



PROFESSOR SCORES HAT TRICK

Dr. **Nico Schüler** presented a paper on "Technology as a Tool to Enhance General (Sight) Singing Education" at the First International Conference on Music and Technologies at Kaunas University of Technology in Lithuania. He also presented a paper on "Socialist Realism and Socialist Anti-Realism in one Composition? The Rise and the Fall of the Opera *Fetzer's Flucht* (1959/1963) by Kurt Schwaen" at the American Musicological Society / Southwest Chapter Conference at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. At the Texas Academic



Advising Network Conference, Dr. Schüler gave a presentation on "Graduate Advising: Balancing Recruiting, Advising, Mentoring, Career Planning, Curriculum Development, Research, and Teaching".

COSMIC COWBOYS

Dr. **Kevin Mooney's** review of Travis D. Stimeling's *Cosmic Cowboys and New Hicks: The Countercultural Sounds of Austin's Progressive Country Music Scene* (Oxford University Press, 2011) is published in *MLA NOTES* 68, no. 3 (March 2012): 581-583.



TEXAS ASTA CHAPTER WINS AWARDS

Dr. **Lynn Ledbetter**, President of the Texas chapter of the American String Teachers Association, accepted two awards for the chapter, ASTA Outstanding Chapter Award and ASTA Membership Recruitment Award (73 new members!) at ASTA's March 21 Leadership Workshop in Atlanta, Georgia. The workshop, attended by state chapter presidents, presidents-elect, and ASTA executive board members, part of the annual ASTA National Convention with an attendance of 25,000 members, exhibitors, clinicians and legislators.

Ledbetter with ASTA Pres. Kirk Moss



CRUISIN' WITH BUTCH

World-renowned jazz drummer **Butch Miles** had a very busy February. After returning from The Jazz Cruise, he performed at the Newport Beach Jazz Party in California, appearing with John Clayton, Wayne Bergeron, Tamir Handelman, Arturo Sandoval, the Basie, Benny & Buddy Big Band and "the wonder from down under," the great James Morrison on trumpet and trombone. Butch flew back to Texas State for a week of lessons and then on to San Diego for the SD Jazz Party with such greats as Bucky Pizzarelli, Ed Metz, Jr., Rosanno Sportiello, Harry Allen and many more.



MORE PASSPORT STAMPS FOR GARCIA



Dr. **Washington Garcia** performed solo recitals and taught master classes at the Casa de la Música in Quito, Ecuador, and the Olev Roots Hall at the National Conservatory of Music in Bogota, Colombia. Additionally, Dr. Garcia obtained two sponsors to cover air transportation for some South American students to attend the 3rd Texas State



International Piano Festival, which will gather participants from Ecuador, Argentina, Colombia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Singapore, Indonesia, China, Korea, Spain, and the U.S.

March 12-16 Dr. Garcia also performed a solo recital, taught master classes, and offered a conference on "Metodos de Memorizacion y Mejora de Tecnica" at the "Conservatorio Profesional Adolfo Salazar" in Madrid, Spain. Dr. Garcia's visit also allowed him to choose a student who will represent Spain at the Third Texas State International Piano Festival. His visit was favorably received by faculty, staff and students at the Conservatory, and a repeat engagement has already been proposed.

DUO SAILS THE MID-ATLANTIC

Charles Ditto's composition, *Pas de Deux*, was performed February 25 by Paul Chenin and Rochelle Oedeman in Harris Theater at George Mason University, as part of the 42nd Annual Mid-Atlantic CMS Conference in Fairfax, Virginia.

BIRD PLAYS CARNEGIE'S WEILL THEATER

Paula Bird played in Carnegie Hall's Weill Theater with the Artisan Quartet on March 22 as part of the MidAmerica Productions' 30th anniversary, performing two Beethoven string quartets, Grieg, and Roberto Sierra's *Mambo 7/16*. The group received a standing ovation and an invitation to return next year.



VIRTUOSO EUPHONIUM PLAYER VISITS

On February 17th, the brass area hosted Englishman Steven Mead. Mr. Mead manages to present over 75 performances around the globe each year. First on his agenda at Texas State was a master class working with students **Paul Daniel, Matthew Hurtado, Christine Marrs, Brittany Sloss** and **C.Z. Stollon**. Invited attendees included many from San Marcos High School and Canyon High School in New Braunfels. Special thanks to alumnus **Nathan Rolfe** for bringing his brass students from SMHS. Later that evening, with a near capacity and enthusiastic crowd, Mead presented a solo recital of contemporary euphonium literature accompanied by Dr. **Ezra Bartz, C.Z. Stollon**, and the Texas State Trombone Quartet comprised of **Austin Tran, Steven Vogel, Kevin Dugat** and **Jeremiah Ward**.



Mead (left) and euphonium professor **Raul Rodriguez**

OBOIST GOES TO MIAMI

Oboe Professor **Ian Davidson** performed recitals at Miami University and DePauw University as well as master classes for oboe students at both schools. While at DePauw he joined opera director Joachim Schamberger and Presidential Advisor Vernon Jordan for a radio program entitled "Music For Life".

A MOODY EXPERIENCE IN ARIZONA

Faculty violist Dr. **Ames Asbell** spent the last week of February performing with the Arizona MusicFest Orchestra in Scottsdale. The orchestra consists of fine players from across the country, including members of the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, National Symphony



and San Francisco Opera, conducted by Artistic Director Robert Moody, who is also the principal conductor of the Winston-Salem and Portland (ME) symphonies. The AZMF orchestra presented four complete orchestral programs, including the Verdi Requiem and a pops concert with guest trombonist Chris Brubeck and his band. While in Scottsdale, Dr. Asbell also worked with high school viola students as part of the Arizona MusicFest educational outreach program.

CONJUNTO COMES TO RECITAL HALL

On March 1, Conjunto Aztlan, a renowned Conjunto-Tejano ensemble formed by Central Texas musicians and scholars, gave a lecture-performance in the Recital Hall. The artists shared their knowledge of Mexican-American music and history as both scholars and protagonists of this history. Their versatility, poetic artistry, and virtuosity was showcased in a program that included traditional conjunto repertoire, Xicano-movement songs, and a variety of numbers infused with styles ranging from Mexican *huapango* to Colombian *cumbia*. The event was hosted by the History of Music in Mexico class, Dr. **Ludim Pedroza**, instructor.



BOBCATS AT SWACDA

Four choral students from Texas State, **Bethany Cowan**, **Garik Cotton**, **Sean Rodriguez** and **Maribel Ryburn**, were selected to participate in the Southwest American Choral Directors Association Collegiate Honor Choir held in Dallas February 29--March 3, led by renowned conductor Geoffrey Boers of the University of Washington.



From left: Boers, Ryburn, Cowan, ???, Cotton, Rodriguez



In addition, Executive Board members of Texas State ACDA (from left above) **Aimee Adams**, **Jeryn Crabb**, **Andre Jackson**, and **Celeste Morales** were presenters at the convention in a session titled "Building A Student Chapter".

TMEA PICKS OXFORD TO MAKE PICKS

The Texas Music Educators Association has invited **Todd Oxford** to select the Texas All-State Saxophone Etudes for 2012-2013. He will perform the etudes and present the Saxophone All-State Clinic in July at the Texas Bandmasters Assoc. Conference in San Antonio.

