

RITORNELLO

Department of Music and Dance
West Texas A&M University



Volume 19, Number 2

Spring 1996

Juanelva Rose Named Outstanding Person in Taiwan

Dr. Juanelva Rose, professor of music at Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan, visited on our campus and in Canyon during the week of February 4. Dr. Rose, who graduated from WT in 1958, is touring this area with one of her former students and one of her current colleagues at Tunghai, giving concerts and doing a lot of visiting. Yi-Lin Hsu, soprano, and Teh-Ling Chuang, pianist, accompanied by Dr. Rose on the piano and the clarinet, presented concerts in Northern Hall as well as in Canyon, Dumas, Tulia, Plainview and Lubbock. Dr. Yi-Lin Hsu currently serves as chairman of the music department at Tunghai, while Teh-Ling Chuang is studying for her doctor's degree at the University of Cincinnati (Ohio) College Conservatory of Music. The three of them were honored with a luncheon in the Buffalo Room on Tuesday, February 6, hosted by WT Music Faculty.

At Tunghai University, Juanelva teaches music theory, music history, and piano. She also teaches at Naching College of Arts and the Szchuan Conservatory in Chengtu on the Chinese mainland. She performs regularly not only all over the island of Taiwan, but also in Indonesia and in mainland China. No wonder Juanelva was named Outstanding Person

of the Year in 1995 by the "Outstanding Person Organization" in Taiwan. The only foreigner to be so named, she was an honored guest at a tea held by the president of the Republic of China, Lee Teng-hui. Juanelva was further—and highly—honored when the new concert hall on the Tunghai University campus was named for her.

And no wonder that the WTAMU Music Department is more than proud to claim her as one of our most outstanding graduates!



Juanelva Rose with Teh-Ling Chuang
and Yi-Lin Hsu

ALUMNI NOTES

George Aulbach (WTAMU music department patron) retired from teaching accounting at WTAMU and South Plains College. He is now seeking an associate degree in music from Amarillo College. He plays clarinet and saxophone and was selected for the all-state junior college jazz band in 1996 at TMEA.

Gayle Bickers (WTAMU music department patron) sings second alto in the Polk Street United Methodist Church choir and also sings in the Amarillo Civic Chorus.

David Davenport (WTAMU music department patron) retired from the Pantex Plant after 35 years managing production control there. He's on our mailing lists and he attends as many of the fine arts presentations as he can.

John and Margaret Roebuck Tesovnik (WTAMU music department patrons) spent 85 years together in education. John earned an MMusEd from Northwestern University and attended the WTAMU Band Camp for about 12 years as a visiting director; Margaret earned a BS from WTAMU in 1935 and an MEd in 1954.

Mary Ruth McCulley ('56-'89 WTAMU music faculty) substitutes for church organists from time to time. In October 1995, Polk Street United Methodist Church gave her the title of Senior Organist Emeritus. She and **Elsa Porter** ('56-'89 WTAMU music faculty) plan to attend

the American Guild of Organists Centennial Convention in New York City in July.

Mary Ruth Evans Smith ('59 MA) had brain surgery in 1970. A malignant tumor was found. She taught private piano from 1946 until 1974 and taught at Fannin JH in Amarillo in the 1976 school year. She's living in Panhandle.

Bryant Harris ('70 BME) is the band director in Sundown, Texas. His wife, Sheila, is director of the pre-school program at the First Baptist Church. Their son, Chuck, graduated from Texas Tech in 1993 and now is the band director of Dublin HS. Their other son, Brandon, will graduate from high school this spring, and daughter Starla will complete her sophomore year in May. She is on the varsity cheerleading squad. Bryant's band has done quite well over the last four years winning second place in the AA state marching contest in 1993, fifth in 1995, and has received the sweepstakes award each year for the last four years.

Michael Matesky ('72-'75 WTAMU faculty) continues to play in the Opus 4 String Quartet—he's a founding member—and is beginning construction of his recording studio. Nancy is still teaching theory, piano and class piano at Shoreline Community College in Seattle, WA.

Hugh Lathem ('77 BME) has been a computer

programmer and software engineer for the past 15 years. For the past 18 months he has been Coordinator of Computing for the San Jacinto Community College District, Pasadena, Texas. For over eight years before that, he was a team leader working on the new Mission Control Center at NASA that was recently unveiled. Hugh plays bass guitar and sings on the club circuit in Houston with a band called Southern Drawl. They do a style called "Roadhouse" (R&B, country, pop). He has a 13-year-old daughter in Amarillo.

