



counterpointcommunityorchestra



Beethoven
Mozart
Weber

March 12, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.
St. Luke's United Church
353 Sherbourne Street
at Carlton Street

TICKETS

\$15 in advance at

THIS AIN'T THE ROSEDALE LIBRARY
or \$18 at the door

CONTACT INFORMATION

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phone: 416.926.9806

write: Counterpoint

CommunityOrchestra

600 Church Street

Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2E7

polished musical engineering

March 12 · 2005
8:00p.m.

PROGRAMME

Also, a fabulous
silent auction
to be held at our
March concert
to help raise funds for
the Orchestra.

Doors will open
no later than 7:15pm

• DER FREISCHÜTZ OVERTURE
Carl Maria von Weber

• SYMPHONY NO. 7 IN A MAJOR
Ludwig van Beethoven

• CLARINET CONCERTO IN A MAJOR
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
James Petry — clarinet

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am now celebrating my 20th anniversary as a member of Counterpoint. In the early days the orchestra was a chamber group of up to no more than 25 players. I played violin beside David Chow, our concert master, and I was very happy to have the great pleasure of playing wonderful music in an orchestra without any of the responsibilities.

All that changed in the early 1990's. David Chow retired from the orchestra and I took over the challenge of being concert master. At the same time the early leaders of the orchestra left us or died (yes, AIDS took its toll on our orchestra as it did on so many cultural groups at that time) and I became involved in the running of Counterpoint. Along with my stand partner, David Spek, I set up the orchestra's Constitution and then applied for charitable status which we obtained in 1993.

That was also a very challenging time for the future of the orchestra. The number of players had dwindled and we did not have a conductor for the major part of a year. However, a core group in the orchestra refused to give up the idea of a gay and lesbian based orchestra for Toronto and we struggled on, eventually finding

Doreen Reo from the U of T faculty as our short term conductor. Her great spirit helped revitalize the orchestra and Counterpoint has become a strong orchestra over the last 16 years, certainly with thanks to conductors like Rosemary Thomson, Judith Yan and especially our present conductor, Terry Kowalczuk.

Now the orchestra is taking another step forward, with plans to incorporate and set up a Board. In order to apply for the fundraising which we need, a Board has become a necessity. We are looking for supporters of Counterpoint who are interested in taking on a more active role in building the organization and helping raise funding for your orchestra. If you are interested please contact me.

Please do not forget to come early to our March 12th concert (doors will be open no later than 7:15) and take a look at and bid on the items we will have in our silent auction.

Thank you all, once again, for your support for our Counterpoint Community Orchestra.

Paul T. Willis – president



CLARINET CONCERTO IN A MAJOR – WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

The Clarinet concerto is the last concerto of any kind that Mozart was to write. In fact it is his fifth last work and he took it up in October 1791 and died several days later on Dec 5.

Little is ever written about why key signatures are used by composers. The concerto is scored in A major, a key reserved for very warm feelings... in fact love. Mozart loved the clarinet and his exquisite quintet for clarinet and strings is also in the key of A major. This concerto is perfection itself, in Mozart's late style. There is such a tight and warm atmosphere created around the orchestra and clarinet – never is there a fight and never is there virtuosity taking over the piece.

It is often difficult for amateur listeners to appreciate all the workings of classical music so please allow me to illustrate a few points. The

scoring leaves out the oboes, often the case in an A major Mozart piece, Mozart preferring the softer sound of the flutes. Bassoons are added to match the timbre of the clarinet. If you listen closely, Mozart creates a sublime sense of ease in a tiny coda just 4 bars before the entrance of the clarinet and the clarinet enters with the main theme very lightly accompanied by violins and only later does the full orchestra join. There exists such a playful ease among both sets of violins and indeed the other strings while the clarinet plays, unlike anything Mozart wrote. The middle movement is one of the most simplest and sublime moments in Mozart's output. The piece is simply in three sections. The movement is set in the clarinet's best register contrasted by the deep, oily low-notes. The first section is a melody, the second section creates contrast using the low register and then

a repeat of the first melody. But what a magnificent melody! The last movement is a Rondo, simply stated, a piece where the opening theme keeps recurring throughout. Again we hear the very playful and warm interplay with all the strings and clarinet, very contrapuntal, yet we are constantly being lead into brief moments of melancholy. At the very end, the clarinet plays a cadenza like virtuosic passage over exuberant and bouncing strings, where every note in the orchestra has its place, creating such tension in the lightest possible fashion and the piece ends with the full orchestra.

