

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance West Texas A&M University

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Fall 1999

FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

It feels awkward to write this article. When I was the editor, I was always bugging Dr. Haines for a blurb in the fall issue. Now I'm being bugged. I guess turnabout is fair play, except when it happens to you. The semester is over and it seems like it's been a whirlwind.

We're doing well. Our numbers are up slightly. We have 60 freshmen versus 50 last fall; the marching band went from 160 to 180; the combined choirs went from 46 to 74; and strings went from 10 returning to 19. Currently we have 156 students pursuing music education, 23 in dance, 29 in music therapy, 14 in music with elective studies in business, 13 in performance, 3 in composition, and 11 graduate students. It looks like we will graduate 20 music education students this year (most are instrumental).

Financially, we're doing OK. We have enough band camp funds to run the entire Showcase of Music concert from that account this year, which means that everything raised will be used strictly for music scholarships. In previous years, we have had to use gate receipts to pay for the rental of the civic center, printing of the programs, and other incidental expenses. Not this year. Every single continued on page 3



MARY JANE JOHNSON, right, with student April Johnston

GUEST ARTIST-IN- RESIDENCE

Once again we are fortunate to have Mary Jane Johnson as our artist in residence sponsored by the Amarillo Area Foundation and the Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation. She proved a valuable asset to the fine arts program with outreach and recruitment, teaching and coaching, masterclasses, assisting with opera scenes, and in general she generated much good PR. Her free recital of opera and Diva Does Broadway at

Northern Hall, March 30, 1999, was not only electric and inspiring but profitable for us as she donated all proceeds of her new CD to vocal scholarships at WT. We look forward to all the fun and innovative activities of this coming year, including, we hope, a recital of new compositions and a preview of the Strauss she will perform this summer at Sante Fe Opera. She can be found on campus at least one week a month in her office, FA 106, or visiting various studios for one-on-one teaching and coaching.

ALUMNI NOTES

John Hatchel ('66 BS) retired from a 32-year city management career in September 1999. He served in Abilene, Plainview, and Waco. John hopes to become active in the community band in Waco. His wife Linda continues to teach English at McLennan Community College and currently is serving as president of Texas College English Association. She plays flute in the Waco community band. (johnhatchel@hotmail.com)

Dean Hearn ('69 BME) is principal of Southside Middle School in San Antonio, and **Elyse Hearn** ('69 BME) is a counselor at Sky Harbour Elementary, also in San Antonio. (deanelyse@hotmail.com)

Bryant Harris ('70 BME) taught for 26 years, retired, and went to work for Jent's House of Music in Amarillo where he is the band department manager. (starbry@aol.com)

Ken Barker ('77 BME) just celebrated his 20th anniversary with Word Music. His current title is Senior Editorial Director. He and wife Brenda (Happy High School grad!) have the following children: Faith and Grace (twins from India), Joy (from China), Samuel and Andrew (from Latvia), Melody Hope and Daniel (from Vietnam). "And yes, seven is the biblical number for completion! It's wild at our house in Brentwood, TN. If any old friends are in the Nashville area and are brave enough to visit, please drop me an e-mail. We'd love to see you." (kbarker@wordmusic.com)

John Strother ('84 M.Ed.; '78 BME) is the head band director at Canyon HS.

Ron Davis ('80 MA; '79 BM) has a new e-mail address: rdavis@281.com

Brian McLaughlin ('83 BM) wrote a lot of stuff: "I finished my DMA in horn performance and pedagogy in the spring of 1998 (University of Iowa). While writing my dissertation I was teaching at Grove City High School in Ohio (suburb of Columbus) and applied at several colleges and universities while there. The job situation was becoming unbearable, and my wife was fighting some serious complications from a surgical error, so we decided to widen the scope of our search to included public schools closer

to her family. The result was that I am the Director of Bands at Bloomfield HS in Bloomfield, NJ.

