



News @ Notes

Aliénor Awards: March 7-8

Notes ...

Aliénor Premieres

March 7, 2008

8:00 pm

Old Salem Visitor Center

James A. Gray, Jr. Auditorium

Winston-Salem, NC

World Premiere

Dan Locklair's Arias & Dances

FREE ADMISSION

Aliénor Finals

March 8, 2008

7:30 pm

Shirley Recital Hall

Salem College

Winston-Salem, NC

FREE ADMISSION

Gala reception following

Come vote for your favorite composition and help award the \$10,000 in prizes!

Contact Us ...

For more information about how to become a donor and support the efforts of Aliénor, please call:

Elaine Funaro Love

Executive Director

Phone: 919.493.4706

E-mail: e.funaro@gmail.com

On Friday March 7, 8pm at the Old Salem Visitor Center, James A. Gray, Jr. Auditorium, the first of two Aliénor events will take place. Elaine Funaro will be performing a set of 10 preludes (honorable mentions) chosen from more than 50 solo scores sent from around the world. These pieces are being put into a collection that Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc. is publishing. The composers are from Europe and North America. Elaine will then be joined by baroque oboist Geoffrey Burgess. They will perform pieces from "Pedal Point Twenty-0-Six," also an honorable mention, by the composer Jackson Berkey, well known for his work with Mannheim Steamroller. To cap the concert, they will be joined by Rebecca Troxler, baroque flute and Stephanie Vial, cello in a world premiere performance of the **Aliénor** commissioned piece "Arias and Dances" by Dan Locklair, professor at Wake Forest University.



Benny (the postman) carried all 114 scores and is hoping to come hear the music.

On Saturday night, Salem College will host the 7th Aliénor Awards competition.

We have six harpsichord soloists

performing; one is the composer himself, from the University of Michigan: James Dorsa. The other composers are from England, USA and Belgium. The soloists are coming from all around the country. Besides the solo pieces, there will be four violin and harpsichord duos after intermission. One of the unique aspects of this event is, that all the pieces that are performed are considered "winners." However, the audience is invited to vote on the piece they like the most and further prize monies are then awarded. We will be giving out \$10,000 in prizes. A gala reception will follow the event to meet the musicians.

PAST COMPETITION EVENTS

1982 Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL

1986 Mount Vernon College
Washington, DC

1990 Augusta College, Augusta, GA

1994 Clayton State, Morrow, GA

2000 Hilton Head, SC

2004 Duke University, Durham, NC

About Aliénor...

A little background: Aliénor was named in honor of Eleanor of Aquitaine, a famed 12th century patron of the arts. Eleanor was the richest woman in Europe, and was married successively to King Louis VII of France and King Henry II of England. Her name was actually Alia Enor (literally “another Enor,” since her mother was named Enor). Aliénor is an elision of Alia Enor.

Eleanor was mother to the English Kings Richard the Lionhearted and John Lackland, who was forced to sign the Magna Carta in 1215. She is one of the most notable women in European history.



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The Person Behind the Score

“I am lucky to be working a lot and to be very busy always,” said **Aliénor** Competition winner PENKA KOUNEVA in a recent interview. When Penka became Duke University’s first recipient of a Doctorate in composition in 1997, she dreamed of becoming a Hollywood composer. Over the last decade, she has realized this dream by scoring independent features films, television films, and episodic shows on cable TV as well as orchestrating studio movies including Transformers, Pirates 3, Matrix 2 and 3, and Bee Movie.

Born and raised in Bulgaria, Penka’s unique sound blends her native Eastern-European influences with modern orchestra, Medieval chant, rock, and electronica. Her composition, Raga, won the **Aliénor** in 1990 and has been performed all around the US and Europe by a number of different harpsichordists.

In 2003, Penka moved with her husband Daniel to Tujunga, a suburb of Los Angeles in the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains. She enjoys taking walks near their home with their 18-month-old daughter. Penka said, “We love that there are so many serene beautiful places in California.” She is busy these days working on film scores and assignments.