We hope you enjoy this masterpiece and leave with a sense of the incredible writing for the orchestra along with our soloist James Petry

Terry Kowalczuk – conductor

CONCERT OF THE SEASON
JUNE 4 · 2005
 featuring

Poem
 for Flute and Orchestra

Jennifer Langton - flute

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Going once,
 Going twice...**

Help us celebrate our **SILENT AUCTION** by participating! We are planning to have a silent auction at our concert on March 12th and would love your support by providing an item and/or service for us to auction off.

The proceeds will be donated to the Orchestra and you will receive a tax receipt for the value of your contribution.

Please contact either

Bill McQueen at wmcq@gmx.net or Rob Coutts at fluteboy@tcn.net if you are interested in making a contribution.

DATE CHANGE

woody's night

APRIL 7, 2005

Every year we host a night of fun and fundraising at Woody's Bar on Church Street. This year we will be hosting our yearly event on Thursday, April 7th not March 3rd as it appeared in the last newsletter. Please mark the change in your calendar and come out and participate by winning prizes and having fun.

The party gets started at 8:30p.m.

See you there!

GET THE SCOOP

ON HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE!

Greetings to everyone! I hope you've all had a peaceful Christmas and New Years and are settling in to (thankfully) the shortest month of the year. We have some dynamic activities that will surely warm the cockles of your overworked hearts. Nothing beats the Blues like participation and giving. So... the first activity you might consider attending is the **TSUNAMI RELIEF CONCERT** at the MCC. We have gladly agreed to participate in this wonderful musical evening and hope you will too. Apparently it is scheduled for the 18th of February. I hope to see you there.

Another fabulous way you can participate, just in case you were feeling left out, is by making a donation to our **SILENT AUCTION**. We'll take just about anything... fine wine, artwork, even services you think you might be able to provide! So step up and think about what you

might be able to contribute. And remember you always get a tax receipt from us for the value of your goods, whatever they are! Now that's enough to bring anyone out to participate!

Next on the agenda is **WOODY'S NIGHT** where you all get an opportunity to win some great prizes and join our orchestra members as we help to raise funds. Come on out and support us on Thursday, April 7th.

And finally, we are so grateful to all of you who so generously donate to the envelopes we place into your programmes. And this forthcoming concert will be no different! We are asking for donations for our soloists who will be performing on June 4th, at our final concert of the year, and we would really appreciate your help.

That's all from me. Have a good Feb!

Rob Coutts - fundraising chair



Some members from **COUNTERPOINT COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA** playing at *The Children's Christmas Party* held at *The 519* on December 11, 2004



SEEKING MUSICIANS

Counterpoint Orchestra is actively seeking string players to join their ranks.

Looking for Bass, Cello, Viola and Violin players.

Musicians of all levels welcome.

We rehearse Monday nights from 8pm to 10pm at *The 519*.

★WANTED★

EAGER, MUSIC-LOVING INDIVIDUALS TO HELP IN FRONT OF HOUSE AND BACKSTAGE ON CONCERT NIGHTS

GREAT WAY TO HEAR OUR CONCERTS FOR FREE!!

**CONTACT ROBERT
 416•285•0722**

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and everyone else who has helped out

thanks to our community grants

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more than a number!

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Dennis O'Connor

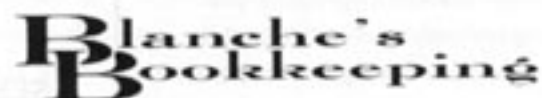
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