"The job situation is outstanding, and I have quickly broken into the freelance scene in NJ and NY City. I am currently playing in the New Philharmonic of NJ (Excellent group!), the NJ Pops, the Gramercy Brass, and on occasion with the New York Camerata and the Berkshire Opera (at Tanglewood), the New Jersey Symphony, and in the odd show. I have also done two solo performances with a local municipal band. Needless to say, it's very gratifying to be playing with so many fine players, and playing such a wide variety of music. I have performed more and at a higher level in the past-year than I did in 4 years in Columbus, even though I was playing with the CSO and Pro Musica.

"We have a house in the mountains on a small lake, and from the mountain top above the house we can see the skyline of NYC about 30 miles away. We love it, and so do the kids. Our children are now 9 (Matt), 5 (Sam), and 3 (Laura). Matt plays piano and recently won second prize in a regional competition. We are very happy with the musical gifts he is displaying, which include perfect pitch.

"When I was doing my DMA I thought of my career only in terms of a college teaching position or a spot in a full-time orchestra. I realize now what a limited view that was. Being here in the NY metro area, I have discovered that there is more freelance playing being done, and at a higher level, than any where else except maybe LA and London. I play with people from the Metropolitan Opera, the American Opera, the New Jersey Symphony, and from Broadway—and these musicians are terrific! Who would have guessed that I'd end up out here?

"I am still climbing mountains, though I have slowed down a bit. Last year had only five climbing trips, rather than other years when I have gone on twenty or more. What I lack in quantity I'm trying to make up in quality: last winter I did all but one of the classic north faces in the Adirondack mountains. I have already scheduled an attempt on the last one as soon as the

ice forms up. My oldest son has started climbing with me, but these winter alpine climbs are still much too serious for him. Maybe in another 8 or 9 years.

"I spoke to Mike Harcrow last week, and he's doing well as the principal horn of the National Symphony in Seoul, South Korea. He's also professor of horn at the top music school in Korea." (dmclaughlin@yahoo.com)

Scott Myers ('89 MA; '84 BME) teaches low brass for the La Joya ISD. (myersband@aol.com)

Laura Terry ('87 BM) "This month I celebrate my tenth anniversary of working for Whole Foods Market. I joined them after I quit grad school at Rice. I've worked/lived in Houston, San Francisco, and Boulder, and am about to move to Seattle to help open the new store there. I haven't played my instruments since I left Houston in '92, but I recently got them repaired/tuned up, just in case the urge should come on strong." [Laura's pre-Seattle e-mail address was armando-laura@amigo.net. Her pre-Seattle mailing address was PO Box 689, Crestone, CO 81131-0689. Linda Chelf ('85 BM) told me on October 23 that Laura was in Seattle. You figure out when the six months started.]

John Reimund ('93 MM, '87 BME) is at the Vidal M. Treviño Communication and Fine Arts Center in Laredo. (tubajohn@netscorp.net)

Mark Terry ('87 BME) writes "...I studied with Royal Brantley and took conducting with Rene Clausen. It was a great time in my life! I am now serving as an associate pastor and minister of music at Jersey Baptist Church in Pataskala, Ohio (the Metro Columbus area). I have been here two years. I am married to Sonya Johnson Terry and have two children—David, age 5, and Elizabeth, age 2."

Kimberley Hanna ('88-94 student) is teaching in Plano. (khanna@pisd.edu)

Pat Daniel ('88 MA) is a band director in Hereford. (pband@yahoo.com)

Diane Hernandez ('90 BME) reports that she's in Austin with the Texas Department of Public Safety. She is a Texas Crime Information Center/National Crime Information

Center (TCIC/NCIC) trainer for the state. They work closely with the FBI. She is also now certified as a TCLEOSE (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education) instructor. She teaches law enforcement agencies/officers how to use the law enforcement database to catch the bad guys. Her job has her traveling 80% of the time all over the state.

