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February – March 2010

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Computer resources for amateur musicians

By Blair Mackenzie

There are many ways in which amateur musicians can make use of their computers. This is the first in what I hope will be an occasional series of articles exploring this issue. We'll try to focus on resources that are free or inexpensive. You will need a computer and Internet access, but you will need no advanced skills. (*Sophisticated computer users with advanced skills can stop reading here!*) To make the best use of these resources, you will also want to do your practicing in a room which has a computer and a decent set of speakers or headphones. Plus a mirror, if you ask me, but that's another issue...

Here's an example from the perspective of a string player. You've just been asked to play Schubert's Trout quintet (Op. 114 for piano, violin, viola, cello and bass). It's in two weeks, and you have never played it before, so the heat is on. How are you going to learn it in time, and how can your computer help you?

It's always a good idea to warm up with a bit of intonation practice. A really helpful tool is The Tuning CD. Playing along with it for ten minutes or so a day with it will improve just about any amateur musician's ability to detect and fix intonation issues. It's an inexpensive online purchase from www.thetuningcd.com and comes by mail. You won't find it in a store.

Sooner or later, it is also essential to practice scales, left hand drills and right hand drills. Time to turn on the metronome. A very satisfactory one, with several useful features, is called Tempo Perfect. It's a free download from www.nch.com.au. And its batteries never run down.

Cont'd p. 3

SCHEDULE OF READINGS 2009-2010

All readings are in Elliott Hall, Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street, Toronto, from 2 p.m. sharp to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. Members \$6 / non-members \$10.

Feb. 7: Alan Gasser conducts world music, for singers.

Mar. 21: Mark Vuorinen conducts Bruckner, Te Deum & Psalm 150, for singers.

Apr. 18: Errol Gay conducts Beethoven, Missa Solemnis, for singers and instrumentalists.

May 30: Howard Dyck conducts Mozart, Mass in C minor, for singers and instrumentalists.

NOTE TO ASPIRING VOCAL SOLOISTS

Most of the pieces that we work on at our Sunday readings have vocal solo parts. Sometimes members of the choir sing these parts together. Sometimes the conductor invites his/her own soloists, and sometimes we find people to sing these parts at the readings. If you are an experienced singer and you'd like to give it a try, please contact the reading coordinator or Kathy Gallyas at least a month ahead of the reading date so this possibility can be discussed.

UPCOMING CAMMAC WORKSHOPS

Jan. 30: Flute workshop with Leonie Wall. For details: Marion Wilk at marion@wilk.tv.

Feb. 20 and 27: Chamber music workshop with one or more members of the Windermere String Quartet. See page 5 for details.

CAMMAC RECORDER PLAYERS' SOCIETY

The Recorder Players' Society meets on intermittent Friday evenings at the Church of the Transfiguration, 111 Manor Rd. E., between Yonge and Mt. Pleasant Rd. We play from 7:30

pm until approximately 10 pm with a short break. For registration and/or for information please contact John Ferth at the Recorder Centre, 984 Dovercourt Rd., or 416-534-7931. The fee is \$80 per year for members of CAMMAC.

For those who prefer to pay per session, regular meetings are \$10 for CAMMAC members and \$12 for others, while coached sessions are \$15 and \$20 respectively. Please bring your own music stand. Also, bring your CAMMAC membership card with you on your first visit, which is free for newcomers. For further information, call Ricci Balogh at 416-694-9266. Dates for the balance of the season: Feb. 5; Feb. 26 (coach: Scott Paterson); March 19; April 16; April 25 (Spring Workshop); May 7; May 28.

OMC AND FRIENDS CONCERTS

by Pat Agnew

When the holiday feasts and festivities are over, do you feel bored, dispirited or lethargic? I have a perfect solution! Gather some friends and rehearse music that you love. It is bound to lift your spirits! Then, come and perform it for receptive audiences at the OMC and Friends concerts to be held on **Sunday February 21** and **Sunday April 25**. All are welcome as long as at least one member of each group is a CAMMAC member and your selection/s do not exceed 8 minutes. The deadline for entries is 2 weeks prior to each concert (Feb 7 or April 11). Please register with Pat Agnew by e-mail at agnewpat@hotmail.com or 416 694 9848. Include the titles of the works, the composers, accurate timing, the names of all performers and their instrument or voices.