Li-Ly Chang Cunningham ('77 MM) played a solo concert in January at Western Maryland College. She and husband Jim recently produced their first CD. They live in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Richard ('79 BME) and **Mona Bledsoe** ('81 BM) **Rejino** have two children, Maggie, age 5, and Adam, age 2. Richard works at Brook Mays Music Company where he is co-owner of the print music division. He and his partner were honored last spring at the Retail Print Music Dealers Association annual convention by being chosen "Print Music Dealer of the Year" by their colleagues. They bought the division six years ago and have made great strides in expanding their customer base. Do you need any music? Call 1-800-654-8898. Mona continues to teach thirty-five piano students. She and Richard



Alice Cooke, Juanelva Rose and Matilda Gaume

have been involved in a special project. She was asked to co-author a new piano method, and Richard is serving as a consultant for the project. The method, which will be published by Hal Leonard Music Corp., will consist of six levels of teaching materials and will be launched in March in Kansas City at the MTNA annual convention.

Jim ('79 BME, '86 MA) and **Judy** ('83 BMT) (née **Bridwell**) **Summersgill** moved to the Dallas/Ft. Worth area in August 1994 thanks to GTE's effort to centralize operations. Loss of San Angelo's small town atmosphere has been somewhat offset by the Metroplex's offerings of museums, musicals, etc. They're doing fine and enjoying life with two energetic children.

Barry Talley ('80 BME) is the fine arts coordinator for the Deer Park ISD. **Debbie** ('80 BME) (née **Lehnick**) is teaching voice at the high

school in Deer Park. Their son **Scott** is eight years old. In December, Barry's church choir premiered "He Is Born" which Barry composed.

Debbie writes that "All those theory lessons from Dr. Krause and Dr. Nelson are starting to pay off."

Keith McDaniel ('81 BME, '82 MA) is in his fourteenth year at Klein Forest HS. He's the associate band director. He also assists with the full orchestra and directs the orchestra for musicals.

Gloria ('82 BMT) (née **Pleyer**) is also in her fourteenth year in Klein, where she does music therapy and special education troubleshooting. Son **Kevin** is in the sixth grade at Tomball Intermediate and has started band on bassoon. **Kenneth** is in second grade and **Kathryn** is in first grade, both at Lakewood Elementary. **Keith's** first published arrangement, "Meditation" from *Thais* for string orchestra was recently performed at

Midwest. He also has been told that six woodwind quintet arrangements will be published later in the spring.

Alan Asher ('83 BM) wrote to us again. We printed a nice story about him in the last issue of *Ritornello* and now he's back for some more. (By the way, several former classmates contacted him as a result of that article. That's what we're here for.) Anyway, Alan forgot to mention that he's been married for three years! (Can you picture a gun being held at his head? Yeah, I get that same feeling.) His wife, **Michelle** (née **Bohart**), is also a violinist and music educator who studied with Alan while he was a doctoral teaching fellow at Florida State.

Brian McLaughlin ('83 BME) is now assistant band director and head orchestra director at Grove City High School, just outside Columbus, Ohio. He is still playing horn actively and is solo horn in the Brass Band of Colorado, which has won national championships the last six or seven years. He and his wife, **Tammy**, are expecting their third child in April.

Gerry ('84 BME) and **Eva Dee Priddy** ('81 twirler) **Lewis** live in Ft. Worth. Gerry has been the pastor of the Eagle Mt. Baptist Church for the last five years. He plans to finish his doctor of ministry degree from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in December 1996. He's still involved in music. He and his wife perform in a gospel trio, "Chosen Vessel,"

and have recorded their first project this year. It's Gerry's sixth recording project in the past three years. Gerry and Eva Dee have also served as faculty the past two years for the Fall Festival of Marriage, a marriage enrichment weekend sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board. Children Tova (7) and Zeke (5) are following in their parent's footsteps by being involved in music at school and church.