Michael Keig ('93 MA, '90 BME) is the band director at Wunderlich Intermediate School in Houston. Wife **Leslie (Gerrard)** ('88 BME) is a stay-at-home mom to one-year-old Madeline (Maddie) and also teaches cello lessons. (mkeig@ev1.net)

Karla (Shaw) Rettig ('96 MA; '95 BM) is teaching at Brenham Junior High School. She has the second band and teaches beginners. She married Eric Rettig on December 20, 1997. (krettig21@yahoo.com)

John Barton ('99 BM) is a band director Lee HS in Midland. (jbarton76@aol.com)

Geoff Elsner ('99 MM, '97 BM) is a band director at Lee HS in Midland.

Tamarie Hawkins ('99 BM) is the assistant band director at Rice Middle School in Plano.

Katherine (Plock) Jones ('99 BMMT) is working as a music therapist at a clinic in El Paso.

Robert Hinds ('99 MM; '96 BM) moved to Bowie Junior High in Odessa.

Conrad Flusche ('99 BM) is the assistant director at Canyon HS.

[Thanks to those who sent information. I hope I haven't lost anything in the move from Northern to the Fine Arts Building, but if I did, send it to me again. There's always another Ritornello!]

IN MEMORIAM

Ted Allred ('81-'85 music faculty) died in a automobile accident this summer (July 21). He was playing viola in the San Antonio Symphony. [Thanks to Laura Terry for this information.]

Pam Sumner ('78 BM) died March 5, 1999 of heart failure. Pam was a student of Mr. Stanley Potter. She went off from WT to receive her MM in piano from the University of

North Texas, studying with Mr. Baowitz. She had been living and performing in New York City and had just recently married another musician by the name of Rich Rothenberg. [Thanks to Carla Swartzell Gaylor ('78 BM) for passing along this information.]

FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, cont.'d

penny raised will be used for scholarships! I promise. We were also able to put \$6,000 into the Showcase Dinner account this year, so that endowment has nearly \$20,000 in it, and we're only using the interest and leaving the principal alone. We were able to award nearly \$19,000 from the Showcase account this year. That money came mostly from alumni contributions and ad sales, so we are indeed grateful for your continued support.

Music-making continues to be a high priority in our department. I think the marching band is spectacular. (We ought to be able to take them to state as an NCAA Division II school. As soon as I figure out where they're holding area tryouts, I'll fill out an application. I've made several phone calls, but I can't get any straight answers. I can't even get the people who answer my phone calls to stop laughing!) We'll be represented at TMEA again this year. Mr. Ritter is taking the jazz band; Dr. Garner has a faculty chamber ensemble that you won't want to miss; the Harrington String Quartet has (the last I heard) three sessions at TMEA; and several of our faculty will be doing all-state help sessions and judging. We hope to see you at the alumni reception on Friday night.

I hope all is going well for you. We would like to hear from you, so if you haven't communicated with us in a while, please drop us a line. If you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know; we're here to serve. If you're in the area, please stop by and see us. I'm proud to be associated with West Texas A&M University, and I hope that you share that same feeling of pride.

Ted DuBois

HARRINGTON PIANO

The WTAMU College of Fine Arts and Music Department is very grateful to Sybil Harrington who in her will bequeathed her "house piano," a wonderful instrument made by the Beckstein Company. The instrument is a small grand, about 5' 8", which retails for around \$80,000. It will be very useful in performing music of the classical period and in some kinds of ensemble and chamber music.

MARCHING BAND

The Buffalo Marching Band has been off to a spectacular beginning this fall! We have had an unexpected but very welcome growth in enrollment this year. The freshman class is bigger and every bit as talented as we could have ever hoped. This is just one sign of continued support received from our alumni and friends, and we cannot convey how much we appreciate your continued commitment!

Our schedule has been a busy one thus far. By the end of September, we will have already performed at two home football games, traveled to Midland for a performance at a Lee High School game, moved on to Angelo State University for another half-time show, and marched in the Tri-State Fair Parade. It has been a lot of fun so far, and we hope to see many of you at Homecoming, scheduled for Saturday, October 2.

