



QUARTER NOTES

FASO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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SEPTEMBER 2017

After Great Summer, Great Season Ahead

It certainly was nice seeing so many of you over the summer. Despite busy travel and vacation schedules, FASO had a very successful summer. It started with an evening of music and poetry on July 12 at the exquisite home of John and Martha Schwieters. The 45 guests had the joy of experiencing the music of SONOS led by Rachel Franklin along with Jonathan Miles Brown and Christian Tremblay. The music was paired with the poetry of two amazing talents in Garrett Brown and Le Hinton. Many thanks to the performers as well as Mary McKiel, Michael Kurtz, and Paula Abernethy for organizing the event, and our hosts, the Schwieters.

Our music and poetry evening was followed in August by a Dine to Donate at Killarney House in which 81 people came out to support FASO and the ASO. Many of you personally told me how much you enjoyed the evening and the feeling of family generated by those in attendance. Thanks to Tessie Ballard and Paula Abernethy for helping coordinate the event.

Finally, I want to thank all of the members of the FASO family who came out on Sept. 3 to support the ASO's Pops in the Park concert at Quiet Waters. This year's Bucket Brigade was super-successful at collecting donations from the audience. Thank you!

All of that sets the stage for the exciting ASO season that kicks off on Oct. 6 and 7 with this year's Opening Night Gala and concert featuring violinist Vadim Gluzman. José-Luis Novo has an exciting season for us with some of the world's most talented musicians. This is his 13th year with the ASO, making him our longest-tenured music director. Lucky us!

Our FASO season of events continues on Sept. 27 with our annual Membership Appreciation Party at FASO Board Member Stephen Holt's Premier Planning Group rooftop office at 115 West Street. The support that FASO provides the ASO and the community would not be possible without all of you, so it is fitting that we pause and take a moment to thank all FASO members for their generosity and support. Thanks to Stephen for hosting again this year.

To close out 2017, we have a dinner and wine pairing planned for Nov. 6 at Broadneck Grill in Cape St. Claire and a Dine to Donate at Brio in Annapolis Town Center on Dec. 3. I want to personally invite you to both. Anyone who would like to join me at my table is welcome.

I look forward to seeing all of you and supporting one of the jewels of our community, our amazing Annapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Stephen A. Sotack, President

NEW MUSIC TOUR – FASO’S REIGN IN SPAIN

Barcelona, Madrid, Granada... don't these place names sound romantic? Add in Cordoba and Seville and you have the sites of FASO's next European music tour, an event that will take you to these cities for seven first-rate concerts. You'll attend them with our Maestro José-Luis Novo, who will interpret and deepen your pleasure in the music. The trip will be a special time for him, because José-Luis was born in Spain and came to fame there as a violinist.

We'll be staying at lovely hotels and all the concert tickets are included in the price, as well as the cost of the trip to and from Dulles Airport. Want to go? Contact Michael Kurtz, mkclandcats@verizon.net. The tour runs from May 18 to 29. Please act fast. Michael needs to know your plans RIGHT NOW. As with the previous tour, Classical Movements of Alexandria, Va., is handling the plans and details. A hefty chunk of the price is a donation to the ASO.

The 28 people who went on the 2017 tour, to Salzburg, Vienna and Prague, say it was a fabulous life-affirming trip. Many of them have already signed up for this trip. Smart folks!

MUSIC VAN

Have you ever wondered what FASO volunteers do for the symphony besides raise money (and have fun doing it)? One of our activities is called the Music Van. A FASO volunteer joins a small group of ASO musicians at an Anne Arundel County elementary school. The musicians get to demonstrate their instruments to a cluster of interested pupils, and then they let the kids play their violins, horns, whatever. Our job as FASO folks is to facilitate the learning experience, including spritzing the horn mouthpieces with cleaning liquid between users. FASO volunteer Valerie Gutterson said she was stunned by how bright the kids were “and how adorable.” Let Stephen Sotack know if you want to volunteer. stephen_sotack@comcast.net

POETRY SLAM

Picture this: A beautiful home and inside, Garrett Brown reads poems that use aspects of astronomy as metaphors for how we humans see and understand life. Poet Le Hinton speaks a series of down-to-earth love poems that soar even with all their intimacy. And without interruption, SONOS flies into musical selections that spring from and complement the poems: Maurice Ravel, Miles Davis, Kurt Weill and George Gershwin. Then it is time for champagne and chocolate.