When asked what she likes about living in the USA, Penka answered, “The freedom to be a free citizen of the world and to realize one’s greatest potential.” She recalled the joy of getting her U.S. passport because, she said, “Growing up in Bulgaria in a politically repressed family, we could never travel abroad.” When Penka was finally able to travel to Europe, she remembers, “I cried at every museum we went. It was so emotionally and spiritually overwhelming to travel to these countries and see the actual paintings, statues, and palaces that I’d seen on black and white pictures as a kid.”

For the full interview, go to: www.harpsichord-now.org



Penka Kouneva

Innovative British Harpsichordist Touring USA

JANE CHAPMAN is being presented by the Harpsichord Center in Pasadena, April 4 and April 6 in Brentwood, CA. She repeats her program in Merkin Hall in New York City on April 10. Her concert includes the complete J.S. Bach inventions and sinfonias, the three Ligeti contemporary classics, as well as the **Aliénor** commissioned piece “Rain Dreaming” by the late Toru Takemitsu.

Jane has been described as ‘Britain’s most progressive harpsichordist.’ She has revitalized new repertoire for the instrument and inspired a new generation of composers, premiering over 150 solo, chamber and electroacoustic works. She is involved in cutting-edge collaborations with ground breaking musicians and visual artists, exploring innovative approaches to performance.

Jane is an Honorary Fellow of Dartington College of Arts and an Honorary Member of the Royal College of Music, where she is also professor of harpsichord. She has performed at major festivals in Britain, Europe and America. For more about Jane and her April concerts, please visit: www.janechapman.com.

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**We're almost there but
we still need your help!**

Our Goal (by March 1)
\$10,000



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Thank you to Elise Backinger & Kent Strickland for hosting an event at their home in Taos.

Addenda, Composition Publishers (Fall 2007 newsletter)

 Skyline Studio (www.skylinestudio.com/composer.html)
Ivar Lunde, "Suite No. 2" (1982 second-place winner)



Aliénor Awarded TCF Grant Services

Triangle Community Foundation (TCF) recently selected Aliénor as one of seven Durham non-profit organizations to receive grant services. Aliénor also received a grant from the Schmidt-Nielsen and Claesson Family Fund of Triangle Community Foundation.

As part of the TCF grant, Aliénor has partnered with Executive Service Corps (ESC), a local agency that puts retired business people to help in areas of need. ESC experts are currently coaching Aliénor's Executive Director on organizing office resources and developing project timelines. In addition, they are using their extensive contacts to target arts supporters in the local business community. The goal is to double the size of Aliénor's Board of Directors. ESC services are "invaluable," said Aliénor Executive Director Elaine F. Love, "Non-profits mostly start with a vision and help is needed in the business aspects of running the organization."

Composition Publications Update

Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc. has published the winning compositions from the Aliénor 2000 competition and the book will be available to purchase at the upcoming competition.

To order the book:
www.wayneleupold.com
or call toll free 800-765-3196

Aliénor
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Competition Finals! March 6-8, 2008 in Winston-Salem, NC. Details inside ...

The masterpieces of tomorrow are waiting to be written.

Aliénor 2008 Competition Performers

World-renowned musicians come together to delight us at the 2008 Aliénor Awards Finals! Players in both the Solo and Duo Awards categories will bring to life the amazing scores chosen as the best of this quadrennial competition. Our competition brings together harpsichordists who have studied in Amsterdam, Florence, Tokyo and Montreal, debuted at Carnegie Hall, been heard on the BBC, Polish National Television, CBS Television, and National Public Radio, and won prizes at the Jurow Competition and 2004 Aliénor Composition Competition. They are joined by equally acclaimed performers on the flute, oboe, violin, and cello.

Outside of the concert arena, our performers are well-versed in such wide-ranging subjects as exotic black teas, rare experimental peppers, musical punctuation, tennis, gardening, African and Pre-columbian art, Japanese food, and renovating old grist mills. Join us in March as we get to know these versatile and entertaining artists!

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