The Band Parent's Day Banquet was a huge success again this year. We had close to 300 people in attendance. The band invited Cody Meyers, the Fine Arts Director for the Amarillo Public Schools and a very successful WTAMU alumnus, to be our guest speaker. His speech brought back a lot of wonderful memories for me, Dr. Garner, and for many others in attendance. As always, it was terrific to meet and visit with the WTAMU band parents. They all seem very excited to be visiting our campus and getting an opportunity to see the band march at half-time.

The students in the marching band set a fine example for the rest of the student body at WTAMU. They give a tremendous amount of time and effort at each event. I feel that it is the work ethic of our students and the high goals

they strive to achieve that allows our music department to be among the best in the nation. This attitude is a reflection of the fine music programs to which they belonged before entering WT!

Don Lefevre

WILLIAM DOPPMANN RECITAL

On February 1, 2000, at 8:00 p.m. music lovers from across the region will have an opportunity to hear pianist/composer William Doppmann in Mary Moody Northern Hall on the WTAMU campus. The Tuesday evening recital will include works by Scarlatti, Mozart, Chopin and Doppmann. The next morning, February 2, Mr. Doppmann will present a lecture/masterclass at Amarillo College in the Concert Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Doppmann is a former winner of the Naumberg, Michaels and Leventritt Competitions. He has concertized throughout the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Europe, South America and the Far East as recitalist and as soloist with major orchestras including the Chicago, Houston and Tokyo Symphonies. His most recent New York recital at Lincoln Center was described by the Times as "one of the most distinctive of the season." His latest recording "Four American Piano Sonatas" was released by Equilibrium Recordings in October 1999.

Mr. Doppmann's visit is sponsored by WTAMU 2000, Amarillo College, Tolzien Music Company and the Amarillo Music Teachers Association. The recital at WTAMU and the lecture/masterclass at Amarillo College are open to the public. There is no admission charge.

MUSIC THERAPY

The music therapy program and club are off to a busy school year. Ten new students have joined the department this fall. The students have a variety of applied major instruments ranging from percussion, bassoon, flute and voice. Dr. Kahler and his students have been working on building a website. You can visit the Music Therapy Club Homepage at:



WILLIAM DOPPMANN, piano

<http://WTFACULTY.WTAMU.EDU/~ekahler/MTCLUB/MTCLUB.htm>.

The club is also off to a busy schedule. Many of the members are making plans to attend the World Congress of Music Therapy in Washington, D.C. A few of our students are on national committees or are national and regional officers in the student association. On the local front, several presenters (physical therapist, psychologist, social worker to name a few) have been scheduled to come speak to the members. Club members participated in the 1999 Homecoming

Day Parade through the streets of Canyon. The club members also visited children at BSA during Halloween.

Club members are also busy with fund raisers. The club sponsored the "Halloween Professor" this fall. Music faculty were asked if they would dress in a Halloween costume if selected. Individuals were asked to vote for the professor they would like to see dressed up in a costume. One could vote by making a donation toward the faculty member of their choice. Drs. Hansen, Kahler and Zimmerman volunteered for the fund raiser. The big money raiser



MUSIC THERAPY HOMECOMING FLOAT

and winner (depending on your point of view) of the 1999 "Halloween Professor" fund raiser was Dr. Hansen. Dr. Hansen dressed up as a colorful clown on October 28. Thanks, Dr. Hansen!

The club is also selling jar candles to raise money for the regional conference in March. The goal is to have all members attend the conference. If you are interested in a jar candle, please let us know.

Have a good fall and hope to see many of you in Washington!

WTAMU OPERA WORKSHOP

Dr. Cloyce Beard-Stradley has been appointed by Dr. Robert Hansen, chairman of the voice area and Dr. Ted Dubois, department head, as the new opera director at WTAMU. This fall, there are going to be two short operas performed on December 7 in the Branding Iron Theatre. *Bastien and Bastienne* by W.A. Mozart will be performed at 6:00 pm. The WTAMU string ensemble, prepared and conducted by Dr. Robert Zimmerman, will be the pit orchestra.

