3-1-1992

**UAH Music News, 1992**

University of Alabama in Huntsville

Follow this and additional works at: [https://louis.uah.edu/music-news](https://louis.uah.edu/music-news)

**Recommended Citation**
[https://louis.uah.edu/music-news/5](https://louis.uah.edu/music-news/5)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Music at LOUIS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsletters by an authorized administrator of LOUIS.
CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we approach another spring season of intense musical activity here at UAH, I have on my mind as never before the necessity of making our critical needs known to our constituencies. This was especially brought home to me at the recent concert Marx Pales and Frank Contreras performed for an absolutely packed Recital Hall audience. I suppose mixed emotions would best describe my feelings at having to bring in extra chairs to seat a standing room only audience. We have had such audiences several times in the past couple of years and I am always very proud to be able to have events that are so popular with our public. I do often wonder, however, how much larger our audiences might be if we had not only enough seats, but less awkward access and better climate control as well.

As one of our dearest and most loyal patrons told me after the Pales-Contreras concert, "we must have a new, larger auditorium on campus." I agree, and we are going to begin to spread the word about this need. We must, of course, face the fact that public funds for capital projects will be severely limited in the next few years, so we have to think about creative ways to approach this problem. There are several other facets of the cultural life of our campus which are equally in need of facilities and it certainly makes sense to combine some of those needs. In any event, I am quite interested in hearing your ideas regarding this matter, as well as in getting your help in spreading the word.

We have a number of milestones which have been reached in our department this year. Our secretary, Bess Smith, just celebrated (is that the word?) her twentieth anniversary of service to the department. Only a person of saintly patience and good humor could survive the chaotic conditions which exist most days in our office. That she has been able to do it for twenty years is truly remarkable. We have a number of milestones which have been reached in our department this year. Our secretary, Bess Smith, just celebrated (is that the word?) her twentieth anniversary of service to the department. Only a person of saintly patience and good humor could survive the chaotic conditions which exist most days in our office. That she has been able to do it for twenty years is truly remarkable. The various roles she fills here go well beyond the normal secretarial duties and we are all grateful that we have the good fortune to have someone like her around. The entire faculty had an opportunity to honor Bess's contributions at a breakfast hosted by Royce Boyer at the Heritage Club.

Marx Pales has also completed twenty years of service to our department. His many years as Conductor of the Huntsville Symphony and Huntsville (continued on page 3)
**Ensembles Prepare Winter Programs**

**WIND ENSEMBLE TO PERFORM MARCH 13**

The UAH Wind Ensemble, under the direction of David L. Graves, and the Brass Ensemble, directed by Carolyn Sanders, will present their winter concert on Friday, March 13, 8:15 PM in the UAH Recital Hall.

The program will include Mendelssohn's Overture for Band and the popular Festive Overture by Dmitri Shostakovich. A recently published work for band, the Pagan Dances by James Barnes, will also be performed. This work makes use of very sparse tonal materials, concentrating instead on great rhythmic energy, unusual tone colors and an extensive battery of percussion instruments. The program will conclude with the exciting Finale from the Symphony No. 1, by Vassili Sergeievich Kalinnikov. This work features antiphonal brass choirs, which will be performed by the Brass section of the Lee High School Band, under the direction of Dexter Greenhaw.

The Brass Ensemble will perform Two Brass Cats from the Cat Suite by Chris Hazell, which has been recorded by the world renowned Philip Jones Brass Ensemble.

This program will also be presented at Lee High School on March 10.

Following the concert, a reception will be hosted by the Alumni and Friends of the UAH Music Department.

**CAMERATA BUSY WITH PROJECTS**

The Camerata, a music service organization made up of current music students, is well into its second term of existence. In the Fall term they provided ushers for on-campus concerts. They also have been improving the environment in the Music Building through new bulletin board designs and by keeping them current and organized. In January they held a Bake Sale in an effort to raise money for needs of the department that cannot be met through current budget restraints. In February they elected two officers: President Mark Blackburn and Secretary Hae-Kyung Son.

The Camerata's ongoing projects are to continue to provide ushers for concerts and to help enhance the student lounge (the stairwell of Roberts Hall). They are currently in need of a piece of carpet, measuring 6 feet by 12 feet, and a lamp for that area which will be installed directly into the wall. If anyone has items to donate, please contact Dr. Bonnie Sneed (895-6436), their faculty sponsor. Posters of musical events, ensembles or individual performers would also be greatly appreciated.

