  
McIntyre Hall, Mount Vernon  
\$56/\$25

A full-scale version of *La traviata*? By a first-class company? On this side of Seattle? Must be dreaming... Some of our September program stunning artists will take the stage in this lavish **Skagit Opera** production. Information at 360-422-5070 or [skagitopera.org](http://skagitopera.org). Tickets at 866-624-6897 or [mcintyrehall.org](http://mcintyrehall.org).

**Saturday, October 11, 10:00 am**  
SilverCity in Richmond, B.C.  
Alderwood Regal 7 in Lynnwood

Were you amongst the lucky ones who watched the Met Opening Night Gala **HD broadcast**? Not to be missed are this year's **live transmissions** of full-length operas starting with Strauss' *Salomé*. Visit [metopera.org](http://metopera.org) for details.

**Saturday, October 18, 7:00 pm**  
American Museum of Radio and  
Electricity, 1312 Bay St.

Explore the Museum and attend a concert of **Whatcom Symphony Orchestra Ensembles** all in one evening! Proceeds support the Symphony's Instrument Loan Program. Admission is \$15/\$12 seniors. Call 756-6752 for information.

**Sunday, October 19, 3 pm**  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
2117 Walnut St.  
Admission by donation  
to benefit the Food Bank

**Organ Spectacular**, one of the main events of "The Year of the Organ," will be celebrated around the world on this day. St. Paul's and the Mount Baker Theatre Organ Society co-sponsor this concert which will feature **Wade Dingman**, duo **Dorothy Watson and Hal Logan** and our own **Vernon Greenstreet** in a program of light and classical music. Info: 920-2116 or 714-8235.

**Thursday, October 23, 7-9 pm**  
Lairmont Manor  
Free to all members

**The 2009 summer season of the Bellingham Festival of Music** will be unveiled at the **annual membership meeting**. If you aren't sure you're a member, call Diane Norman at 527-2990; if you're not, come on down and join there! Basic membership level is \$75. There will be wine refreshments.

**Saturday, October 25, 7:30 pm**  
WWU PAC Concert Hall  
\$16/\$13/\$9

**The Sanford Piano Series** presents world-renowned teacher **Sean Duggan**, who is in the process of recording the complete (non-organ) works of Bach. For information and tickets, call 650-2829 or visit [pacseries.wwu.edu](http://pacseries.wwu.edu).

**Sunday, October 26, 3 pm**  
The Amadeus Project  
1209 Cornwall  
\$15 adults/\$12 seniors/\$10 students

**Ford Hill, Jeffrey Gilliam, Dan Sabo and Victoria Ebel-Sabo** come together to present variations for piano solo, two pianos and piano four-hands in works by Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn and Brahms. Information and tickets, call 671-6104 or 661-5984, or e-mail [bellinghamhouseconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:bellinghamhouseconcerts@gmail.com).

The Bellingham Music Club Presents

## **Ford Hill and Friends**

In an all-Mendelssohn Recital

**Ford Hill, piano**

**Eric Kean, viola**

**Walter Schwede, violin**

**Fred Thompson, violoncello**

Sonata for Viola and Piano  
III. *Andante con variazioni*

Eric Kean  
Ford Hill

Variations Sérieuses, Op. 54

Ford Hill

Trio in D Minor, Op. 49  
*Molto allegro ed agitato*  
*Andante con moto tranquillo*  
*Scherzo: Leggerio e vivace*  
*Finale: Allegro assai appassionato*

Walter Schwede  
Fred Thompson  
Ford Hill



October 1, 2008



## Biographies

**Pianist FORD HILL** graduated from Wisconsin State University at Eau Claire with a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, which gave him a choice of attending any graduate school in North America. Having chosen Indiana University (studying with renowned pianist Gyorgy Sebok), Hill was awarded a Performer's Certificate and took first prize in the Concerto Competition for graduate students. He went on to teach at Wilson College, Northeast Louisiana University, the New South Wales Conservatory of Music (Sydney, Australia), and Western Washington University (WWU), and performed throughout the Pacific Northwest, Canada and Australia. In addition he has adjudicated and given many master classes and workshops for festivals in Canada and Washington State. Many of his students have won local, state, and regional competitions. Recently Mr. Hill was honored by the Bellingham Arts Commission with a Mayor's Arts Award, and by WWU, which has bestowed on him the rank of Associate Professor Emeritus and launched an endowed piano scholarship in his name.

**Violinist WALTER SCHWEDE** began studying when he was eight and was selected Concertmaster of the School Orchestra of America in 1965 as the youngest member of the tour. After undergraduate work at the University of Michigan, four years with the U.S. Air force ensemble Strolling Strings, and completion of his Masters at Catholic University of America, he began his Ph.D. at New York University, where he also taught violin. Mr. Schwede served as Associate Concertmaster of the Seattle Symphony (1984-1997), Concertmaster of the Pacific Northwest Ballet (1984-1988), and frequent Concertmaster to the Seattle Opera, including its 2001, 2002, and 2005 Wagner *Ring* cycles. Before moving to the Pacific Northwest he taught at Depauw University, Belmont College and the Blair School of Music, and was Concertmaster of the Nashville Symphony. From 1988 to 1996 Mr. Schwede was Artist-in-Residence at the University of Washington. He joined Western's music faculty in 1997, where he teaches violin and is Coordinator of String Studies. He is also an active recitalist, chamber musician and soloist with orchestra.

**Cellist FRED THOMPSON** began studying cello at age seven. A native of the upper Midwest, he attended Interlochen National Music Camp (Michigan) while in his high-school years and performed with the community symphony in Eau Claire. It was here he first met and performed with Ford Hill. At Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, and later at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, he studied both English and music. After teaching in central Utah for four years, he and his family moved to Port Angeles, where he teaches English and Humanities at Peninsula College. In 1989-1990 the Thompsons lived in London, England, where Fred studied at the University of London while on sabbatical leave. In 1996 he attended a three-week chamber music workshop in Orvieto, Italy. He has just completed his second sabbatical, with research that centered on Keats and Beethoven. At Peninsula College Dr. Thompson has led four study-abroad tours, most recently last summer's art-centered study tour of London, Berlin, Dresden and Vienna. Besides being a long-time player and principal cellist in the Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Thompson has been active as an area recitalist and chamber musician.

**Violist ERIC KEAN** is living proof of the link between musical talent and mathematical aptitude. He graduated With Distinction from Cornell University with a degree in statistics and pursued the viola at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Since that time he has performed with the Seattle Symphony, Cleveland Opera and Cleveland Pops. In addition to orchestral playing, he is an active chamber musician, performing as a member of the faculty string quartet at WWU and the Bellingham Chamber Players, a group he co-founded in 2002. In April 2007, he performed in a sextet with members of the Seattle Symphony on the Music of Remembrance, a series devoted to music written by survivors of the Holocaust. Aside from performing classically, he plays with a variety of artists from different musical genres including "What the Chelm," a Bellingham based Klezmer group. He has also recorded a CD as a member of the Mango String Quartet that featured Filipino folk music. In addition to teaching viola at Western, Mr. Kean teaches full-time in the mathematics department.