Amahl and the Night Visitors by Gian Carlo Menotti will be performed at 8:00pm. The pit orchestra will be comprised of winds, brass, percussion, harp, and piano and will be conducted by Eric Gilley. Special guests in the production of *Amahl* include the WTAMU Chorale as the shepherds chorus, Ben Simpson as Amahl, and Dr. Robert Hansen as Kaspar. In the spring of 2000, the second act of *The Marriage of Figaro* will be performed under the direction of Dr. Stradley and Mary Jane Johnson.

SFORZANDO AND CLASSICS

Sforzando, the men's vocal group under the direction of Dr. Cloyce Beard-Stradley, is still going strong. They had a very successful short tour to Perryton and Pampa in the spring, gave performances at River Road High School, Dimmitt Middle School, and also high schools in the Harlingen area as a part of Chorale tour. They are looking forward to more performances in area schools and for community functions this year.

Classics is the new show choir begun this fall by Dr. Stradley. There has been a need for small performing groups in the vocal area that can go to area schools for recruiting and public relations. Classics fills the bill! You will hear much more about Classics in the coming year.

BAND AND ORCHESTRA NEWS

I'm happy to report that both the band and orchestra had substantial growth this year. We have a good and talented freshman class, largely because of scholarships made possible by the generous donations of alumni and friends. Thanks to all!

As of this writing, the marching band is preparing for its out-of-town trip to San Angelo for the Angelo State game on October 2. They'll perform at the Midland Lee-San Angelo Central game in Midland the night before, where they'll be hosted by Randy Storie and the Lee Band.

The wind ensemble is preparing to record two works by Bernard Hoffer to go on a CD of his music along with his *Morning in St. Lucia* that the Symphonic Band performed last year at TMEA.

The Symphonic Band's tentative tour plans are to travel to El Paso and the Permian Basin, Feb. 23-25. We hope to see many of you along the way.

The orchestra's getting ready for their first concert of the year on October 31 at 8:00 p.m. We're doing *Le Austize Femminili* by Cimarosa and Symphony No. 33 by Mozart. The String Academy will also be performing on that concert.

WT will be well represented in the Orchestra Division at TMEA. Our Faculty Chamber Orchestra will be performing a concert in Beethoven Hall on Friday at 3:30. The Harrington String Quartet will present a clinic on coaching chamber music on Thursday at 3:30 and will perform George Crumb's *Black Angels* on Saturday at 3:30. Dr. Robert Zimmerman will give a clinic on developing the young bassist on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Each of the clinics will take place in room 205 of the Convention Center.

CHORAL NEWS

Greetings from the choral music department. I thought I'd begin by detailing some information about our impending performances this year. The fall concert for the WT Chorale and Collegiate Chorus was Thursday, 14 October in Northern Recital Hall, an event that will have taken place by the time you read this. Following that performance will be the annual joint production with the Amarillo Symphony on November 20. The concert will be the Mahler 2d in its entirety. The choral part of the Mahler symphony happens in the fifth movement. This is quite an undertaking for the Amarillo Symphony and portends to be memorable.

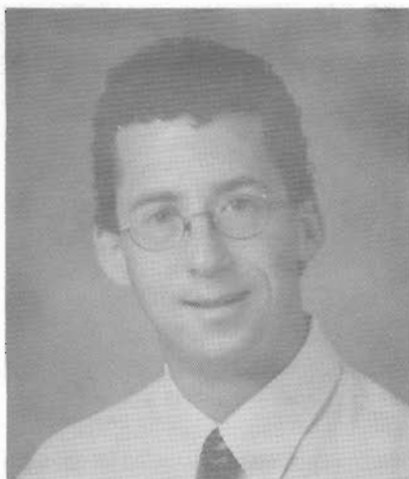
The holiday season at WT begins with the Carol of Lights on the steps of Old Main at 6:00 p.m., November 30. Our annual Christmas Concert is Friday night, December 3 at 8:00 p.m., and the Schola Cantorum will sing in the Madrigal Dinner on December 4. During the spring the WT Chorale will perform for several area high school choirs and both the WT Chorale and the Collegiate Chorus will perform the Showcase of Music (April 14) and our spring concert (April 27).

