

WILLIAM ANDREWS CANADA MUSIC WEEK® AWARDS

North Shore - British Columbia



Third William Andrews Canada Music Week® Award Win for North Shore Branch, BCRMTA



BACK ROW from L to R: Student composers Denise Kerney, Annudesh Liyanage, Julia Tancon and Sarah Haysom; Mark Armanini, CMW guest composer; JoAnn Primeau, Dr. Carolyn R. Finlay.

SEATED from L to R: Musicians Charlie Lui - dizi and Song Yun - erhu.

The North Shore Branch, BCRMTA, is delighted to have been given a “William Andrews CMW Award” for 2014 by the CFMTA/FCAPM. This is the third win for the North Shore Branch under the leadership of CMW Co-ordinator Dr. Carolyn R. Finlay; the North Shore also won this national CFMTA award in 2008 and 2013.

To celebrate our 10 years of commemorating Canada Music Week® (2005-2014), CMW North Shore organized events to reflect our increasingly multi-cultural student community. Continuing our 10 year long tradition of commissioning guest composers both to write new works and to mentor student composers, our CMW guest composer 2014 was Mark Armanini, Artistic Director of The Vancouver Inter-Cultural Orchestra (VICO), producer of the BC Chinese Music Ensemble, and currently on Faculty at Capilano University, North Vancouver. With Mr. Armanini we also invited two professional guest performers: Ms. Song Yun, erhu (Chinese string instrument) and Charlie Lui, dizi

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(Chinese flute). VICO, founded in 2001 and one of the first concert orchestras of its kind in the world, specializes in commissioning and performing new inter-cultural music performed on both Western and an eclectic variety of non-Western musical instruments. The Georgia Straight newspaper writes that VICO performs “music that sounds like Vancouver looks.”

CMW/North Shore 2014 consisted of four interconnected events; the first was a demonstration recital in April 2014 with Mr. Armanini, Song Yun, erhu, and Charlie Lui, dizi. Ms. Song and Mr. Lui demonstrated the performance techniques of their respective instruments, and Mr. Armanini explained the particular challenges of writing and notating music for them. Four student composers undertook to write their own erhu/dizi duets to be performed by Song Yun and Charlie Lui at the CMW recital in November.

Mr. Armanini, Song Yun and Charlie Lui met again with all the student composers at two further composition workshops held in June and October 2014. Compositions-in-progress for both solo piano and for erhu/dizi duet were submitted to our guest composer and performers in advance. Each student’s composition went through the process of revision and refinement in consultation with Mr. Armanini and the players who were to perform them.

Our 10th Anniversary CMW Recital was held on Sunday, November 16, 2014, opening with students of RMT teachers performing works from the Canadian repertoire. Following these, Song Yun, erhu, and Charlie Lui, dizi, performed *Er Quan, or Reflection of*

the Moon on Second Lake by Abing (1893-1950), a work now regarded as a masterpiece of traditional Chinese music. Ms. Song and Mr. Lui then gave the premiere performances of the four duets for erhu and dizi written by the student composers:

Morning Birds

by Sarah Haysom

Reflections

by Denise Kerney

D Dorian Rhapsody

by Annudesh Liyanage

Oriental Gardens

by Julia Tancon.

This was followed by performances by student composers of works for solo piano:

Planet X

by Martin Barnes

Sweet Trauma

by Sasha Chudinsky.

Congratulations to all of these student composers for writing works of remarkable accomplishment and musical imagination. Special thanks to Mark Armanini for the thoughtful advice and encouragement which he gave to each of our students, and to the sensitive attention given to each composition by our guest performers.

The premiere performance of *Red Leaves*, commissioned by us for CMW 2014 from guest composer Mark Armanini, was given by Song Yun and Charlie Lui. Mr. Armanini wrote this delicate and evocative erhu/dizi duet as a tribute to the season, and to the cultural links between Canadian and Chinese music.

Our CMW Recital 2014 concluded with performances by special guests

“The VICO Sounds Global Ensemble” under the direction of Farshid Samandari, composer in residence, VICO and BC Chinese Music Association. Performances of six new pieces by the adult student composers who had participated in the “VICO in the Schools” programme with support from Capilano University were given by Lan Tung, erhu; Bic Hoang, dan bau; Saina Khaledi, santur; and Jonathan Bernard, percussion.

Our CMW 2014 Recital was a feast of sounds unlike anything we had ever undertaken before and sought to reflect the increasing global influences upon Canadian music and our composers. Just as our neighbourhoods are becoming increasingly multi-cultural, so, too, is our music being enriched not only by Western musical traditions, but by those of an ever-widening global cultural heritage.

Submitted by

Dr. Carolyn R. Finlay

CMW Coordinator

North Shore Branch - BCRMTA

WILLIAM ANDREWS CANADA MUSIC WEEK® AWARDS

Barrie - Ontario



*Celebrate Canadian Music! - November 22, 2014
featuring Martha Hill Duncan and Red Leaf Pianoworks*

This year the Barrie Branch of ORMTA put together a wonderful afternoon to celebrate the rich Canadian repertoire that is available to us and to nurture our own budding composers. Our celebration opened with a student recital featuring all Canadian compositions and students' own compositions. We were so pleased to have Martha Hill Duncan of Red Leaf Pianoworks joining us for a composition workshop and piano masterclass, as well as a showcase of new piano compositions from all nine composers of Red Leaf Pianoworks.

Our hope in including a workshop and a masterclass rather than just a recital this year was that the celebration of Canadian music would be open to more of our students, and would highlight the joys of the composing and learning process throughout our studios in addition to the recital performances. As teachers we also enjoyed learning from the workshop and being introduced to more great Canadian compositions from Red Leaf Pianoworks.

Fifteen students shared pieces by Anne Crosby, Nancy Telfer, Linda Niamath, Ruth Watson Henderson, Stephen Chatman, Janet Gieck, Tyler Seidenberg, and Pamela Cioroch performed her own composition as well. Several students and teachers stayed and enjoyed Martha's presentation of Red Leaf Pianoworks compositions and bought books to use in their studios.

The composition workshop was very engaging and seven students ranging in age from 8 to 18 took part. Martha had wonderful tips in the masterclass as well. Overall it was a great afternoon of Canadian music! Our sincere thanks to CFMTA/FCAPM for selecting us, and to William Andrews for generously providing this award. We look forward to growing on the successes of this event in the years to come!

