

The Chicago Flute Club



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Festival 2015!

Excitement is mounting

By Florence Nelson

Are you ready for the next Chicago Flute Club Flute Festival? You don't have long to wait. The Festival is set for November 13-15, 2015, at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport. And yes, it is going to be memorable—perhaps even more memorable than previous festivals. Don't worry about traffic to the airport; on a Saturday or Sunday morning in November, the roads will be wide open. Don't worry about the cost of parking, either; the second through sixth floors of the neighboring garage are not expensive, and the lot is directly across from the hotel. So, let's get ready for Festival 2015.

Theme with Variations

The theme this year is "Where Did I Hear That Tune Before?" The focus is on music arranged or composed for an instrument or voice—and transcribed or revised for the flute. All of us are familiar with the music composed by Borne and Doppler based on Bizet and Verdi opera arias. That is only the beginning. What about Schubert lieder? Or the extensive violin repertoire? What about transcriptions for the piccolo? We explore the possibilities at our Festival this November.

Prelude

The Festival weekend commences on Friday, November 13, with the customary celebratory evening—beginning with a cocktail hour and dinner that will culminate in the presentation of lifetime achievement awards. This year we will honor two distinguished



Nicola Mazzanti, Festival Headliner

leaders in the world of the flute—Bernard Z. Goldberg, former principal flute of the Pittsburgh Symphony, and David Straubinger, esteemed flutemaker and creator of Straubinger Pads, the mainstay of many of our instruments today.

Two Full Days of Exciting Flute Fare

The heart of the Festival will be the activities on Saturday and Sunday. The schedule is packed. Here are a few highlights.

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The Chicago Flute Club is a community of flutists in the greater Chicago area that fosters the highest artistic potential of all its members through teaching, listening, and performing.

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Saturday, November 14

The Donald Peck International Flute Competition.

Bernard Goldberg, honored the night before at our opening dinner, holds a masterclass on training flute sections, working on *Daphnis and Chloé*, *Rite of Spring*, and *Till Eulenspiegel*.

Gerald Carey conducts the Chicago Flute Orchestra. Monty Adams conducts a flute choir reading session, and John Henes leads an Alexander Technique class.

Stephanie Jutt, Meret Bitticks, Hideko Amano, and Laura Hamm lead workshops.

On Sunday, November 15

Scott Metlicka, Erin Murphy, and Jennifer Wilhelms present workshops and masterclasses, and Lynne Krayer-Luke will realign our bodies with a workshop on bodymapping.

Exhibitors will be with us both days with extensive selections of new and vintage instruments, headjoints, flute-related devices, recordings, and music.

Festival Headliners

The headline artists for Flute Festival 2015 are outstanding!

The Cavatina Duo will perform on Saturday afternoon, November 14, introducing their new recording—Cavatina at the Opera. The delightful CD is a collection of flute and vocal pieces transcribed for flute and guitar, just the thing for this year's Festival. If you are familiar with Eugenia Moliner and Denis Azabagic, you know how sensitive and dazzling this concert will be.

Nicola Mazzanti's Saturday evening piccolo recital promises to be a performance for the ages, an exercise in high-altitude artistry the likes of which you haven't heard before. Mazzanti, an Italian piccolo player and soloist with the Orchestra of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, is in demand around the world for clinics, master classes, and solo performances with major orchestras. A flute superstar, he is Sir James Galway's pick to teach piccolo at Galway's annual summer class in Switzerland. Mazzanti will enthrall with the ease and beauty of his playing. Expect to hear perfect diminutos to high Cs, magical tone colors, and myriad other

exercises in piccolo artistry. Mazzanti makes it look and sound as easy as pie.

Sunday afternoon, November 15, Mimi Stillman will perform the final recital of the Festival. Stillman is an



Photo: Vanessa Briceño

Mimi Stillman, Festival Headliner

authentic Renaissance woman. At age 12, she was the youngest wind player ever admitted to the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Julius Baker and Jeffrey Khaner. She was the youngest wind player ever to win Young Concert Artists, and she has won numerous other prizes, awards, and competitions. In addition to her musical accomplishments, Ms. Stillman holds an MA in history from the University of Pennsylvania and is a published author on music and history. Her tone is crystal clear and her technique is impeccable. She will wrap up the festival weekend with musical style and elegance.

In addition to leading masterclasses, both Mr. Mazzanti and Ms.

Stillman will be available for private lessons during their time in Chicago. Check our website for information (festival/masterclass).

Planning Continues

The 2015 Flute Festival has been more than a year in the making already. We've been hard at work arranging for local performers and visiting guest artists, scheduling programs, considering exhibitor layouts, and taking care of many other details that add up to a successful fair.

As we say in our Mission Statement, the Chicago Flute Club "fosters the highest artistic potential of all its members through teaching, listening, and performing." Our goal in presenting this Flute Festival is to stimulate your love of music, educate your senses to what is new and fresh, and introduce you to new or unfamiliar performers. We also want to provide you an opportunity to meet with members of the flute industry, try out new flutes, experiment with new improvements for your current instruments, and give you time to browse through tables of flute music, flute books, and equipment necessary for a well-stocked teaching studio.

We will post more information on our web site as soon as possible. Be sure to check it every day!

www.chicagofluteclub.org