Alumni, if you know of talented singers in your area, encourage them to consider WTAMU's music department. Your enthusiasm and backing could make a real difference to our music program. As you may know, our resident opera star, Mary Jane Johnson, has been our artist-in-residence both last year and this year. She has been a positive force! We have new vocal scholarships and her influence and support has been instrumental in an influx of wonderful talent to our program. We appreciate her and your support, and see you at the concerts!

George Biffle

WELCOME NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

This year the Music Department added Russ Teweleit as Instructor of Music in charge of over-seeing music education classes and supervising student teachers. Mr. Teweleit holds both the Bachelor of Music in education



RUSS TEWELEIT

and the Master of Music in performance from WT. For the past 3 years he was Director of Bands at Canyon High School. He also held the position of assistant director at Canyon High School from 1991 to 1996. Russ and his wife, Tina, make their home in Canyon with their two small children, Lindsay (3) and Matthew (18 months). Welcome Russ!



SONJA LOVE

Sonja Love is the new music librarian. The Tullia native has lived in Canyon for the past 34 years with husband Gary after attending court reporting college in Plainview. She served the last 17 years as the secretary to the principal of Canyon Junior High School. Besides an active involvement with family, Sonja enjoys three pets and the music of Elvis Presley, something

she is still searching for in our music library!

THE MUSICAL

We are very excited about a new work in progress and WT's involvement with it. The music and drama departments are collaborating with the composer and librettist of a truly American musical drama for the new year 2000, by developing, workshopping, and presenting it in the BIT.

The show is *The American Story* by Amarillo College's Laurel Vartibedian with music by our own Bill Evans. Dr. Jeffry Koep from OU will conduct a workshop November 11 and 12, and we will cast November 15 and 16. What an exciting event! As we work on cuts and additions, it just keeps getting better and better. Be sure to get your tickets early so you will not miss this spectacular true life event about the miners of Colorado. Royal Brantley and Dr. Joe Ella Cansler will direct the musical which will play March 1-5.

ROYAL BRANTLEY TRIBUTE

On November 14 at 3:00 in Northern Hall there was a tribute in honor of Royal L Brantley (Sr.), Professor Emeritus of WT. The program was entitled "An American Treasure: The Vocal Works of Royal L Brantley" and consisted of performance of songs and chamber music as well as information about the composer's life and musical style, by Joe Ella Cansler. A reception for the composer followed the presentation in the Art Gallery. Mr. Brantley enjoyed seeing alumni, old students, friends and music aficionados.

JAZZ BAND NEWS

Last April, Jazz Band I, Jazz Band II, along with a combo, traveled to Greeley, Colorado, to perform at the Greeley Jazz Festival. All three groups received excellent comments from the judges. Travis Barney, alto sax, Robert Boone, trombone, and David Rodriguez, bass, received outstanding performance awards, and Corey Tice was picked as the outstanding drummer at the festival and won a 20-inch Zildjian ride cymbal.

This February, for the first time, the WTAMU Jazz Band will be performing at TMEA. We will be performing a clinic/concert on Thursday at 4:00 pm. The location will be listed in the program book. Hope you will be able to attend. The fall concert was November 23rd with the Amarillo High School Jazz Band as the guest band. The spring concert is scheduled for April 25th. See you at TMEA!

