

AMS NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN MUSICOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CONSTITUENT MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES

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FEBRUARY, 1990

Oakland—1990

There is a there there! The city of Oakland, California—home to E. Fatha Hines, Gertrude Stein, Jack London, and Dave Stewart—is the location of the 56th Annual Meeting of the American Musicological Society, held jointly with the Society for Music Theory and the Society for Ethnomusicology on 8–11 November 1990. The meeting is hosted by the University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, and the University of California at Davis in cooperation with other institutions in the northern California region. The conference headquarters (where all meetings will take place) are the Hyatt Regency Hotel and the intimately joined Oakland Convention Center, located at the hub of Oakland's new city center. Reservations at the Hyatt and other hotels nearby (as needed) will be made on a first-come first-served basis. There will be no distinction made according to one's societal affiliation. Registration packets will be mailed by all three Societies at the same time, in the beginning of August.

The concert fare planned by a joint Performance Committee will feature a variety suitable to the diverse interests of members of the three Societies. Evening concerts will take place on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley—in a town famed for its diverse selection of ethnic restaurants for pre-concert dining.

Special features of the Oakland meeting will include excursions such as a tour of San Francisco and a tour to the wine country with optional drop-off in San Francisco for an evening on your own. Visits are also being planned to the Berkeley and Stanford campuses. By Bay Area Rapid Transit—one of the cleanest, quietest, safest, undamaged public transport systems in the country—San Francisco is an inexpensive 15-minute ride from the BART station at the Hyatt, with the opera and symphony seasons in full swing.

Every effort is being made to make this meeting a truly joint one, as well as appropriate for the annual meeting of each Society. Chair of the Joint Program Committee is Bruno Nettl (University of Illinois). Chair of the AMS Program Committee is

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Austin—1989

Beautiful warm weather, Texas hospitality, marvelous concerts, a rich array of papers, delicious Mexican food, and thousands upon thousands of bats—these are the memories that many of us brought home from the Society's 55th annual meeting, held jointly with the 12th annual meeting of the Society for Music Theory at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Austin last October.

For the hospitality we must thank Rebecca Baltzer, the other members of the Local Arrangements Committee (Elliott Antokoletz, Charles Roeckle, Stephen Slawek, and Michael C. Tusa), and their intrepid band of colleagues and students who kept the wheels of scholarly endeavor (and recreation) turning smoothly. From the carefully prepared guide to the culture, musical life, and culinary delights of Austin to the enthusiastic assistance with technical equipment and handouts, they made us feel at home and made our lives easier. The success of the meeting was due in no small part to their enthusiasm. (Here thanks must go also to Stefan Kostka and the other members of the SMT Local Arrangements Committee, Roger Graybill, Douglass Green, Patrick McCress, Delmer Rogers, and Lynne Rogers.)

Joel Lester and the other members of the Performance Committee (Elliott Antokoletz, Laurence Dreyfus, and Frederick Hammond) had prepared a smorgasbord of musical presentations ranging from Iberian medieval music to contemporary electroacoustic music, and including the University of Texas Opera Theatre's production of *The Coronation of Poppea*, Gérard Souzay's presentation of *Die Winterreise*, and Frank Speller's pipe organ accompaniment to the original film of *The Phantom of the Opera*.

The Program Committee (Craig Monson, Robert P. Morgan, Elaine

R. Sisman, Reinhard Strohm, Michael C. Tusa, and I) had tried to prepare an equally diverse array of papers ranging from ancient music theory to Copland and Ellington, and including sessions devoted to "Women's Voices in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance," "Text and Performance," "Critical Theories," and "Musicology and Ideology," among more conventional musicological fare. Evening study sessions covered a range from a panel on International Cooperation in Chant Scholarship (featuring scholars from Hungary, Sweden, Canada, and the United States) to a Reconstruction/Re-creation of a Nineteenth-Century Singing School Session.

Especially noteworthy were the six joint AMS/SMT sessions devoted to subjects ranging from "Theory and Practice in the Renaissance" to "Music Since 1945" and the joint study session on "The Scholarly Study of Music for Film." Special thanks must go to Patrick McCress and the other members of the SMT Program Committee, Jonathan W. Bernard, Roger Graybill, Douglass Green, John Rahn, Michael Rogers, and Gary Wittlich. They were a pleasure to work with. Indeed, the harmony with which the two organizations were able to coordinate their activities augurs well for this year's three-Society meeting (including the Society for Ethnomusicology) in Oakland.

But certainly the most unusual aspect of the meeting was the selection as its headquarters of a hotel adjacent to the world's largest urban population of bats, who emerged from their domicile under the Colorado River Bridge every evening at sundown to dazzle us with a matchless display of aerobatics. Surely it would have to be Texans who could provide such a stupendous yet ironic, and certainly unforgettable, souvenir of a memorable meeting.