**CHOIR NEWS**

The UAH Concert Choir will be performing at First Presbyterian Church on Friday, March 6th at 8:15 p.m. Featured on the program are works of Victoria, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms and Debussy. Special guest include the Johnson H.S. chorale under the direction of Mrs. Eleanor Nation, Dr. Frank Contreras as organist, and Mrs. Mary Ann Bishop who will accompany the choir on Beethoven's "Hallelujah" from the Mount of Olives.

**CHAMBER MUSIC GUILD PRESENTS FINAL RECITAL**

The last Huntsville Chamber Music Guild event of the season will be a performance by the Oxford Piano Trio on Thursday, April 9 in the Recital Hall. The trio is in residence at Ole Miss. Daniel McKelway, clarinetist, with cellist and pianist performed an exciting recital on the HCMG series February 1. Trios of Beethoven and Brahms were contrasted with flawless performances of a Bach unaccompanied cello suite, and the unaccompanied clarinet movement from Olivier Messiaen's Quatuor pour la fin du temps. McKelway conducted a clarinet masterclass the Thursday before his concert, hearing students of UAH instructor, Robert West. Many school musicians attended. Royce Boyer, who books the HCMG series, announced last month the 1992-93 season: Peter Segal, guitarist (who will also present a masterclass), the early music ensemble, "Calliope," Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Principals' String Quartet, and the internationally famous Trio d'Archi di Roma.

**TWICKENHAM SINGERS PREPARE CONCERT**

The Twickenham Singers of North Alabama, directed by D. Royce Boyer, will present a concert of secular music on April 11, in the chapel of First Baptist Church. There is an admission charge. The program will consist of German part-songs of Schubert, Brahms and Mendelssohn, Debussy's "Three Chansons," collections of Yugoslavian and North American folksongs, and a group of canons. Call the Music office for ticket information.

**FACULTY NOTES**

**Weaver-Von Spakovský Duo**

**Tours Nationally**

Phil Weaver and Ingrid von Spakovský are keeping busy with their increasingly active performance schedule and the release of their recording "Music for Guitar and Piano." Upcoming performances include Ohio State University, Tennessee Valley Arts Center, Tuscumbia, AL, and a June 20th concert at Birmingham City Stages Festival with Los Angeles based flutist, Pamela Whitman. Ms. Whitman has recorded for Deutsche Grammophon and has extensive concert experience both here in the U.S. and in Europe. The Weaver-von Spakovský Duo and Pamela Whitman will be the featured performers for the classical part of the Festival that evening.

The Weaver-von Spakovský Duo's recording "Music for Guitar and Piano" is a cassette of works by Brouwer, Ponce, Telesco, and Boccherini. It was recorded digitally at ACA Digital Studios in Atlanta, Georgia and edited at Allgood Productions, Marietta, Georgia. The engineer for the project, Tommy Joe Anderson, is nationally recognized for his work in recording small ensembles and has won awards from NPR and Fanfare. This is the only recording of these works currently available using modern digital technology, and in fact most recordings of the works are out of print. Copies of the cassette can be obtained at the Fret Shop, 502 Pratt Avenue, or by writing or calling Phil Weaver or Ingrid von Spakovský c/o UAH Music Dept.

**Contreras Travels West**

During the Advent-Christmas season, Frank Contreras had several performances as organ soloist and accompanist at the First Presbyterian Church. In late January he attended the Redlands Organ Festival in California, during which he played in a master class. On the way back he stopped in Albuquerque to visit family and do some sightseeing in northern New Mexico.

On February 6th Contreras collaborated with violinist Marx Pales in a recital of "Our Favorite Sonatas". He also recently performed in the Huntsville Symphony as a pianist in one of their Classical Series Concerts. In April the Pales-Contreras Duo will again present a recital at UAH, and in June Contreras will perform chamber music with students and guests.

Contreras will perform on March 19 at the First Presbyterian Church as part of the American Guild of Organists Noon Time Concert Series. Also participating will be Beth McLain, soprano, Marx Pales, violin, and organist Vickie Halcomb, an alumna of the UAH Music Department.

Currently Dr. Contreras is teaching a course in Spanish Grammar and Conversation through the UAH Continuing Education Division.

He continues his volunteer work as an interpreter at the Mental Health Center.

His summer plans include attending the AGO Convention in Atlanta and taking a two-week course at the Royal School of Church Music in England.
ENSEMBLES (continued)

STUDENT PERFORMANCES AND HONORS
Lyn Philyaw, a senior Vocal Performance major, has been selected to sing in the Southern Regional Women’s Honor Choir at the March convention of the American Choral Director’s Association. Lyn received aid from the Student Government Association to help with the costs of this trip. She will be representing UAH at this event. Lyn studies voice with Charlotte Regni and is a member of the UAH Concert Choir.