It was the July 12 evening of music and poetry at the home of John and Martha Schwieters, conceived and sponsored by FASO. Pictured here is the SONOS trio, led by Rachel Franklin on piano, along with Jonathan Miles Brown on fretless guitar and ASO's own Christian Tremblay on the violin. They were paired with



acclaimed poets, Garrett Brown and Le Hinton, to deliver a unique and elegant program that seamlessly integrated the ideas and images of both art forms. – *Story and photo by Mary McKiel*

POPS IN THE PARK



The Annapolis Symphony Orchestra's annual free concert in Quiet Waters Park drew a huge crowd and sparked a lot of joy. It was a beautiful Labor Day Sunday evening, there were crowds of children and tons of dogs and every group seemed to be enjoying a family picnic. Maestro Novo's selections were designed to please: For jazz lovers, there was a Tribute to Louis Armstrong. For kids and Baby Boomers: the theme from Star Wars. And for the fans of full-out fortissimo: The 1812 Overture.

Before long, little and medium-sized kids were dancing without inhibition. What a pleasure to listen and watch.

And the FASO bucket brigade collected \$3,806 for the ASO. —photos: top by Mary McKiel, right by Carol Richards



MEET THE MUSICIAN



If you attended the Quiet Waters concert, you heard Christopher Sala's trumpet soaring in the tribute to Satchmo. It was so sweet! You can hear Sala again as the featured soloist playing the Tamberg Trumpet Concerto at the ASO's Nov. 17 and 18 performances at Maryland Hall.

Sala is principal trumpet for both the ASO and the U.S. Navy Band. He spends a lot of time doing administrative stuff but he also performs at major funerals in Arlington Cemetery. "One of the parts of the job I like is playing "Taps," he told Quarter Notes. "You feel you're doing something special for the family."

He lives in Arnold with his wife and daughters, all musicians. His high-school age daughter plays the harp and the bass clarinet, while his seventh-grader plays the violin. His wife is a full-time general music teacher at a local elementary school. Just imagine what it's like when they are all rehearsing: "My house is never quiet," he said. Born in Upstate New York, he attended the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, joining the ASO 15 years ago as third trumpet and working his way up.

He's rehearsing already for the November concert. He thinks we will like it a lot. Tamberg was an Estonian composer during the Soviet Era. This concerto was written in 1972 and unlike a lot of music from that period "is very accessible," Sala said. "It's rhythmic and lyrical, yet each movement ends quietly. It's also bombastic! My fingers are going fast, it's super-exciting."

MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION PARTY SEPT. 27

All FASO members are invited to a FREE party at a lovely Annapolis rooftop suite in honor of YOU, our members, and to spread the word about the upcoming season of the ASO. Maestro Novo will explain why he especially loves the “Masterworks” he chose for the ASO to perform this season, his 13th. There will be appetizers, drinks, a wine-pairing and a fun raffle. **Sept. 27, 6-8 pm, 115 West Street, 4th Floor (Premier Planning Group Suite.) RSVP to Membership Chair Carol Richards, carol.richards@yahoo.com or 443-758-8811**



MAGIC CONNECTION

This image is a QR code and if you have the QR code scanner on your smartphone, (the scanner is also called the shopping code app), it will direct you automatically to the ASO Facebook page. Give it a try! Like us and follow us on Facebook.

Save these Dates

Sept. 27, Free Member Appreciation Party, 6-8 p.m., Stephen Holt’s rooftop, 115 West St., Annapolis. Appetizers, drinks, raffle, chat with the Maestro.

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 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. 6, dinner and wine pairing, Broadneck Grill in Cape St. Claire. More info to come.

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. 3, Dine to Donate, Brio’s ALL DAY. Say you are with FASO.

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 8, FASO’S Concert of Tastes, this year at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Stay tuned for more info. Put this on your calendar now!

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.

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