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In Memoriam Gunda Hack

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SPECIAL SPONSORSHIP FOR THIS CONCERT

Dr. John M. and Martha Haas
Calendar of Events at the German Society of Pennsylvania

January
Tues. Jan. 23  Konversationsabend, Günter Grass Autobiography, 7:00pm

February
Sat. Feb. 3  Women’s Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00am
Sun. Feb. 4  Wister Quartet Concert, 3:00pm
Fri. Feb. 9  Skatabend, 6:30pm
Sat. Feb. 10  Marnie Old’s German and Austrian Wine Tasting, 3:00pm
Fri. Feb. 16  Film Fest, “Einer kam durch”, 6:30pm
Sat. Feb. 17  Karnevalsfeier, 8:00pm
Fri. Feb. 23  Konversationsabend, Action Reconciliation with Dr. Matthias Hass, 7:00pm

March
Sat. Mar. 3  Women’s Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00am
Tues. Mar. 6  Noon Library Lecture–Michael Showalter, Ephrata Cloisters
Sun. Mar. 11  Wister Quartet Concert, 3:00pm
Fri. Mar. 16  Film Fest, “Mein Name ist Bach”, 6:30pm
Fri. Mar. 23  Konversationsabend, Teaching German as a Foreign Language, with UPenn’s Dr. Mara Taylor, 7:00pm
Sun. Mar. 25  Barbara Dever Concert, 3:00pm

April
Wed. April 4  Women’s Auxiliary Bus Trip
Sat. April 7  Women’s Auxiliary Meeting, 10:00am
Fri. April 13  Film Fest, Title TBA, 6:30pm
Mon. April 16  Spring Session of Adult German Language Classes Begins
Sat. April 21  Spring Session of Youth German Language Classes Begins
Sun. April 22  Wister Quartet Concert, 3:00pm
Mon. April 23  Konversationsabend, TBA, 7:00pm
Sat. April 28  Hamburger Abend
Sun. April 29  Annual Membership Meeting, Time TBA

History of the German Society of Pennsylvania

In 1683 thirteen families from Krefeld under the leadership of Frankfurt lawyer, Franz Daniel Pastorius, founded the first German colony in America: Germantown — today part of Philadelphia. Many of these immigrants formed clubs that enabled them to preserve their cultural heritage. They also formed clubs that emphasized a specific geographic area, such as the Swabians, Bavarians, Saxons, Danube Swabians, Plattdeutsche, Tyroleans, and many others.

The German Society of Pennsylvania, founded in 1764, is the oldest German organization in the United States. It was founded to protect German immigrants from unscrupulous shipping agents and to ensure just treatment on their arrival here.

Since that time, the German Society has dedicated its efforts to preserving German heritage. This it does, for instance, by offering a full-fledged German language program as well as scholarships and prizes to students of German. In addition, the Society is a source of cultural programs, lectures, film series, and seminars. These events build bridges and strengthen national and international relations among individuals, organizations, businesses and governments.

The fine arts program also includes presentations that feature European music and literature as well as access to the Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library for education and research. The newly restored Library, holding over 70,000 volumes, is the largest private German library outside the Federal Republic of Germany.

In serving its members and the community, and in all its undertakings, the Society strives to benefit anyone in need of its resources.

Since the time of Pastorius, more than 8,000,000 Germans reached these shores. Today, 29% of the total population in the United States claims German ancestry.
The Philadelphia Trio

Formed in 1971, The Philadelphia Trio has developed a reputation for consistently lyrical and sensitive performances. It has presented concerts and workshops throughout the United States and Europe, including frequent appearances for the BBC in London and broadcasts on Spanish National Radio and Television.

The Trio also has initiated several chamber music series in the Philadelphia area and has made frequent appearances on radio and television. They have recorded for Centaur Records.

Elizabeth Keller, pianist, is a native of Baltimore. She has been a student of Dorothy Maevers at Peabody and Venegrova and Horszowski at Curtis. She has been a soloist with the National Symphony (finalist in the Merriweather Post Competition) and the Baltimore Symphony. She is presently head of the piano department at the Baldwin School in Bryn Mawr, PA and Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA.

Deborah Reeder, cellist, is a native of the Philadelphia area, has studied at the Philadelphia Musical Academy and is a Concert Artist Guild award winner. As a former member of the Philadelphia Orchestra, she is presently the cellist of the Amado Quartet, principal cellist of the Opera Company of Philadelphia and the Mozart Society of Philadelphia. Ms. Reeder is also on the faculty at Temple and the University of the Arts.

Barbara Sonies, violinist, is a native of Chicago. She has degrees from Eastman and Julliard. She has received the Artists Advisory Council Award and Farwell Award. She is a former member of the Rochester Philharmonic, American Symphony and 20th Century Consort. She is presently the concertmaster of the Opera Company of Philadelphia and the Mozart Society. She is on the faculty of Temple University and Swarthmore College.

The Philadelphia Trio

Elizabeth Keller, piano
Barbara Sonies, violin
Deborah Reeder, cello

PROGRAM

Trio in E Major, K. 542
Allegro
Andante grazioso
Allegro

“A Child’s Reliquary” Piano Trio
Moderato, un poco misterioso
Vivace e leggiero
Adagietto

INTERMISSION

Trio in C Major, Op. 87
Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo: Presto
Finale: Allegro giocoso

Please join us in the Ratskeller after the concert for an informal reception with the musicians.
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) wrote the E Major trio while living in Vienna, completing it on 22 June 1788. Despite financial hardship, this was a time of great productivity: he had just completed Don Giovanni, and in the six weeks that followed this trio he wrote his last three great symphonies. The piano trios were conceived for private musical gatherings at which Mozart generally played the piano part himself; this fact plus his preoccupation during this period with writing piano concerti might in part explain the musical predominance of the piano in these trios. The E major trio, interestingly one of only a few of Mozart’s works written in this key, is often regarded as the greatest of his piano trios. It was reputedly a favorite of Chopin (1810-1849), who would regularly program it in his concerts at the Salle Pleyel in Paris.

Notes by Ronald Anderson

Born in New York in 1956, Richard Danielpour has become one of the important musical voices of his generation, with a style influenced by composers ranging from Shostakovich and Stravinsky to Copland, Leonard Bernstein, and John Adams. He studied piano and composition at New England Conservatory and Juilliard, studying the latter with Vincent Persichetti and Peter Menin. He has received numerous grants, awards, and many commissions. He is on the faculties of Manhatten School and Curtis Institute and has had several of his works recorded. His compositional style is tonal, very expressive, and atmospheric. A Child’s Reliquary, written in 1999 for the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, is in memory of a friend's young child tragically killed in an accidental drowning. It captures the spirit of the loss of young life in a deeply expressive manner.

Notes by Barbara Sonies

The Op. 87 piano trio of Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) was composed in 1880-82. This was a period of great compositional activity, seeing among others the creation of the violin concerto, the second piano concerto, The Tragic Overture, and the third symphony. Op. 87 is the second of three extant piano trios, though he may have written more: unfortunately for posterity, there are reportedly a large number of chamber works which Brahms destroyed out of dissatisfaction. Brahms was held in high public regard at this time, earning an honorary doctorate (for which he wrote the Academic Festival Overture) in 1879 bearing the citation Artis musicae severioris in Germania nun princes (“first among contemporary masters of German serious music”)—a characterization which earned the enmity of Brahms’ arch-rival Richard Wagner.

Notes by Ronald Anderson