



QUARTER NOTES

FASO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Published by and for Friends of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra

SEPTEMBER 2014

Dear FASO Members,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer! The FASO Board has been busy planning activities for the upcoming season, and I really hope you will join in.



The BIG news update is that José-Luis Novo is a father! His wife Lori gave birth to a son named Martin the past weekend. Welcome Martin! We are so happy for the family.

At the FASO Board meeting Sept. 2, we were delighted to have a peek into the construction site at Maryland Hall's new performance hall. See pictures on next page. It will be a wonderful new venue for the ASO and other resident groups. Many thanks to Jeth Mill (ASO Executive Director) for arranging this peek. And another big thanks to Karen Smith, the new ASO Board of Trustees Chairman, for addressing the FASO Board with an update that day.

FASO needs your support. That support can be in the form of your membership dues, attendance at our events, and your help with executing these events. I invite you all to get involved in helping at any event. Just a bit of your time is extremely helpful. AND it is FUN!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR:

GREAT FROGS WINE TASTING - Enjoy a relaxed afternoon at the only winery in Annapolis - Great Frogs! This award-winning winery is on Harness Creek Road, just off Spa Road and Forest Drive. Saturday, Sept. 27, 4 - 7 pm. Sample great wines and enjoy music by the Unified Jazz Ensemble. Admission is \$35, and all proceeds go to ASO. Bring your friends! This is open to anybody who enjoys wine and a beautiful setting in which to drink it. Send check to FASO, P.O. Box 1974, Annapolis, 21404, or pay at the door.

CONCERT OF TASTES - The 33rd annual Concert of Tastes will be on Sunday, Nov. 2, at the Doubletree Hotel off Riva Road. We want you to come and enjoy great food, open bar, live music, artisans gallery and auction/raffle. This is FASO's biggest fund raiser of the year. It is a wonderful event, lots of fun, and all proceeds to ASO. PLEASE come, bring friends, and just enjoy a really nice event. Invitations will soon be in the mail or reserve at 301-466-8710. AND two weeks later, Nov. 18, dine at the Smokehouse Grill and a portion of your tab goes to ASO.

I hope you will also support the Opening Night festivities at the season's first ASO concerts! A gala party will be held before and after the Oct. 17 and Oct. 18 concerts to celebrate the opening of the refurbished hall and the new season. This event replaces the ASO spring Gala, so here is

your chance to show your support. The bottom line is that we all appreciate your support of FASO and the ASO. I really wish you would all get involved in even a small way. We always need help with events and fundraisers. **CONTACT ME IF YOU WANT TO HELP! I WOULD LOVE TO MEET YOU!** We do this for the ASO. Help us keep the music great.

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A SNEAK PEEK AT THE PROGRESS IN MARYLAND HALL

In these pictures of the auditorium under construction, the new chairs are not yet installed but you can see the new sharper slant of the floor, which should improve your sight lines.



You can see the new shutters, which can cover the windows or be left open for sunlight, They are composed of acoustic materials, a change, one of several, which should improve the hall's sound. On the left and right, you can see where the new parterres are going. There will be no center aisle. Patrons will use aisles alongside the parterres. If you are seated in the parterre area, you will be on the same floor level as the stage. What a view!



In this picture you can see how complete the transformation will be. The auditorium will no longer look like or feel like a high school auditorium. There will be other, larger changes in the future, ones that will be less visible to the audience, but of great value to the resident companies. These backstage changes will include a freight elevator so that the grand piano needed for a visiting star does not have to be hauled in through the front door of Maryland Hall and muscled to the stage. Plans call for large additions to each side of the stage but those will come later, after we've all enjoyed the improved sound and sight lines of the new Maryland Hall hall.