The concerts will be held at Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd (1 block north of Eglinton and Yonge) from *2:30* to 4:30 (**note new time**). There is no charge, so bring lots of friends as audience members. BUT refreshments will be served, and the venue is rented, SO generous contributions are MOST welcome.

CAMMAC TORONTO REGION IS PLANNING!

The Toronto Region Committee is meeting in the spring to consider its vision as well as its future focus. We herewith solicit input from those who attend our events and also from those who no longer do so. We need your guidance. We plan to present these thoughts to the general membership at the AGM on May 30. To contribute your opinion by mid-March, please contact any of the committee members, or Ellen Frei at 416-369-9564, efrei@sympatico.ca.

Computer resources for amateur musicians (cont'd from p.1)

Now it's time to start practicing in earnest. For that you need the music, and you need it right away. With a few clicks of the mouse you find your way to one of several sheet music Internet sites, in this case www.everynote.com. There you can (legally) download a full score of the Trout, or just your own part, in a good, reputable edition. Today, you only need the viola part. Within seconds it is delivered to your e-mail inbox, for \$2.44. You'll also need a recording. You can easily find one (legally) on the Internet. One of several good sites is www.eclassical.com. In seconds, a good recording by a quality ensemble is in your e-mail in-box, for \$2.86. (If you were only interested in the scherzo movement, you could have purchased it by itself for 49 cents, all with no shipping, handling or customs charges to worry about.)

But there is a problem. As usual, the recording goes at warp speed. What to do? You can turn to one of my all time favourite computer assists: The Amazing Slow Downer from www.ronimusic.com. This you purchase over the Internet, for about \$50. It is delivered instantly to your e-mail inbox. A few mouse clicks later, it is up and running. Now you're in charge. Your recording is too fast for you? Dial whatever speed you like. (You can also independently adjust the pitch). And about that nasty passage at letter S: you can 'loop it'. You click 'loop', you click 'start' where the nasty bit begins and you click 'stop' when it ends. Now you can practice the nasty bit over and over, starting pathetically slowly and working your way up, until it is under your fingers, or as much so as it is ever going to be in this lifetime. If I had a dollar for every time The Amazing Slow Downer has bailed me out...

The fact is that there are so many useful computer-based resources out there that it is really not possible for one person to do more than present a small cross section of them. And it is far from easy for one person to come up with a broadly representative cross section, rather than just a few personal favourites. But collectively, we CAMMAC members are surely up to the task. Please share some of your favourite resources with me (websites and/or simple, inexpensive software) and I will try to include them in the next article. It's tentatively scheduled for the April-May-June issue and will, I hope, focus on good sites for finding recorded music and sheet music of interest to the CAMMAC community. All contributions welcome! And if someone wants to write an article about creative ways we can use some of the more expensive and complex software out there, like Sibelius, we'd like to hear from you too.

mackenzie.blair@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline for the April / May / June issue is **March 15**.

FOR SINGERS

CAMMAC READING

Produced with the support of the city of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council



WORLD MUSIC

<i>Date</i>	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010
<i>Time</i>	2 P.M. SHARP (Please arrive 15 minutes early to set up.)
<i>Conductor</i>	ALAN GASSER
<i>Biography</i>	Alan Gasser grew up singing in the community and in his family. He first sang Georgian music in 1985, with the Kartuli Ensemble, and has founded the Trio Kavkasia and Darbazi. He is an experienced conductor, professional chorister and voice teacher. Alan co-directs the Echo Women's Choir, founded Worldsongs summer camps, and has led choirs and taught voice students at York University, for the Royal Conservatory School and Toronto School Board, as well as 1st Unitarian Congregation. Alan's voice is featured on Heart Songs & Parlour Songs, as well as Trio Kavkasia's 3 CDs. His leadership may be heard on CDs by the Echo Women's Choir and Darbazi.
<i>Music notes</i>	A sample tasting of “Community-Song” flavours from around the world – including songs from the Georgian Republic, New England and elsewhere. This workshop / reading will give you the chance to experience a wide variety of community singing styles, folk harmonies and vocal colours that normal people sing for pleasure, for community instruction and for moral purposing. Church music and music used for instruction are featured, with some tasty North American songs in the stew.
<i>Place</i>	Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street (2 blocks north of St Clair Avenue) in Elliott Hall (enter from Heath Street)
<i>Singers</i>	Choir (SATB)
<i>Instrumentation</i>	Not applicable
<i>Information</i>	For more information: Lynda Moon 416-482-6562 ptriovc@yahoo.ca
<i>Cost</i>	CAMMAC members \$6; non-members \$10; students \$0.
<i>Refreshments</i>	Refreshments will be available for \$1 during the break.



CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP

Produced with the support of the city of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council

CAMMAC Toronto Region will hold a chamber music workshop on Saturday, February 20th and 27th, 2010 from 9:20 am to 1:30 pm at a private residence in the York Mills/Bayview area. The workshop is for pre-formed string, wind or mixed ensembles, with or without piano, from 2 to 8 people each and will be in a masterclass format. You are expected to prepare a work of your choice and will be coached for about 50% of the time (i.e. there will be one coach for every two ensembles). The other 50% of the time you will be able to observe another group being coached. The coaches for the workshop will, depending on enrollment, be Rona Goldensher (violin) and Tony Rapoport (viola) of the Windermere String Quartet <http://windermere.braveform.com>.

The workshop comprises both sessions. You will have the opportunity to perform a movement from your coached work after the workshop (at 2 pm on February 27th) if your ensemble wishes. The price per ensemble is \$200 (\$150 for ensembles comprised only of students). Auditors are welcome at \$15 for one session and \$25 for both sessions. There is an additional charge of \$20 for every member of an ensemble that is not a CAMMAC member (\$10 for students).

Please register early, as the number of ensembles that we can accommodate is very limited. Registration is on a first come first served basis. Registrations are subject to availability of space (and piano or harpsichord) and will only be accepted with payment in full. Please indicate a) the names of the participants and b) whether a piano or harpsichord is required. Please bring music stands as well as a score for your coach.

For more information please contact Roland Wilk, 416-356-2303, roland@wilk.tv.

Complete and mail this form to: CAMMAC CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP,
57 York Road, Toronto, Ontario, M2L 1H7

Name (main contact): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____ Tel. (days): _____

Tel. (evenings): _____ E-mail: _____

Group members: (Name & phone for each, or attach list if needed)

FEES: per group, both Saturdays: \$200 (students: \$150)

Surcharge for each non-CAMMAC member: ___ x \$20 (students, \$10)

Auditor(s) ___ x \$15 (one session); ___ x \$25 (both sessions).

TOTAL FEES: \$ _____ PAID BY: ___ cheque ___ money order ___

Cheque: Please make cheques payable to CAMMAC Toronto Region.

Piano/harpsichord needed: ___ Y ___ N

FOR SINGERS

CAMMAC READING

Produced with the support of the city of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council



***BRUCKNER, TE DEUM
AND PSALM 150***

<i>Date</i>	SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2010
<i>Time</i>	2 P.M. SHARP (Please arrive 15 minutes early to set up.)
<i>Conductor</i>	MARK VUORINEN
<i>Biography</i>	Canadian conductor Mark Vuorinen , is Music Director of the Toronto Chamber Choir, a leading early music choral ensemble. Under his direction the choir continues to provide Toronto audiences with informed performances of seldom heard Renaissance and Baroque Masterworks. Mark holds a Master of Music degree from Yale University's School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music where he received full scholarship. He is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Toronto where he regularly conducts the University of Toronto MacMillan Singers and Toronto Bach Festival Singers in performances.
<i>Music notes</i>	Bruckner started to work on his Te Deum in May 1881, shortly before he embarked on his 7th symphony. He completed the choral work in March of 1884. He conducted the first performance, accompanied by two pianos, in 1885. Hans Richter conducted the first full performance in 1886. Some have described the work as a "hymn in praise of Wagner". Bruckner himself considered his Psalm 150 as his finest festive cantata. It was his final sacred work. With its intensity of emotion it is a vocal sacred counterpart to his last symphony.
<i>Place</i>	Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge Street (2 blocks north of St Clair Avenue) in Elliott Hall (enter from Heath Street)
<i>Singers</i>	Choir (SATB)
<i>Instrumentation</i>	Not applicable
<i>Information</i>	For more information: Gerald Martindale 416-551-5183 bellman@rogers.com
<i>Cost</i>	CAMMAC members \$6; non-members \$10; students \$0.
<i>Refreshments</i>	Refreshments will be available for \$1 during the break.



