



Somos Músicos . . . a community of musicians

MUSIC NEWS

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"Texas State University School of Music is a remarkable community of talented, dedicated individuals. *Somos Músicos* ('we are musicians') expresses our passion for learning and making music together." – Dr. Thomas Clark, Director

STUDENT AWARDS, HONORS

At the recent Texas Music Educators Association convention, two Texas State music students were elected as officers of the Collegiate Texas Music Educators: **Mel Montenez** is now President Elect, and **Elizabeth Bongat** is Vice President. **Coty Morris** just finished her term as President.

Graduate composition student **Julie Payne Davis** completed a film score work on her first feature film last semester. She has been offered a teaching position at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, teaching music theory, aural skills, music appreciation, and music for film.

Graduate composition student **Wesley Peart's** poster presentation "Advances in Orchestral Scoring: Trends from 1866 to 1922," won an award for Best Student Poster Presentation at the College Music Society Regional Conference in San Antonio, March 11-13. In addition, presenting papers at this conference were faculty members Drs. **Cynthia Gonzales**, **Kevin Mooney**, and **Nico Schuler**, as well as Texas State School of Music graduate **Aaron Carter-Cohn** (M.M. Music Theory).

Nominated by faculty, graduate music theory student **Brent Ferguson** was selected as this year's Outstanding Graduate Student in the School of Music. Runners up were **Alicia Caicedo** (piano), **SungEun Park** (piano), **Christin Toerner** (choral conducting), and **Jessica Zentner** (Latin Music).

FACULTY NEWS

The American Composers Orchestra and The Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University, with lead support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Fund for National Projects, awarded Honorable Mention to **Hank Hehmsoth** for a recent jazz

composition, *Theme from Carlos'n Charlie's* for steel drum ensemble. Dedicated to the Texas State Panorama Steel Band directed by Genaro Gonzales, the piece was submitted to the The Jazz Composers Orchestra Institute.

David Dawson was the featured guest artist with the Balcones Chamber Orchestra on their concert at St. Martins Lutheran Church in Austin, TX on February 28. Mr. Dawson performed the Concerto for Double-Bass No. 2 by Karl Ditters von Dittersdorf.



TULA

MARK ANTHONY CRUZ
FOR TWO GUITARS



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Clear Note Publications has released one of **Mark Cruz's** latest compositions, *Tula* for two guitars, originally written for solo guitar.

Two movements from **Mark Cruz's** *Symphonette in C* for three guitars was performed by the UT-

Brownsville Two O'Clock guitar ensemble at the Brownsville Guitar Ensemble Festival on March 25.

The Pacific Lutheran University Guitar Orchestra and Ensemble, under the direction of Elizabeth C.D. Brown, has programmed a featured work by **Mark Anthony Cruz** for a concert in Tacoma, Washington on Sunday, May 9.

Ian Davidson recently performed the Cimarosa Double Concerto with University of the Pacific Flute Professor Mathew Krejci at the University of Lazio in Viterbo, Italy. The performance was given as part of the annual celebration of International Day. Both are seen below accepting the banner of the University from Resident Director, Dr. Stefano Pizzetti.



[photo by Fred Behning]

TEXAS STATE OPERA

Directed by Dr. **Samuel Mungo**, the opera theater and Texas State Symphony Orchestra, conducted by **Howard Hudiburg**, presented three magnificent performances of Leonard Bernstein's comedy, *Candide*, March 26, 27, and 28.



MORE TURKEY EXCHANGE

Continuing last year's efforts by **Doug Skinner** and **Tim Woolsey**, during Spring Break the School of Music strengthened its connections with Adnan Menderes University and Yasar University through visits by Texas State string and piano faculty members to their campuses in Turkey. **Lynn Ledbetter** (violin), **Ames Asbell** (viola) and **Jason Kwak** (piano) performed recitals, gave masterclasses and met with administrators at both universities to cultivate ties and pave the way for future exchanges with Texas State School of Music.



The group's first stop in Turkey was at Adnan Menderes University's Conservatory of Music in Nazilli, where they were hosted by cellist Dr. Özgür Elgün, who performed at Texas State this past fall. In Nazilli, our faculty worked with violin, viola, and piano students from the conservatory, and met with other string faculty members from Adnan Menderes. That evening, they performed a program of chamber and solo works to a sold-out audience of 450 enthusiastic listeners, including the city's mayor and other local officials. The next evening, after some local sightseeing, the group traveled to the main campus of the university in nearby Aydin, Turkey and performed their program of works by Mozart, Beethoven, Schumann and Liszt to an audience of nearly 800. After their recital, the faculty was treated to a dinner reception given by the Rector (President) of Adnan Menderes University.

They next traveled to Yasar University in Izmir, Turkey's third-largest city. Drs. Ledbetter and Asbell gave masterclasses to violin and viola students, and then faculty met with the university's rector. In the evening, our faculty performed for an audience of about 300. Drs. **Paolo Susanni** and Payam Gul Susanni were hosts and guides to the area, concluding the visit with a day trip to Ephesus and other area attractions.