Johnny ('85 BM) and **Kim Glover** have just recently purchased their first home in Belton, Missouri, where Johnny is in his seventh year as minister of music at the South Haven Baptist Church. Kim is also in her seventh year with Commerce Bank of Kansas City. Recent highlights in their lives include a Caribbean Cruise that Kim won for being a Star Performer at the bank, and Johnny continues to write the "Music and MIDI" column for *Christian Computing Magazine*. In January, Johnny led conferences on MIDI technology at the Southwest Baptist University Church Music Workshop.

Joselyn Sturgis Robledo ('86 BMT) is working on a master's degree in occupational therapy at Texas Woman's University in Dallas. She will complete her course work in May 1996 and will then have six months of internship in, she hopes, El Paso. Her master's project will be an instructional aid for occupational therapists to utilize music in an appropriate and therapeutic manner. "I still play my euphonium when I can. One of my fellow

students here also plays euphonium so we play duets when we can." Her husband died in a motorcycle accident in December 1993. She has a stepson from that marriage.

Donna O'Bryant McCullough ('91 MA) and her husband are proud parents of a baby boy, Noah Christopher McCullough, born March 1995. Donna teaches private lessons at her home.

Mark Harman ('79 BME, '80 MA) is in his fifth year as head band director at Newman Smith HS in Carrollton. (He was Dick Clardy's assistant at The Colony HS.) His marching band numbered 216 this year, and Denise is enjoying her fifteenth consecutive year as Mark's guard instructor (with 38 gals in her guard this year). They have two sons and one daughter. Son D.J. is in sixth grade and is playing trumpet; Tim is 8 and daughter Andi is 5. She is determined to play piccolo and be in the color guard.

Angie Munoz ('93 BME) moved home to the Houston area. She is the assistant band director at Taylor HS in Katy.

We have word that **Karalee Kiger** ('94 MA) is teaching string bass and French in Mesa, AZ, and is enjoying her work.

IN MEMORIAM

LaNelle Scheihagen Gray died 30 October 1995. She was living in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.

Helen Edwards Chaney died 28 February 1996. She was a public school teacher for more than 39 years in Irving, Plainview, and Longview. She also taught at Wayland Baptist College in the 1940s. She retired from teaching in 1983 and had been doing volunteer work. She is survived by daughter Sandra McMillen and two sons, Dan Chaney and Frank Chaney.

Thanks to all who provided information. Please remember that you can still send information to *Ritornello* by way of e-mail to ted.dubois@wtamu.edu. Would it be of interest to readers to include e-mail addresses with the biographical information in the next edition?

OPERA

A diverse program challenges the singers in the opera workshop this spring. We've saddled up *Sweet Betsy* and her lover Ike for a whirlwind tour across the prairie in a comic romp led by none other than the famous opera dowager, Mimosa. A mystical mystery tour from writings of the Mahabharata reveals how *Savitri* outwits Death and brings her husband, Satyavan, back to life in a beautiful work by Holst. *Hansel and Gretel in the Woods* is an abridged version of Humperdinck's classic setting of the fairy tale. This excerpt follows the lost children as they discover the witch's cottage and escape her plans to eat them. Finally, for the confused among us is Paul Hindemith's little gem, *There*

and Back. Have you ever done something you wish you could undo—sort of run the tape back and do it over? That's what Robert and Helene do after a silly argument over a letter. The program of these four very short operas is scheduled for April 19 in Northern Recital Hall. In keeping with the object of the workshop, the focus is on learning repertoire and developing acting skills, so sets, costumes, and props are kept to a minimum.

MUSIC THERAPY

Congratulations to Ludim Pedroza and Jill Darr who placed second and third in the Second Annual Student Research Conference at West Texas A&M University, November 3, 1995, in the category of music and art. Both presentations were a result of projects that were done in the class "Influence of Music on Behavior." Ludim's presentation was a comparison between the imagination and creativity of music majors and business majors at WTAMU and was entitled "Possible Manifestations of Imaginative Qualities Presented by Music and Business Majors." Jill's project was to evaluate and make recommendations on productivity using music on an assembly line. Her paper was entitled "The Effects of Music on Assembly Line Production." Three other students from the music therapy department presented papers in this conference.