REPORT ON NASM SELF-STUDY

Every 10 years music departments that are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music must conduct a self-study as part of the ongoing accreditation process. During the 1998-99 school year the Department conducted an alumni survey as part of our self-study. Dr. Nelson, the faculty member who was in charge of this effort, wishes to thank everyone who returned the questionnaire. Your responses were important in documenting the quality of the degree programs, faculty members, and facilities at WTAMU. The following information is a brief summary of the responses to questions that covered the department as a whole.

68.1% of the respondents gave the department the highest rating for quality. 27.3% rated the department above average, only 4.6% rated it average and no one rated it below average or poor.

65.6% gave the highest rating possible to their main focus of studies. 27.4% rated their focus of studies above average, 5.6% average, and 1.4% below average or poor.

Among ratings for specific courses, major ensembles received the highest possible rating from 73.1% of the respondents and above average from an additional 14.4%. Applied lessons also received very high ratings with 65.2% for outstanding and another 24.1% for above average. In every other area, such as theory, literature, history, methods courses, etc. More students gave the courses an outstanding rating than any other and above average was always second. Average, below average, and poor combined was always below 10%.

97.5% expressed satisfaction with the preparation they received for their



HARRINGTON STRING QUARTET

senior recital or master's degree project. 95.2% said they would definitely recommend WTAMU to future students. Three items almost tied when respondents indicated why they chose WTAMU to pursue their education. They were: 1. The reputation of the department, 2. The presence of an outstanding faculty member, and 3. The quality of education they expected to receive.

The comments and suggestions were a pleasure to read because almost all were very complimentary. The suggestions for improvement were very useful and many are being incorporated. More than 20 changes in the curriculum have been made as a result of the self-study. Again, all involved wish to thank you for your help.

FACULTY FOOTNOTES

Dr. Joe Ella Cansler spent a part of the summer living, studying, and performing in Sienna, Italy and Andermat, Switzerland, with the *Sessione Senese per la musica e l'arte universite*. There were many wonderful experiences and friends made. So much music and art, it is unbelievable. There are many pictures and memories.

Doug Storey served on the International Clarinet Symposium orchestral audition committee in May to select finalists to perform on a mock audition at CLARFEST '99 in

Oostende, Belgium. He also performed two concerts this summer as part of the Texas Clarinet Consort, one at Kneller Hall near London, and one at the International Clarinet Symposium in Oostende, Belgium. He also presented a solo recital on the same CLARFEST '99 program. The Texas Clarinet Consort also performed in March for a cultural festival at UNAM in Mexico City and is planning future concerts in Oklahoma and Portugal. A CD is also in the works and will be recorded in January, 2000.

Dr. Susan Martin Tariq was an invited panelist for the discussion "Percussion in the 21st Century: The Next Step" on Friday, November 29th and "Drum Set Teaching Techniques" on Saturday, November 30th at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

DAY OF PERCUSSION

The WTAMU percussion department will host its 3rd annual Day of Percussion on Saturday, April 1, 2000. Guest clinicians/performers will include Dr. Tina Wilkes-Walton, Dr. Dave Walton and Bart Elliott. Wilkes-Walton and Elliott will be returning as guest alumnus. The day will also include a high school percussion ensemble competition.

**TMEA ALUMNI RECEPTION
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH
9:30 - 11:30 pm
MENGER HOTEL BALLROOM**

HARRINGTON QUARTET IN FRANCE

Harrington String Quartet was selected as one of five American ensembles to participate in the First International String Quartet Competition in Bordeaux, France. Ensembles from all over the world gathered in this beautiful city located in the famous wine region to compete and exchange experiences as quartets. We encountered groups from Russia, Romania, Finland, Italy, Taiwan, Spain, England and, of course, America. We also found out about the hardships that some of these quartets had to endure to get to this competition. The Russian Quartet traveled by bus from Kiev and it took them thirty hours to arrive in Bordeaux (they also had to play the very next day!). The jury was composed of well-known artists from the chamber music arena. The American String Quartet was also invited to serve as juries. They are in residence at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City.