—Jan Herlinger

Society Election Results

The results of the last election were announced at the Annual Meeting of the Society in Austin:

President-Elect: H. Wiley Hitchcock

Secretary: Ruth A. Solie

Members-at-Large of the Board: Laurence Dreyfus
Jessie Ann Owens
Alejandro Planchart

The AMS Council nominated and the Board of Directors elected Howard Mayer Brown as an Honorary Member and Winton Dean and Pierluigi Petrobelli as Corresponding Members of the Society.

Oakland 1990 Travel Arrangements

Members are advised to plan early for the 1990 meeting and to fly to Oakland rather than to San Francisco. For details, see cover article.

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for 3-4 March 1990 in Oakland.

Committee Assignments

The President would be pleased to hear from members of the Society who would like to serve on specific committees. Interested persons should write H. Colin Slim, President, AMS, School of Fine Arts, University of California, Irvine, CA 92717, and are asked to name the committee, enclose a *curriculum vitae*, and identify their area(s) of specialization.

Nominating Committee Chair

The Board has appointed Frank A. D'Accone Chair of the Nominating Committee. Members wishing to suggest nominees for AMS offices should communicate with him at the Music Department, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Oakland—1990

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Anthony Newcomb (University of California at Berkeley). Chair of the Joint Performance Committee is Linda Burnam-Hall (University of California at Santa Cruz). The Local Arrangements Committee for the AMS is chaired by William Mahrt (Stanford University), while the Joint Local Arrangements Committee is co-chaired by Bonnie Wade (University of California at Berkeley) and Wayne Slawson (University of California at Davis). Requests for meeting rooms for special interest groups during the convention should be sent *as soon as possible, but no later than 15 April*, to Local Arrangements Committee 1990, Department of Music, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

The Society for Ethnomusicology has a tradition of a one-day, pre-conference Symposium, to which interested members of the AMS and SMT are invited. The focus of the 1990 Symposium will be on approaches to the study of African-American music. It will also be held at the Oakland Hyatt Regency on Wednesday, 7 November; as is customary, attendees will be charged a small registration fee. Co-Chairs for the Symposium are Jacquelyn DjeDje (University of California at Los Angeles) and Eddie Meadows (San Diego State University).

VERY IMPORTANT. We strongly advise you to fly into Oakland. While transportation from downtown San Francisco to downtown Oakland is inexpensive and simple, that is not the case from the San Francisco airport to Oakland. Because the Oakland airport is a smaller one, serviced by fewer airlines, it is wise to make your travel arrangements *early*. Globetrotter Travel Agency in San Francisco (800-462-7512) stands ready to assist you with travel arrangements at the lowest cost possible. A form to send to Globetrotter is included with the materials mailed with this *Newsletter*.

—Bonnie Wade

Report of the Publications Committee

Since our last report (see the *Newsletter*, February 1989, Vol. XIX, No. 1, p. 7), the following publication supported by a subvention from the Society has appeared:

Analyzing Opera: Verdi and Wagner.
Edited by Carolyn Abbate and Roger Parker. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1989.

The first in a new series of periodic cumulations of *Doctoral Dissertations in Musicology*, prepared by Cecil Adkins and Alis Dickin-son, covering the years 1983-1988, is

forthcoming, as is the 1989 interim list. The latter will be sent free of charge to all members of the Society and to institutional subscribers to the *JOURNAL*.

The Publications Committee is presently considering several requests for subventions from publishers. In addition, it is involved with a number of other projects, including COPAM (the Committee on the Publication of American Music), the preparation of an index to the *JOURNAL*, by Mark Germer and Marjorie Hassen, Volume 3 of the *Collected Works* of Johannes Ockeghem, edited by Richard Wexler with the late Dragan Plamenac, and *Essays in Musicology: A Tribute to Alvin Johnson*, which is now at the proof stage.

The Committee is assessing the feasibility and desirability of establishing a new formal monographs series in musicology, which would bring out one or two volumes a year. By "monograph" we mean a work of independent scholarship, not a translation or collection of essays, in any area of musicological research. Dissertations would ordinarily be excluded from consideration. We have a strong sense that there is a place for such a series in the discipline, that there is a substantial body of scholarship which, because of its specialized subject matter, might be more appropriately published in such a series than by a

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AMS Newsletter Address and Deadlines

Items for publication in the August issue of the *Newsletter* must be submitted by 15 May and for the February issue by 1 December to:

James Ladewig
Editor, *AMS Newsletter*
Department of Music
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881-0801

The *AMS Newsletter* is published twice yearly by the American Musicological Society, Inc., and mailed to all members and subscribers. Changes of address and requests for additional copies of current and back issues should be directed to:

Alvin H. Johnson
Executive Director of the AMS
University of Pennsylvania
201 South 34th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6313

The *AMS Newsletter* is produced by A-R Editions, Inc., 801 Deming Way, Madison, WI 53717.

Presidential Message

Amongst divers presidential pleasures and privileges that came my way over the summer was writing an introduction to the fourth and final volume of the *opera omnia* of William Billings, which we publish jointly with the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. This pleasant task, one also undertaken for earlier volumes by my distinguished predecessors, Janet Knapp, James Haar, and Margaret Bent, was, however, very much clouded by the death this past August of the editor of the first volume, Hans Nathan, in whose memory the fourth volume will now be dedicated.