E-MAIL AND / OR ADDRESS CHANGES

Whenever your contact information changes, please remember to notify CAMMAC headquarters. We receive our mailing lists from them, so keep us current by keeping CAMMAC informed! Toll free: 1-888-622-8755 or national@cammac.ca

PRIVACY NOTICE

If you do not want your name and personal information known to other CAMMAC members, please make sure that when you renew your membership, you mark the appropriate box at the bottom of the application form.

ONTARIO MUSIC CENTRE NEWS

By Rosaleen Leslie Dickson

Last year, after my first adventure at the CAMMAC Music Camp, I wrote: "Music will save the world," and it will, eventually. In the meantime, with faith and energy, we can help to make it happen. My second summer holiday with CAMMAC supports this belief.

Those who have attended these lake side camp sessions over the years know how it works, and those who have not yet enjoyed this unique experience have a truly heartening treat to discover.

Engulfed in divisive disputes over language, religion, international and intergenerational discordant customs, the world can still come together through music, and here is where it starts. Young and old sharing interests, comfortable rooms, good and ample food and friendship, on the Lakefield College campus, and the opportunity to learn from the most qualified experts, and from one another, are just a few of the innumerable joys that await the people who discover this seven-day wonder that is available each year. When it's all over for another year, "à la prochaine" in any language takes on a special meaning. It's a wish to return for another magical week, in 2010.

The magic comes from strings, reeds, percussion and the whole gamut of methods to bring music into our lives, excluding anything else that might tend to draw people apart. Renowned professional musicians making their talents, advice and encouragement available to all the campers, bring everyone's performance to its peak. .

Through the collaborative strength of music, whether singing an opera or beating a tom tom, our differences will melt, yielding living space for all humanity. That's the engaging philosophy I see at the CAMMAC summer music camps. Anyone who tries it cannot but agree.



WHAT DO I GET FOR MY CAMMAC MEMBERSHIP?

By taking out membership in CAMMAC you support the work of Canada's only charitable organization devoted to meeting the needs of amateur musicians. CAMMAC members pay reduced admission to attend CAMMAC readings and workshops and have borrowing privileges from the extensive CAMMAC sheet music library. CAMMAC membership is a requirement for taking part in CAMMAC's summer music camps.

MUSICAL CHAIRS

Are you looking for a music mate, someone with whom to make some music? We keep a list of others also looking! Please get in touch with our Musical Chairs group (416-962-4847).

T.E.M.P.O. WORKSHOPS

Sunday, Feb. 7, 1:30 p.m., Lansing United Church, 49 Bogert Ave. \$20: "Musical Tune-Ups" with Femke Bergsma.

Sunday, March 7, 1:30 p.m., Lansing United Church, \$20. "Medieval Recorder" with Tobie Miller.

Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m., location TBA, \$40. All day Early Music Workshop.

Sunday, May 2, 1:30 p.m., Lansing United Church, \$20. "Renaissance Big Band" with Betsy McMillan.

For additional information, please contact franknevelo@canada.com.

PLAYING OPPORTUNITY

The Huronia Symphony and the Oakville Chamber Orchestra, both conducted by Charles Demuynck, are looking for violin players. Upcoming concerts are February 7 (Huronia Symphony) and March 6 and 7 (Oakville Chamber Orchestra). For more information, contact Charles Demuynck at 905-842-3566.

CONCERT LISTINGS

Talisker Players present "To the Sea in Ships, Where Words and Music Meet", chamber music and voice, on **February 9** and **February 10** at 8:00 pm. at Trinity St.

Paul's Centre, 427 Bloor Street West. Featuring music by John Ireland, Peter Sculthorpe, William Wallace and Juliet Hess (world premiere). Readings from Two Years Before the Mast. \$30, seniors \$20, students \$10; Includes a pre-concert talk at 7:15 pm. 416-466-1800. or www.taliskerplayers.ca.

