



Society of Composers, Inc.

*... dedicated to the
promotion, composition,
performance, understanding
and dissemination of
new and contemporary
music ...*

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SCI 2013 National Conference Review

by **Gerald Warfield**

The Society of Composer's National Conference at The Ohio State University brought back memories, both fond and sad. Tom Wells, SCI President and conference host dedicated the event to the memory of Edwin London who died January 26, 2013 at the age of 84. London, a former president of SCI, was a composer and champion of contemporary music. He taught on the faculties of Smith College, University of Illinois and the Cleveland State University. In his long career he founded the Ineluctable Modality, a choral ensemble specializing in new music and the Cleveland Chamber Symphony. About him, Tom Wells said, "Ed was a great American composer whose music speaks in an original voice: bold, eclectic, witty and always engaging. There were few composers who had Ed's gift for language and text setting. His wit was legendary and you could see a reflection of his wonderfully brilliant mind in the twinkle of his eyes as he would reel off pun after pun, and the richness of his conversation was always dazzling."

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*OSU New Music Collective performing **Acoustic Field** by Chin Ting Chan during Concert VIII at the SCI 2013 National Conference (Michael Rene Torres, conductor; Dannielle Sturgeon, flute; Katie Morell, clarinet; Dan Kozlowski, percussions; Quinton Jones, piano; Katelyn Han, violin; Ramsey Sadaka, cello)*



About the Newsletter

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How to Submit Items to the Newsletter

Articles: The Newsletter welcomes submissions of articles to run in future issues. Articles, if accepted, may be edited for length and content. Please include a photo with all submissions if possible (photo may be of author).

Member News + Photos: Please send all member news and activities with a photo. Submitted items may be edited.

Ideas/Suggestions: The Editors welcome any other ideas or suggestions.

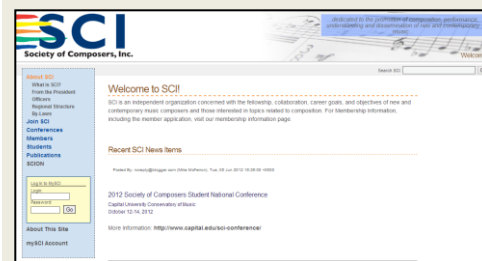
Submit to the newsletter via email at: newsletter@societyofcomposers.org



Upcoming SCI Events

2015 Region VI Conference Spring 2015

Henderson State University
Phillip Schroeder, Host



Internet & Email

www.societyofcomposers.org

- Conference dates and submission guidelines
- Contact information and links to member web-pages
- Student chapters and opportunities
- CDs and journals produced by SCI
- Details on SCI such as membership, contacts for officers, regional structure, by-laws, newsletter archives and more...

SCION

SCION is a listing of opportunities on our website exclusively for members. It is updated on a continual basis so that it may be checked at any time for the most current notices. In addition, members are emailed on the first Monday of each month to remind them to visit the site for new or recent postings. The large number of listings is easily managed by a table of contents with links to the individual notices. In-depth coverage; contest listings in full; all items listed until expiration; this is a valuable resource that you may print in its entirety or in part at any time.

John Bilotta, SCION Editor
scion@societyofcomposers.org

scimembers

scimembers is a member-driven e-mail mailing list that is intended to facilitate communication between members of the Society on topics of concern to composers of contemporary concert music. It conveys whatever notices or messages are sent by its members, including announcements of performances and professional opportunities, as well as discussions on a wide variety of topics. For more information, including how to join and participate in the listserv:

<http://www.societyofcomposers.org/publications/listserv.html>

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Membership Information

For complete details, please visit
<http://www.societyofcomposers.org/join/membership.html>.

Full Membership (\$55/year): Eligible to submit scores to the National Conferences, regional conferences, SCI Recording Series, SCI Journal of Music Scores. Access to the SCI Newsletter in electronic form. Optional subscription to [scimembers], the SCI listserv and all other SCI publications. Eligible to vote on Society Matters and in elections for the National Council.

Joint Membership (\$75/year): Same benefits as full members

Senior Membership (\$27.50/year): Open to those 65 years of age or older, or retired. Same benefits as full members.

Associate Membership (\$27.50/year): Open to performers and other interested professionals. Receives the SCI Newsletter in electronic form and can participate in national and regional conferences.

