

McCallum Fine Arts Academy Orchestra 2009 Master Class: The Neapolitan Masters



Presented by:
The Neapolitan Music Society

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This fall, the Neapolitan Music Society (NMS) will bring the great Neapolitan Masters back to the McCallum Fine Arts Academy Chamber Orchestra, one of the finest student orchestras in Texas and the southwest. This exciting program of extended study, rehearsal, and performance will immerse the academy's advanced music students in the history and music of the Naples conservatories, which were the best music academies of their day.

The effort will be personally lead by M^o Gioacchino Longobardi (Albany, NY), NMS President & Artistic Director, who will conduct the McCallum Chamber Orchestra. M^o Alberto Vitolo (Rome, Italy), the Society's Assistant Artistic Director, will provide the students with personal instruction in the rare and beautiful string techniques that produced the famous *Sound of Naples*. Rounding out the week, Professor Robert Gjerdingen of Northwestern University and the Society's music historian, will introduce the students to the rich history of Neapolitan music and the conservatories.

In its second year, this collaborative program will involve a week of rehearsals and classroom instruction in music theory and history, culminating in a concert performance with the McCallum Chamber Orchestra under the direction of M^o Gioacchino Longobardi.

The purpose of the project is to introduce the advanced music students of the McCallum Fine Arts Academy – through an intensive one-week curriculum of study, music theory, rehearsal and performance --to the 18th Century Neapolitan Masters. The program includes:

(1) One week of classroom instruction in 18th Century Neapolitan music history and the unique bowing and instrumentation that created the "Sound of Naples."

(2) A public concert performance of Neapolitan Masterworks by the McCallum Chamber Orchestra; and

(3) A guest lecture by Dr. Robert Gjerdingen, Chairman, Music History Department, Northwestern University, Chicago Illinois to McCallum Fine Arts Students and broader Central Texas music community.





The Neapolitan Music Society

The Neapolitan Music Society, a nonprofit organization, inspired by and dedicated to the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Neapolitan Masters trained at Neapolitan School of Music (1503-1826), is comprised of dedicated group of musicians, composers, academics, and international community leaders deeply committed to promoting the Neapolitan School of Music of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and its right place in the history of music, giving voice once again to the finest, but forgotten masterpieces of music through performance, research, education, and preservation.

Supported by four ancient conservatories (1503-1826) The Neapolitan School of Music produced the greatest Italian masters, such as Alessandro and Domenico Scarlatti, Niccolò Jommelli, Gian Francesco de Majo, Leonardo Leo, Francesco Durante, Nicola Fiorenza, and many more. Few musicians and music lovers today are familiar with this historic chapter deeply rooted in Naples.

Although the Neapolitans laid the foundation of classical music and produced some of the most beautiful music ever written, only a fraction of their masterpieces are known and performed today.

Music that exists only on paper cannot, without performance, inspire the heart and nourish the soul. Hundreds of symphonies, operas, and other works by the eighteenth-century Neapolitan masters sit silently in music libraries throughout Europe, lovingly preserved, but mute.

With the presentation and development of such a unique program, it is our sincere desire to expose the students to the Neapolitan Masters and create a rewarding experience for each one participating in this project. The project fulfills our dream of breathing new life into the forgotten Masters. What better way than to teach and perform with young adults?

M^o Gioacchino Longobardi looks forward to the pleasure of collaborating with the director and students of the Academy and hopes to inspire them to continue to expand their knowledge of the Neapolitan Masters. We hope that this unexplored musical world will attract the old and the new generations of musicians and lead them towards understanding and appreciation of what truly represents the most marvelous chapter of a golden century.