Music at Quiet Waters

Quiet Waters Park was the scene of the Annapolis Symphony's annual free outdoor concert on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Thousands of people – many of them families complete with children and dogs – set up chairs and blankets on the grassy hill and heard a concert of crowd-pleasing classical music by the full orchestra. There was patriotic music, there was operatic music sung by a handsome, creamy-voiced tenor, there was stimulating music that made the children dance. (Pictured, Jai and Azalea inhabiting the music.) The sky was blue, the grass was green, the orchestra was in fine fettle and José-Luis was at his charming best, suggesting with a fluttering dollar bill that people open their wallets



Mingling with the crowd were FASO members equipped with white plastic buckets to receive donations. Your editor was one of them, and I can tell you that it was a fun (if hot and humid) job. The audience was good-humored and gracious about making donations. We collected a total of \$2,850. The ASO staff, working from a small white tent, sold 39 season subscriptions to the symphony. All in all it was a wonderful event for Annapolis music-lovers (or maybe classical music newbies), for FASO members and volunteers, and for the Annapolis Symphony itself.

The Bucket Brigade



Pictured left is Karen Smith, the new chairman of the ASO board. She spoke to the crowd at Quiet Waters about the benefits of signing up *right now* for season tickets to the symphony. The crowd obeyed, as noted above.

Pictured at right are two members of the FASO bucket brigade, out hustling for donations. On the right is Sage Mumma, a former FASO board member, and on the left is your editor, Carol Richards, who took the picture of the dancing children. Thanks to photographer and board member Don Dement for the rest of the Quiet Waters photos.





TA-DA

Hot off the press! Here's the first look at the new member of Maestro José-Luis Novo's family. He had to cancel auditions in Binghamton, N.Y. the weekend of Sept. 6 because of Martin's arrival. Mom Lori and baby are doing fine. José-Luis agreed to share a picture of this private moment with FASO.

Save these Dates

Saturday, Sept. 27, Wine-tasting fund-raiser, 4-7 p.m. Great Frogs Winery, Harness Creek Road, Annapolis. Admission, \$35.

Friday, Oct. 17 and Saturday, Oct. 18, Gala Opening Night parties to celebrate the transformation of Maryland Hall's auditorium to a Concert Hall.

Oct. 17 and 18, 2014, Lexus Classic Series 1, Handel, Music for the Royal Fireworks; Falla, Nights in the Gardens of Spain; Nielsen, Symphony No. 4, "The inextinguishable." Angela Cheng, guest pianist. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

Nov. 2, CONCERT OF TASTES 6-9 p.m. DoubleTree by Hilton 210 Holiday Court off Riva Rd. Tastings of great food, open bar, dancing, door prizes, Golden Chance Auction, Artisans Gallery. Admission: \$75 FASO members; \$85 public. Watch for your invitation to this our biggest, liveliest fund-raiser.



Nov. 14 and 15, Lexus Classic Series 2, Beethoven Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major, op. 55, "Eroica;" Ravel, *Le Tombeau de Couperin*; Doppler, *Fantasia Pastorale Hongroise*, op. 24. Griffes, Poem for Flute and Orchestra, Kim Valerio, flutist. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

Nov. 18, fundraiser, Smokehouse Grill. Portion of your dinner bill goes to ASO.

Dec. 19, Holiday Pops. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

Feb. 7. Family Concerts, 2 and 3:30 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

Feb. 27 and 28, Lexus Classic Series 3, Ravel, Concerto for Piano in G Minor; Bax, the Garden of Fand; Strauss, *Ein Heldenleben*, 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

Feb. 29, repeat of Feb. 27-28 concert, matinee, Strathmore, North Bethesda.

Mar. 27 and 28, Lexus Classic Series 4. Elgar, the Sanguine Fan; Prokofiev, Concerto for Violin No. 2 in G Minor, op. 63; Shostakovich, Symphony No. 9 in E-flat major, op. 70. Vadim Gluzman, guest violinist. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

May 8 and 9, Lexus Classic Series 5. R. Schumann, Manfred Overture; Lieberso, Neruda Songs; Sibelius, Symphony No. 5 in E-flat major, op. 82. Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

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