This event was a wonderful experience for us. We learned a great deal about music making and about the reality of things in the world of performance today. In talking to many of these musicians we realized how fortunate we are to be here in West Texas doing what we do as a quartet. We realized that for many of these groups this competition was a last chance for them to be able to stay together. The life of a performing quartet without a residence is a short-lived one. Most groups depend on concerts to be able to make a living as chamber musicians. A competition is a way to get concerts, if you win. The fact that in the past fifteen to twenty years there has been an explosion of string quartets in the world has made it that much more difficult for concert presenters to create venues for groups throughout. Consequently, the amount of quartets that fold every year is staggering. One group in particular, the

one from Spain, told me that unless they won a prize at this event they could not afford to stay together much longer. This was very sad because they played one of the most wonderful renditions of a Brahms quartet in the competition. As it turned out they did not get to the final round.

Although we also did not get to the final round, we came back feeling very encouraged about our role in this community. It also made us realize how much we want to stay together making music and bringing it to our public here. Our mission as teachers at WTAMU has been reinforced by this event as well. It has helped us to show our students the reality of things and how experiences like this one can be helpful to them in choosing their own path.

Emmanuel Lopez

**SCHOLARSHIP AUDITION
DATES**

Saturday, Jan 29
Saturday, March 11
Saturday, April 15

SHOWCASE DONORS

PATRON

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beckham
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Crosswhite
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Davis
Ms. Jeri E. DeAngelis
Mrs. Carolyn Fotheringham
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Marsh 3
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Muthersbough

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Mr. Rick Crawford
Mrs. Jessie A. Davis
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Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Hoyle
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Kirk
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, Spring 2000

Career Day, Jan. 28
 Faculty Grand Recital, Jan. 28,
 8:00 p.m.
 William Doppmann, Feb. 1,
 8:00 p.m.
 Symphonic Band, Feb. 20,
 8:00 p.m.
 An American Story, Musical,
 Mar. 1-5
 Concert Band, Mar. 5,
 3:00 p.m.
 Concerto Concert, Mar. 5
 8:00 p.m.
 Day of Percussion, Apr. 1
 Showcase of Music, Apr. 14
 Percussion Ensemble, Apr. 18,
 8:00 p.m.
 Jazz Band, Apr. 25, 8:00 p.m.
 Choir Concert, Apr. 27,
 8:00 p.m.
 Orchestra Concert, Apr. 28,
 8:00 p.m.
 Concert Band, Apr. 30,
 3:00 p.m.
 Symphonic Band, Apr. 30,
 8:00 p.m.



WTAMU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND DANCE FACULTY, 1999-2000: seated, from left - Dr. Robert Hansen, voice; Myranda Owens, GA; Corinne Stillwell, violin; Sally Turk, flute; Joanna Mendoza, viola; Amy Gould, GA; Dr. Robert Krause, oboe; Camille Nies, recruiting; Dr. Edward Kahler, music therapy; second row from left - Dr. Gary Garner, bands and orchestra; Dr. Ted DuBois, department chair and music history; Ron Lemon, horn; Bill Evans, piano; Emmanuel Lopez, cello; Dr. Cloyce Beard-Stradley, voice; Donna Flatt, music office secretary; Denise Parr-Scanlin, piano; Doug Storey, clarinet; Dr. Joe Ella Cansler, voice; Dr. Susan Martin Tariq, percussion; Dr. Tina Carpenter, bassoon; Eric Gilley, GA; Dr. George Biffle, choral ensembles; Dr. Joe Nelson, theory and composition; Russ Teweleit, music education; Dr. Joe Cox, low brass; Dave Ritter, trumpet; Barbara Wooldridge, band office secretary; and Anne Chalex, violin. **NOT PICTURED:** Neil Hess, dance; Crystal Bertrand, dance assistant; Don Lefevre, saxophone and bands; Dr. Robert Zimmerman, double bass; and Emily Starnes, GA.

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West Texas A&M University
WT Box 60879
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