Student Membership (\$27.50/year): Eligible to submit to national and regional conferences and to vote in society matters. Access to all SCI publications.

Student Chapter Membership (\$17.50/year): Same benefits as student members, but only available on campuses having Student Chapters.

Institutional Membership (\$25/year): Organizations receive hard copy of the SCI Newsletter and other mailings.

Lifetime Membership (\$1100 or \$120/year for 10 years): Benefits the same as full members, for life.

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SCI 2013 National Conference Review

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Another memory, brought back by our host institution was the SCI conference of 1984. That was the year that Frank Zappa was the keynote speaker. Zappa lived up to his reputation and delivered a provocative speech that has been recalled more frequently than any other keynote speech in the Society's history.

Keynote speaker for the 2013 conference was special guest Joshua Fineberg who has held posts at Peabody, IRCAM, Columbia University, and most recently Boston University where he is the Director of the Center for New Music and the Electronic Music Studio. In his address, entitled *Speaking in Tongues: Creating Meaning with an Unknown Language*, Fineberg spoke both on the involvement of composers in spectral music and on the place of music in the 21st Century. In addition to his compositional and pedagogical activities Fineberg has been a prominent editor and a collaborator with computer scientists and music psychologists and artistic director for numerous recordings.

KH Tan, professor of music at OSU, presented a concert on Thursday of selected pieces from the *KH Tan International Composition Competition for Solo Violin Works*. The focus of this year's competition was "Asian Inspirations," drawing on inspirations from traditional Asian music as well as abstract Eastern philosophies. The grand-prize winner was Chinese composer, Chiayu (www.chiayuhsu.com) with her *Twelve Signs for Solo Violin*.

Of particular note was the performance of commissioned works from the SCI/ASCAP Student Composition Commission competition. The winners presented were Andres Carrizo (his commissioned composition: *Alucinaciones* for saxophone quartet performed by the Anubis Quartet), Elliott Cless (his commissioned composition: **ROT** for saxophone quartet performed by the Black Swamp Saxophone Quartet), and Eric Guinivan (his commissioned composition: *Fractured Light* for wind ensemble performed by the OSU Wind Symphony). Special thanks went to ASCAP and Cia Toscanini, Vice-President for Concert Music for their support of the contest.

The conference extended for three and a half days and

included twelve concerts on which the music of almost one hundred composers were performed. All the resources of The Ohio State University School of Music were marshaled for this event, and the level of performance was consistently high. While all SCI conferences do not have to be of such magnitude, the quality and sheer size of this conference was staggering. Universities, of course, host many conferences, and often these events are showcases for the institution. However, bringing together a hundred composers and playing their pieces is a truly remarkable event. Seldom, on a university campus, is so much done.

Special guest performers included Professor Fali Pavri, pianist, from the Royal Conservatoire in Glasgow; the Anubis Quartet from Chicago; the flute and saxophone duet, the Tower Duo; the Black Swamp Saxophone Quartet; the flute, viola, and harp ensemble, the Cosmos Trio; and the New Music Ensemble from the School of Music at Ohio University.

The composers performed were, in the order of the concerts:

CONCERT I: Mark Engebretson, Ross Feller, Konstantinos Karathanasis, Jennifer Merkwowitz, Ryan Olivier, Carrie Leigh Page, Michael Pounds, Tim Reed, James Paul Sain, Elizabeth Start, and Mark Zanter. **CONCERT II:** Jeff Herriott, Tom Lopez, Brian Belet, Phillip Schroeder, and Ed Martin. **CONCERT III:** Lansing McLoskey, Edward Hamel, Andres Carrizo, Chris Fisher-Lochhead, and Marcos Balter. **CONCERT IV:** Balee Pongklad, Anne-Marie Turcott, EunSeok Park, Suzanne Sorkin, Chiayu, and Ching-Chu Hu. **CONCERT V:** Oren Boneh, David Heinick, Jason Bahr, James Jensen, Jianjun He, William Price, and Nickitas Demos. **CONCERT VI:** Ayo Oluranti, Richard Pressley, Jonathan McNair, Corey Keating, Jeremy Beck, and Elliot Schwartz. **CONCERT VII:** Richard Brooks, Alexander Miller, John C. Griffin, Mark Prince Lee, Halim El-Dabh, Charles Halka, Will Redman, Mike D'Ambrosio, Martin Gendelman, Amy Williams, and Edwin London. **CONCERT VIII:** Jason Charney, Igor Karaca, Jorge Variego, Lauren Wells, John Akins, Vera Stanojevic, Marilyn Shrude, Ilya Levinson, Chin Ting Chan, Moon Young Ha, Elliot T. Cless, and Liviu Marinescu. **CONCERT**

