



Chopin Club
Providence, Rhode Island

Musicale
Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.
Greetings from: Edith Hemenway, President

131st Anniversary Season

Mary K. Hail Music Mansion
Providence, Rhode Island

Program

I

Im Abendrot.....Schubert
Una Furtiva Lagrima.....Donizetti
Non T'amo Piu.....Tosti
O Is There Not One Maiden Breast.....Gilbert & Sullivan
Danny Boy.....Weatherly; Arr. Kregler

Ian O'Brien, tenor
Philip Martorella, piano

II

String Quartet Opus 59 No. 1.....Beethoven
Allegro
Adagio molto e mesto

Cathy Metz and Selma Josell, violins*
Gwendoline Thornblade, viola*
Joan Lusk, cello

III

Impromptu in E-flat, Op. 90, No. 2.....Schubert
Etude in G-sharp minor, Op. 25, No. 6.....Chopin
Rhapsody in E-flat, Op. 119, No. 4.....Brahms

Donald Rankin, piano

*denotes guest

Program arranged by Emily Anthony

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

James and Marian DeCesaris * Mary Jane Tyszkowski

Robert Salmani * Deborah Concannon

STAGE MANAGER: Haig Yaghoobian

Next Musicale: Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 2:00 pm

Mary K. Hail Music Mansion

The Chopin Club has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Ian O'Brien (Tenor) is a student at Rhode Island College. He began his study of music on the viola at age 9 before making his transition to vocal studies in his senior year of high school. Since then, he has enjoyed performances on many of the country's greatest stages, including Jordan Hall and Symphony Hall in Boston, Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall in New York City. In summer 2009, O'Brien was the featured performer at an ASCAP-sponsored event celebrating the life and works of prolific American composer George M. Cohan in Providence, Rhode Island. He was most recently seen as an Apprentice with the Opera Tampa Young Artist Program and will be returning to that venue in March 2010.

Philip Martorella received his musical education at the Mannes College of Music (B.M.), the Juilliard School (M.M.), and the Manhattan School of Music (Music Ed. M.A.). He studied piano with Avraham Sternklar, Nadia Reisenberg, Eugenia Hyman, Sascha Gorodnitzki and Adele Marcus, and piano accompanying studies with Samuel Sanders. Mr. Martorella is currently on the adjunct piano faculty at Rhode Island College, serving as organist at Temple Beth El, Providence, RI. He recently released an album of his own compositions entitled "Relax and Dream" and has written an article about his musical compositions entitled "Something About the Music", an Anthology of Critical Opinions: A Guide to Contemporary Repertory.

The members of the *String Quartet* originally met at various chamber music workshops and now convene several times a year for coaching. **Selma Josell** lives in Lanesboro, MA. Retired from her career as an anesthesiologist, she now plays as much chamber music in groups ranging from trios to nonettes. A world traveler and active in the Rotary Club, she is also an excellent photographer with photos from every continent. **Cathy Metz** lives in Montpelier, VT, where she has an active life as chamber and orchestral musician. She belongs to two central Vermont orchestras, the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra and the Vermont Philharmonic, and is also a member of the North American Advisory Council of the ACMP (The Chamber Music Network). When not playing music, she works as an educational consultant for deaf and hard of hearing students. **Gwendoline Thornblade** lives in Auburndale, MA; she grew up in England and came to the US to complete her training in pediatric dentistry. Subsequently she changed fields and became a full-time Suzuki teacher of violin and viola, teaching in the public schools and at New England Conservatory. Gwendolyn also founded the Suzuki School of Newton, and has conducted Suzuki workshops around New England. She is now working with Project Step, which brings the Suzuki teaching method to inner city students. She serves on the ACMP Board of Directors and is involved with the Community Music grants committee for the ACMP Foundation. **Joan Lusk**, now retired from teaching chemistry at Brown, lives in Providence. She is a member of the Rhode Island Philharmonic Community Orchestra and President of Rhode Island Chamber Music Concerts. She serves as webmaster for RICMC, Vermont Music and Arts Center, and the Chopin Club. The quartet has received coaching from Maxine Neuman, cellist of New York City and Bennington, VT, and the Portland (Maine) String Quartet, as well as from Lois Finkel in Providence.

Pianist **Donald Rankin** taught at the University of Rhode Island for 38 years. Currently he teaches piano privately and serves as a docent at RISD Museum.