The Toronto Classical Singers, conducted by Jurgen Petrenko, presents Sir John Stainer's "Crucifixion" on **February 28** at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. \$30-, sr/st \$25. 416-443-1490 or tickets@torontoclassicalsingers.org.

The **Amadeus Choir** presents "Celtic Celebration: a benefit concert to support the Amadeus Choir, on **March 6** at 2:00 pm and 7:30 p.m. at Jubilee United Church, 40 Underhill Drive (1 block E of the DVP, 1 block N of Lawrence). Silent and live auction, refreshments, cash bar. \$35-, sr/st \$30-. 416-446-0188 or amachoir@idirect.com.

Sinfonia Toronto presents music by Burge, Mendelssohn and Dvorak on **March 12**, 2010 at the Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front Street West, Toronto. \$40 adult, \$32 senior, \$12 student. 416-872-4255 or buy online at www.sinfoniatoronto.com.

Toronto Chamber Choir, conducted by Mark Vuorinen, presents Buxtehude's "Membra Jesu Nostri" on **April 2** at 8 p.m. at Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. Admission \$30-, \$27-, Sr \$22-, \$20-, under 30 \$12.50. 416-763-1695.

Sinfonia Toronto presents an evening with Floraleda Sacchi, renowned Italian harpist. Please join us for dinner and her recital on **April 10**. Location and further details TBA at www.sinfoniatoronto.com.



FOR SALE: 1981 Heintzman 6' D-model grand piano. Serial #260203. Near showroom condition. One of the last Heintzman grand pianos built. Satin ebony lacquer finish. Appraisal price \$16,000 - \$18,000. Will sell for \$12,000.

Rachel Oldfield (416) 597-6622 Ext. 21

Cindy Dymond writes about World Harmony:

World Harmony Folk is a non-denominational, non-affiliated, non-commercial, inclusive, open, non-institutional network devoted to the joy of people singing together in a wide variety of communities. It is a volunteer effort, just for the love of singing, world music, harmony and singing folk. We are based in Toronto but share information about singing all over the world. Check out our website, join the e-newsletter subscription list, join us on Facebook, submit your notices of workshops and choirs, and join the network of people everywhere who love to sing together. www.worldharmonyfolk.org

SUPERB SUDOKU *by Ricci Balogh*

	R				C		I	
	I	A			R			
			I		N	C		A
		T		I			E	S
				R				
I	S			T		L		
L		I	S		T			
			E			S	T	
	A		R				L	

Nine different letters are used in this SUDOKU. Each letter is used once in each row, column, 3x3 box and the two long diagonals within the grid. To start, look in the most populated boxes, rows and columns for missing letters. If you end up with more than one possibility, use common sense to eliminate the extra letters. After solving the puzzle itself, try to find the one or two word musical terms made up of these 9 letters when placed in the correct order. Good luck!

Letters used, in alphabetical order:
A, C, E, I, L, N, R, S, T

(For solution, see next issue)

CAMMAC TORONTO REGION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2009 - 2010

President: Kathy Gallyas* 416-925-6182 kathy.gallyas@gmail.com
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 Membership Secretary: Gerald Martindale 416-551-5183 bellman@rogers.com
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 Member at Large: Ellen Frei 416-369-9564 efrei@sympatico.ca
 Member at Large: Roland Wilk 416-356-2303 roland.wilk@gmail.com
 Member at Large: Jenny Ono Suttaby 416 761 9899 jono@jentekcompany.com

*Toronto Region representative to the National Board
 **CAMMAC RPS (Recorder Players' Society) representative

OTHER CONTACTS

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 CAMMAC membership inquiries(toll free): 1-888-622-8755 or national@cammac.ca
 CAMMAC website: www.cammac.ca

Solution for the December / January SUPERB SUDOKU

U	L	O	E	Q	T	B	I	D
B	E	D	L	U	I	O	Q	T
I	T	Q	D	O	B	U	L	E
L	U	I	B	D	E	T	O	Q
D	O	B	Q	T	U	L	E	I
T	Q	E	I	L	O	D	U	B
E	D	L	U	B	Q	I	T	O
Q	B	T	O	I	L	E	D	U
O	I	U	T	E	D	Q	B	L

The solution word is
QUODLIBET.