IX: Arthur Gottschalk, Frank Felice, Christopher Dietz, Elizabeth Bell, Brian Fennelly, and Mei-Fang Lin. **CONCERT X:** James Romig, Theresa Martin, Elizabeth Austin, Gerald Warfield, Brian Bevelander, Curtis Nathaniel Smith, Clare Shore, Benjamin R. Fuhrman, Scott Brickman, and Benjamin Williams. **CONCERT XI:** Michael Boyd, Clifton Callender, Kyong Mee Choi, Robert Fleisher, Travis Garrison, David Ikard, David Mendoza, Adam Scott Neal, Benjamin O'Brien, Sean Peuquet, Mark Phillips, and Nicholas Rich.

Members enjoyed four receptions, one each evening of the conference. The gala reception on the last evening was sponsored by ASCAP. Papers were given by Richard Brooks, Kerrith Livengood, Jung Yoon Wie, and Mickie D. Willis.

At the SCI Banquet Saturday evening, a plaque was presented to Richard Brooks for his long association with the Society. The plaque read: *"Presented to Richard Brooks in Grateful Appreciation for his many years as Producer of the SCI CD Series,*

1991-2009, by the SCI Board of Directors." Also presented at the banquet were two plaques to Tom Wells. One for hosting our conference and one for his years of dedication and service as president of the Society. The plaque read: *"Presented to Thomas Wells, President of the Society of Composers, Inc., 2002-2013. In Grateful Appreciation for many years of service to SCI and its members by the SCI Board of Directors."* Tom was ably assisted in hosting the conference by Michael Rene Torres, General Manager of the conference. Also by Quinton Jones for coordinating the receptions and Ramsey Sadaka and David Tomasacci who served on the selection committee.

The conference was vast and included more events than any one person could attend. Our host, Tom Wells, in fact, warned conference attendees to choose well what to attend from the program lest they drop from exhaustion. The 2013 conference was an extraordinary event and a fitting tribute to our outgoing president, Thomas Wells.



Outgoing President of SCI Tom Wells accepting an award for service to SCI and its members from incoming President James Paul Sain and General Manager Gerald Warfield.

SCItings

Member News and Activities

Performances, Awards, Commissions, Honors, Publications and other Member Activities.

Larry Barnes

On September 25, 2013, in Carrick Theatre in the Mitchell Fine Arts Building at Transylvania University in Lexington, the premiere was given of Barnes' newest *Preludes from Pangaea* for piano entitled "Wanderer Fantasy: Hibernia".

Kyong Mee Choi

A CD release concert was presented on September 28, 2013 in Ganz Hall at Roosevelt University in Chicago for Kyong Mee Choi's *SORI*. *SORI* (meaning "sound" in Korean) is a collection of eight compositions featuring solo in-

struments and electronics. Artists on this CD include Winston Choi, Sean Darby, Shanna Gutierrez, Michael Holmes, Kuang-Hao Huang, Craig Hultgren, Timothy Ernest Johnson and Esther Lamneck. *SORI* was released on Aucourant Records.

Gregory Jackson

On October 8, 2013, Jackson premiered the following new works at Alabama State University: *Requiem for 9/11*, Op. 45 for marimba; *Temptation of Christ*, Op. 63 for marimba; *Night*, Op. 61 for trumpet; *Leviathan*, Op. 52 for multiple percussion; *Unfinished Dream*, Op. 64 for marimba; and an electro-acoustic work, *Throttle*. All percussion works were performed by Gregory Jackson.

Joshua Torok Bachar

The premiere of *Flight of the Wulzak* was given on October 25, 2013 in the

Recital Hall of the Landini Center for Performing and Fine Arts on the campus of Indiana State University.



Daniel Adams

Daniel Adams

Daniel Adams is the author of an article entitled "Indeterminate Passages as Temporal and Spatial Components of Three Selected Compositions for Snare Drum Ensemble" published in the Fall 2013 issue of the *Journal of the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors* (Vol. 62, No. 1).