Martha Estes and seven of her students attended the National Association of Music Therapy conference in Houston in November. Several

WTAMU alumnae gave presentations. The national conference is an opportunity to see the impact and diversity of the growing field of music therapy. Stacey Hensel, a music therapy student at WTAMU, was selected to serve on the clinical training committee.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center have established a new model of treatment at the John T. Montford Psychiatric Medical Unit in Lubbock. This facility is providing psychiatric care for the 550 mentally ill inmates at the unit. Martha Estes, assistant professor of music therapy at WTAMU, has been hired as a consultant in the music therapy department. This department has three RMT positions, one master's level and two bachelor level, one of which has been filled by WT alumni Karen Dorn. This unit has also hired WTAMU music therapy student Jill Darr for this semester. Jill will return to

WT in the fall and will share her experiences with the students in the music therapy program.

January marks the beginning of the new year for the Music Therapy Club. New officers are: David Galindo - president, Jamie Kepley - vice president, Jodi Bratcher - secretary, Kerri Souther - treasurer and Jennifer Barry - historian. The club is hard at work on their sign song presentation for the Showcase of Music.

Plans are being made to attend the regional conference of NAMT in San Antonio in March. Several students are planning on attending.

ORCHESTRA

The orchestra's having possibly its best year ever. We've got the largest number of new string players we've ever had and the talent level is high. We're having a busy semester. It began with the Concerto Concert on February 20. The soloists were Sarah Preston, flute; Amy Gould,



Ludim Pedroza and Jill Darr

clarinet; Anne Watson, clarinet; Rachel Rodriguez, trumpet; and Jose Minguell, cello. Esther York was scheduled to sing but was forced to cancel due to illness.

The final concert of the year is April 30. Emmanuel Lopez will play the Shostakovich Cello Concerto and pianist Cai Lei will perform the *Rhapsody in Blue*. The concert will open with the *Russian Easter Overture* by Rimsky-Korsakov.

BAND

The big band news is the Symphonic Band's performance at TMEA. They made their ninth TMEA appearance on February 15th and it was very successful. The performance included *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* by Adams; *Carmen Fantasy* by Bizet/Borne, with graduate student Lance Sanders as flute soloist; the fourth of the "Four Sea Interludes" from the Britten opera, *Peter Grimes*; *Paen for Band*, a new work by Lowell Libermann commissioned in memory of Mariellen Garner; and *Symphony in Bb* by Hindemith. A CD of the concert is being produced and should be available sometime in early April.

Our tour on the way down included stops in Putnam City, OK, where alum Buzzy Green is Supervisor of Music; Norman High School; The Colony HS, where WT grad Dick Clardy is band director; Marble Falls HS, where Ron Davis, another WT ex is band director; and Churchill HS in San Antonio.

The next big band event was our annual Band Clinic on March 23. Guest clinician was

Robert Foster of the University of Kansas and participating bands were: Canyon High School, Robbie Rumph, director; Pampa High School, Bruce Collins, director; Marble Falls High School, Ron Davis, director; and Stephen F. Austin High School, Bobby Brown, director.

SUMMER CAMPS

Band Camp: July 7-19

call 806/656-2828

Choir Camp: July 28-31

call 806/656-2840

Dance Camp: July 21-

Aug. 3

call 806/656-2820

Double Bass Workshop:

July 29-Aug. 4

call 806/656-2849

JAZZ BANDS

Jazz at WT keeps hopping along. Jazz Band I and a jazz combo will be participating in the Greeley Jazz Festival in April. The combo has also been asked to play a "gig" at the hot new jazz club in Greeley. The featured artists at the festival are Arturo Sandoval and the Yellowjackets so we're looking forward to attending these concerts. Last year we sent two combos to the festival and both did very well. Two of our students, Robert Hinds and Robert Boone, won outstanding performer awards. On March 30th, WT will be hosting a jazz festival. This festival is sponsored by Kappa Kappa Psi, and will utilize several of our faculty in clinics.

CHOIRS

Greetings from the choral music department! I had the pleasure of meeting several Chorale exes at this year's TMEA convention in San Antonio. Since most of you look average (no distinguishing marks or scars left over from WT Chorale days), it's always nice when a former member introduces himself or herself. The WT Chorale is touring this spring to the Permian Basin.

The date for this year's Showcase of Music is April 12 at 8:00 p.m. and our spring concert in Mary Moody Northern Recital Hall is April 25th at 8:00 p.m. The performance will include Ralph Vaughn William's *Benedicite*, with the Collegiate and Chorale combining forces, and featuring as our guest soloist Mrs. Joe Ella Cansler, our newest voice faculty.

Please come. There is no admission charge.