An invitation was gladly accepted to represent the AMS (which belongs to the American Council of Learned Societies) at the inauguration on August 25 of the Chaucer scholar, Curtis L. McCray, as the fourth President of the California State University at Long Beach. This occasion also celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the founding of CSULB, an institution to which several AMS members belong. At the head of the long line of delegates stood the one from Harvard, and just two from the end of the line marched yours truly as delegate number 129. This high number in no way reflects on the status of our Society, of course, merely on its youth. Listening to the day's honoree, Steve Martin, bantering playfully with, among others, the Governor of California, disclosed once again that Martin is not only a clever comedian but also a genuinely witty man. The pleasure of the day was only marred by your President clumsily spilling some guacamole dip on the academic robe of a former Editor of this *Newsletter*, Kristine Forney, who graciously forgave him.

The meetings last fall at Austin went off superbly well with that legendary warmth of Texas hospitality transmuted into reality, all under the tireless stewardship of Becky Baltzer. To her, and to her army of workers, three cheers! As usual, your President got to partake of only a few morsels in the annual cornucopia of papers, concerts, exhibitions, study groups, etc. Among his greatest satisfactions was a stunning performance of George

Perle's *Sextet for Piano and Winds*, a work of breath-taking fluidity by a master of musical process who has created in this work some of the loveliest sounds heard in many a long year. A considerably lesser accomplishment, but one of which I remain inordinately proud, was attending two breakfast meetings simultaneously, owing to their convenient scheduling in adjacent rooms. A similar propinquity afforded an opportunity to hear the first half of a fine lecture-recital by Linda Kobler (the current recipient of the Greenberg Award) and then to catch the latter half of a study session on Sexuality and Musicology, at which packed meeting I was pleased to see several other Board Members, past and present. Further consciousness-raising took place that same afternoon at the Open Meeting of our Committee on the Status of Women where, from a group discussion by both men and women ably led by Susan Cook, this bachelor became more sensitized to problems of maintaining an academic career and simultaneously rearing children. As it turned out this year, although not by any particular design, most of the scholarly papers I attended were delivered by women: Linda Roesner on Schumann's Fourth Symphony, Mary Hunter on elements of opera seria in opera buffa, Jane Bernstein on financial arrangements between sixteenth-century composers and their Venetian printers, and Anne Walters Robertson (who received the Einstein Award) on Machaut's Mass. Each paper in its own way was richly informed and rewarding to its fortunate auditor, delighted and gratified by the intellectual stimulation provided amid the hubbub of presidential tasks.

In very recent years our Council has evolved from a reactive to a proactive body. Last fall it was heartening to see the Council not only deliberating such important concerns as musicological outreach and minorities in musicology, but also approaching such complex issues of our Society and society at large in thoughtful, positive, and helpful ways. Indeed, some of the Council's recommendations are now before the Board of Directors.

As you will surely note from elsewhere in this issue, your Board has

moved the voting period for elections from Indian summer to bleak February. The ballots enclosed in this mailing are to be returned by April 15. With this change, the Board trusts that a large number of our members will cast their ballots at a more somber and reflective time of year, free from harkenings after the prolongation of summer, free from last-minute preparations for a new academic year, free from jet-lag experienced after research trips overseas, free from sorting out that avalanche of accumulated summertime mail, etc. The most recent election saw a slight, though discernible, increase in voter participation. Please *do VOTE* in this year's elections so that you may be assured that the Board of Directors is constituted to reflect the wishes of the members it serves.

Even as we are voting in wind, rain, snow, and sleet, our thoughts will inevitably turn to the upcoming meeting next November in sunny Oakland where we shall meet jointly with the Society for Music Theory and the Society for Ethnomusicology, all under the kindly aegis of Bruno Nettl, Tony Newcomb representing particular interests of our Society. With Bonnie Wade and Wayne Slawson as Co-Chairs of Local Arrangements for Oakland, we shall be in the best of hands. They report that nary a pane of glass in the hotel where we shall assemble suffered during the temblors of last October which so direly affected older buildings and structures in San Francisco and Santa Cruz. Accommodations and amenities will be sumptuous, so I look forward to seeing you all at what will surely be the second of two great meetings during my term of office.

Finally, the Board and I remain grateful for your excellent recommendations of members who you feel are well qualified to serve on the many committees of our Society. Some of the fruits of your recommendations were already visible in the list of committees published in the 1989 *Directory*. The list in the 1990 *Directory* reflects even more of them. Keep your suggestions coming, for they materially aid the work not only of your current President, but of the next one, Wiley Hitchcock. Vale.

—H. Colin Slim

Committee on Career Options List Available

The Society's Committee on Career Options has prepared a list of persons who have volunteered to answer inquiries about non-academic, music-related employment. This list, which is updated fre-

quently, is available without charge to Society members. Requests accompanied by a large, self-addressed, stamped envelope should be directed to the Chair of the Committee: Laurence Libin, Dept. of Musical Instruments, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10028-0198.

Address Changes

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