



# QUARTER NOTES

## FASO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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**JUNE 2017**

### Trip of a Lifetime!

I am writing this after just returning from FASO's inaugural music tour with José-Luis Novo and fans of the ASO, 28 of us altogether. The trip was a truly amazing experience that provided us travelers an opportunity to experience and learn about a variety of music – Mozart and Pachelbel performed by the Kairos Quartet, Handel's "Ariodante" with Cecilia Bartoli in the title role, Mozart and Beethoven performed by celebrated pianist Rufolf Buchbinder in dual roles as soloist and conductor of the Vienna Symphony, Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake ballet at the historic Vienna State Opera, Gershwin and the world premiere of a Jazz Mass by the Prague Symphony Orchestra, and finally works of Janacek and Martinu performed by a Czech Philharmonic String Quartet at a private concert in Palfy Palace. In addition to the wonderful music, we explored the sites and absorbed the ambiance of three of Europe's most charming cities – Salzburg, Vienna, and Prague and got to know one another. Planning is in progress for second music tour.

To me, the trip is a perfect example of what FASO is all about: bringing together music lovers who want to experience, learn about, and share outstanding music of all varieties while giving back and supporting the community. The music tour caps an outstanding year in which FASO raised and donated over \$50,000 to the ASO to support the ASO's music education and community outreach programs, making FASO one of the ASO's largest donors. This number reflects the generosity of FASO members and is something we should all be proud of.

Looking forward, 2017-18 will be packed with more exciting opportunities to experience wonderful music and culture. The year will kick off with a Music and Poetry night on July 12<sup>th</sup> featuring the poetry of Garrett Brown and Le Hinton and the music of Rachel Franklin's jazz combo, SONOS. We'll continue classics like the Concert of Tastes (April 8, 2018) and Champagne Sunday (May 6, 2018) and hold several Dine to Donate and other events throughout the year. Our first Dine to Donate will be this summer, at the Killarney House on August 16.

I am excited as I look forward and see the path FASO is setting. However, for a moment, I want to look back and thank Michael Kurtz for serving as our president for the past two years. His dedication and accomplishments are exemplary and I am grateful to have him as a mentor. Thank you, Michael!

I hope to see you at FASO events throughout the year. Have a wonderful summer!

Stephen A. Sotack, President



At Mozart's birthplace, intrepid editor Carol Richards and Maestro Jose-Luis Novo. Photo by Clay Richards

## THE MUSIC TOUR

Twenty-eight of us, including ASO Music Director José-Luis Novo spent 11 days in Europe – Salzburg, Vienna and Prague— attending world-class concerts, eating good food and exploring historic sites. By the time we flew home June 9 we had attended a revival premier of Handel's gender-bending opera, "Ariodante" in Salzburg, we'd heard a wild jazz mass in Prague; we'd swooned to the Vienna State Ballet company's Swan Lake, gone twice to palaces to hear string quartets and attended a fabulous performance of the Vienna Symphony with piano soloist Rudolf Buchbinder.

It was such fun and so enlightening that FASO and Maestro Novo are making plans for



At the airport, heading home. Note the smiling faces. Photo by Don Dement

another music tour next year, this time to hear concerts in José-Luis' home country of Spain. Interested? Tell Stephen Sotack, our new president.

This journey was a win-win. In

addition to the fun and learning and socializing, the music tour also brought in money for the ASO, as mentioned in Steve's letter, above. There are many people to thank, not the least José-Luis Novo for joining us and providing his wonderful, amusing and perceptive lectures about the



In Salzburg, we got to know one another. L-R, Mary McKeil, Karen Weiss, José-Luis Novo, Bill Simpson. Photo at right: On the bus, José-Luis revealed the plot of Ariodante, and explained why superstar Cecilia Bartoli wears a beard (the part was written for a castrato).





Straight out of a fairy tale is this gorgeous little Czech town called Cesky Krumlov. It has a castle, a coiling river and good food. Photo by Clay Richards

experience the trip in your mind's eye, fire up your computer and go to <http://www.nonlinearart.com/Travel/AustriaChech-FASO-2017>

This site is a wonderful collection of photos by former board member Don Dement , a professional photographer. We thank him for most of the pictures in this issue of Quarter Notes.

### CHAMPAGNE SUNDAY

Speaking of historic sites, the William Paca House was the site of our annual Champagne Sunday this year. We met under a pleasant awning in the mansion's backyard, free to wander in the formal gardens or to examine the interior of the house. We had wonderful attendance, saw many new faces and were pleased to welcome many members of the ASO board. Pictured here are FASO and ASO board



music we were hearing. Our final concert, in the Pallfy Palace in Prague made the otherwise unfamiliar music, by Czech composers, sound warm and welcoming.



President Stephen Sotack ponders the euro vs. the Czech koruna.

But the trip would not have occurred without the hard work and enthusiasm of our past president, Michael Kurtz. Three cheers for Michael!

The photos published here just show a wee part of the scenes of the music tour. If you'd like to really relive the trip or

members watching Michael Kurtz present José-Luis, with the final payment in meeting our 2016-2017 pledge of \$22,000 to the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra's education program. The additional income from the Music Tour was separate and came in later. Bottom line: FASO made a major contribution to our wonderful symphony.

## Save these Dates

**July 12, FASO'S Evening of Music and Poetry**, music by Rachel Franklin and SONOS; poetry by Garrett Brown and Le Hinton. 7-9 p.m. at the home of Martha and John Schwieters, 965 Melvin Rd., Annapolis. \$50. For tickets go to [annapolissymphony.org](http://annapolissymphony.org), choose the FASO tab. Or call the ASO office, 410-269-1132. If you are reading this on email, you can purchase tickets [here](#)

**Aug. 16, FASO Dine to Donate. Dinner at Killarney House**, 584 West Central Ave., Davidsonville. Watch your email for details.

**Sept. 3, Pops in the Park**. 5:30 p.m. Free family concert at Quiet Waters Park. Rain Date, Sept. 4. José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**Sept. 27, Free Member Appreciation Reception**, 6-9 p.m., Stephen Holt's rooftop, 115 West St., Annapolis.

**Oct. 6-7. Opening night of the 2017, 2018 season**. There will be gala parties each night before and after the concert: Prelude Party, 5:30 p.m., Encore Party 10 p.m. with music by Eastport Oyster Boys. Go to [annapolissymphony.org](http://annapolissymphony.org) to purchase tickets. Concert: Vadim Gluzman, violin. Shostakovich, Concerto for Violin No. 2; Dvorak, Symphony No. 8; Kodaly, Dances of Galanta. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**Nov. 17-18, Concert**: Christopher Sala, trumpet. Tamberg, Concert for Trumpet No. 1; Beethoven, Symphony No. 1; Barber, Adagio for Strings; Schubert, Symphony No. 4. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**Dec. 15, Holiday Pops**, Holiday Swing! with Byron Stripling, trumpet. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**March 2-3, Concert**: Manuel Barrueco, guitar, Montsalvatge, Sortilegis; Rodrigo, Concierto de Aranjuez; Debussy, *Iberia*, from Images; Respighi, Pines of Rome. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**April 13-14, Concert**: Julian Schwarz, cello, Roussel, "Spider's Feast;" Liebermann, Concerto for Cello, Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 5., 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**May 4-5, Concert**: Jon Nakamatsu, piano, Mozart, *La Clemenza di Tito* overture, Rachmaninov, Concerto for Piano No. 2; Brahms, Symphony No. 1. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**May 12, Family Concert**: Magic Circle Mime Co., Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. 2 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

### NUMBERS TO KNOW:



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