Soprano Christian Bishop Jackson, student of Prof. Boyer, will perform a recital of sacred music, Sunday, March 22 beginning at 3:00 pm at Weatherly Heights Baptist Church. Her program will include a song-cycle of Flor Peeters, cantatas with violin obbligato by Dietrich Buxtehude, a collection of English 18th and 19th centuries songs and 19th and 20th centuries American songs by Chadwick, Rorem and Bernstein. Music graduate Johanna Caruso will accompany Chris at the organ for the Peeters. There is no admission charge.

UAH’s most recent music graduate is Carol Ann Foley, who processed in the December commencement exercises. Carol Ann, who received a B.A. in Music Education was supervised by UAH graduate Marcia Magee Ashford at Chapman Middle School.

FACULTY NOTES (continued)

Pales Maintains Busy Schedule
Marx Pales has had several interesting musical experiences during his first Christmas season in Tucson, Arizona. In his long musical career beginning with violin study at the age of 6, he has attended many concerts, recitals, operas, ballets here and abroad, studied with famed teachers and conductors, and has been associated with world-class artists, but one event in Tucson was absolutely new in his experience. Upon arriving there for a vacation throughout southern Arizona, he inquired about well-known Christmas services at various churches. One service stood out as most unusual - an 8:00 a.m. Christmas Mass at St. Augustine Cathedral in the old Presidio section of Tucson. It was a Spanish service with a Mariachi ensemble providing all the music. Ten players (who also sang extremely well) made up the ensemble - 2 trumpets, 3 violins, harp, and 4 guitars of various sizes. They were all talented players and singers and performed throughout the Mass. If you are ever in Tucson, you can experience this all Spanish Mariachi Mass every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. Another stirring event in Tucson was a fine acapella program a few days before Christmas by the 26 voices from the Repertory Singers of Tucson, given at the historic San Xavier Mission about 12 miles south of Tucson.

Dr. Pales has been invited for a third time to serve on the judges panel for the Olga Koussetvitsky Competition in New York City. The competition this year at Lincoln Center is for pianists, 18-26, and will last for 4 days, March 30-April 2. Three previous winners, pianist Avner Araid, soprano Young OK Shin, and cellist Sang Min Park were featured in pairs of concerts with Pales and the Huntsville Chamber Orchestra. All three are already having highly successful careers.

Pales now has six violin and viola students from his present studio at UAH in the Huntsville Symphony. As concertmaster of the Huntsville Community Chorus Orchestra, usually one of his students is his stand partner. His close association with Kenneth Turvey, director of the Community Chorus and organist at the United Methodist Church dates back to the 1971-72 symphony season when Pales invited Turvey as soloist and the Community Chorus to be guest artists at symphony concerts. The Community Chorus had not previously sung with the Symphony. This collaboration has occurred numerous times with both the Huntsville Chamber and Symphony Orchestras.

February 5th found Pales as violist, student Joyce Green as violist, and Patricia Morefield, chamber ensemble pianist. On Feb. 9th Pales served as concertmaster for the first performance in Huntsville of the John Rutter Magnificat at the United Methodist Church with Kenneth Turvey conducting.

Sanders Performs Faculty Recital
Dr. Carolyn Sanders will perform works of Bozza, Vivaldi, Copland, Bennett and Suderberg on a faculty recital March 7. Later this spring she travels to Auburn to do a program of music for baroque trumpet and organ. Her accompanist is Dr. Ann Knipschild of Auburn University. Sanders has also been invited to perform at the International Trumpet Guild Conference, which will be held in Rotterdam, Holland in June.

Boyer To National Convention
Dr. D. Royce Boyer is reading a paper at the annual Sonneck Society of American Music conference at LSU on March 15. His topic is “The WWI Army Bandsman: A Diary Account of Philip James.”

UAH’s new President, Dr. Frank Franz has requested that Dr. Boyer work with the Vice-President for Student Affairs and the University Center Director in restoring cultural programming on the campus. The UAH ArtSeries provided performances and residencies of musicians, dancers, poets, etc. on campus for sixteen years. Several music students served on the ArtSeries committee with Dr. Boyer during those years. The last UAH ArtSeries was 1980-81. The new committee wishes to utilize the talents of music alumni and faculty, mixed with other professional artists in a six event series for 1992-93.
Service Recognition

Congratulations to Royce Boyer, left, Bess Smith, and Marx Pales, who recently celebrated 65 years of combined service to the Music Department at UAH. Dr. Boyer has completed 25 years of service, while Dr. Pales and Ms. Smith have each completed 20 years.