DANCE ENSEMBLE

The West Texas A&M University Dance Ensemble/Lone Star Ballet directed by Neil Hess, traveled to Huntsville, Texas, on February 28th at Sam Houston State University for the American College Dance Festival where 28 universities adjudicated for the gala concert. Nine universities out of 28 were chosen to perform at the gala concert and WTAMU was one of them. The ensemble performed *Dean Martin Suite* choreographed by Kay Braden.

Guest choreographer, Kay Braden, visited the WTAMU dance division in January to choreograph and instruct

classes at WTAMU. Braden choreographed two works in the Dance Ensemble, one which was performed at the American College Dance Festival and at "Tonight We Dance" with Sharir Dance Company. This was hosted by the Lone Star Ballet at the February 14th. *Bonham* will be showcased in April in conjunction with Dallas Black Dance Theatre at the Amarillo Civic Center.

The Dance Ensemble has also been working on *Die Fledermaus* which will be danced at the Civic Center in conjunction with the Amarillo Opera. The ensemble will be featured in five sections with a Russian, Spanish, Polka, and Hungarian dances.

The WTAMU/ Lone Star Ballet has been asked to travel to Liberal, Kansas, at the end of March to guest perform and teach creative movement classes in the elementary and junior high schools. After traveling to Guymon, Oklahoma, in February, the ensemble is very excited about traveling to Liberal. Guymon was a huge success and the community appreciated WTAMU and the ballet for bringing the wonderful talent to Guymon.

Also in April, the dancers



The WTAMU Dance Ensemble

will be traveling to El Paso, Texas, where they will be performing with the Grupo Folklorico Valle Del Sol for their main gala performance. The WTAMU/Lone Star Ballet will also do a pre-show at both performances plus dance in the Jalisco segment as well as the finale.

Dancin' People, an educational outreach program designated for children, will be starting at the end of March and the beginning of April. The WTAMU dancers will be traveling to Emerson, Forest Hill, Lamar, Oak Dale, South Lawn, Sleepy Hollow, Eastridge, Rogers, Belmar, Sunrise and Olsen Park Elementary Schools to perform a variety concert.

At the end of April, the University Ballet Expo will be hosted by the ensemble and the Lone Star Ballet to promote classical ballet in this area. There will be a gala performance on April 27th open to the public and all dance classes will be on the WT campus.

The ensemble has participated in KACV-TV

Telethon held on campus at Amarillo College and in Legislative Day Luncheon as well as Friends of Fine Arts luncheon. The dance ensemble will also be guest teaching creative movement classes for six weeks at Crestview Elementary. The annual WTAMU Dance Academy recital will be held on Saturday, May 4th at Randall High School and Dance Camp will be held for two weeks on July 21st through August 3rd.

PHI MU ALPHA

The Iota Pi Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia has done many exciting things in the past year. This past fall we inducted six new members into Sinfonia and are in the process of inducting four more this spring. We will be hosting our second annual Phi Mu Alpha Jazz Festival in late March as a fundraiser, and we'll be giving away prizes to an outstanding band and outstanding soloist. We have also received 17 entries for our annual composition contest.

BE A MENTOR:

...remember how you felt when you were trying to decide if there might be a career for you in the field of dance or music? We have students that need your help in making this decision. If you are willing to have your name included in our alumni databank, please call Carol Gardner, Career Services, 656-2345.

Iota Pi celebrated founder's day by dressing up in coat-and-tie and singing in the university center. We also assisted in the UIL Solo and Ensemble contest in February, held on our campus, and during Christmas we helped with the Eveline Rivers "Toys for Tots" project.

The creative minds of Iota Pi have been brainstorming about more possible fundraisers for scholarships given in May. One is an event where many of our brave brothers dress up in drag and

compete in a beauty contest for a whole audience to watch and laugh at. We put this idea to work for the first time last year and will hopefully continue in the future. It's a lot of fun and serves as a huge money-maker for our chapter. This April we will hold our annual American Music Recital.

TAU BETA SIGMA

Tau Beta Sigma would like to wish all of our alumni a Happy 50th Anniversary!! If

you have any interesting stories from your days as a member, please write to us and share them!

MU PHI EPSILON

Mu Phi Epsilon recently hosted a guest artist recital, which featured the winner of the Mu Phi Epsilon International Competition. It was a wonderful experience, and we hope to make this an annual event.

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