The Master Class Participants



Gioacchino Longobardi , President and Artistic Director

M^o Gioacchino Longobardi is currently President and Artistic Director of the Neapolitan Music Society. M^o Longobardi studied piano with Professoressa Tita Parisi and received his diploma in piano from the Conservatory of Music San Pietro a Majella di Napoli. In the following years he also graduated in Choral Music, Choir Conducting and Composition, under the guidance of M^o Carmine Pagliuca, M^o Aladino Di Martino, and M^o Ugo Rápalo with whom he also studied Musica Sacra, Opera and Orchestrazione. After completion of studies at the Conservatory of Music, M^o Longobardi expanded his knowledge in conducting at the Musikhochschule Mozarteum in Salzburg, under the guidance of Bernhard Konz, Kurt Prestel and Herbert von Karajan. M^o Longobardi lives in the U.S., where he continues working as a conductor and pianist, devoting his efforts to the Neapolitan Music Society with the goal of introducing Neapolitan masterworks to music lovers worldwide.



Alberto Vitolo , Artistic Director

Mr. Vitolo graduated from the Conservatory of Music San Pietro a Majella di Napoli, under Angelo Gaudino, a student of Alberto Curci. He attended courses in Fiesole and Palermo, completing his studies in orchestral music with Giuseppe Prencipe and in chamber music with Carlo Pozzi, Giacinto Caramia, and Trio di Trieste. He is Artistic Director of the Neapolitan Music Society and Associazione Musicale Reggina Domenico Scarlatti, and founder of the concert series Romatinée Musicali and Sonoritá Italiana nel mondo in Rome. In Naples, Mr. Vitolo serves as Director of the Department of Classical Music of C.F.M. (Centro di Formazione Musicale) and as Music Consultant for the European Music Festival. Since 2006 he has served as Director of Coro Polifonico "Salvo D'Acquisto" in Rome. Mr. Vitolo has devoted many years of study and research to the Neapolitan School of Music.



Robert Gjerdingen, Professor of Music at The School of Music, Northwestern University

Professor Gjerdingen was trained at the University of Pennsylvania (Ph. D, 1984) under Leonard B. Meyer, Eugene Narmour, and Eugene K. Wolf. He is the author of *Music in the Galant Style: Being an Essay on Various Schemata Characteristic of Eighteenth-Century Music for Courtly Chambers, Chapels, and Theaters, Including Tasteful Passages of Music Drawn from Most Excellent Chapel Masters in the Employ of Noble and Noteworthy Personages*, *Said Music All Collected for the Reader's Delectation on the World Wide Web* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007), *A Classic Turn of Phrase: Music and the Psychology of Convention* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1988), and translator of *Studies on the Origin of Harmonic Tonality [an English translation of Carl Dahlhaus's Untersuchungen über die Entstehung der harmonischen Tonalität]* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990). His current research focuses on eighteenth century methods of training composers in the conservatories of Naples, Italy.



The McCallum Fine Arts Academy Orchestra

McCallum's Orchestra program began in 1953 with the opening of the school and has a history of accomplishments under the direction of highly qualified and dynamic orchestra directors. Today the program has grown to over 100 students participating in three performing orchestras, a double bass ensemble, and, with the support of the Austin Chamber Music Center's educational outreach, several chamber groups and ensembles. Director Ricky Pringle, who previously taught in the Houston suburb of the Woodlands, is in his ninth year with the McCallum orchestra. Under his leadership, his string orchestras have consistently received top scores at UIL concert and sight-reading, in both string and full orchestra competitions.



One of the signature accomplishments in the past five years is Mr. Pringle's work at the McCallum Fine Arts Academy with extraordinary collaborations of orchestras and string ensembles with other Academy students/directors in other strands, such as dance, theatre, and vocal music. The Chamber Orchestra with McCallum's combined choirs have performed masterworks including Schubert's *2nd Mass in G*, Handel's *Messiah*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Menotti's *Christmas Opera*, and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. In the pit, orchestra students have supported several theatre productions including *Oedipus Rex* and *The Last Five Years*.

The McCallum Fine Arts Academy Orchestra program receives invitations to perform at other venues with acclaimed programs like a Menotti production at Texas State University and performances at Carnegie Hall. Once again, the McCallum Orchestra performed in New York, participating in the Carnegie Hall Master Works Series this June. The orchestra performed Schubert's *Second Mass in G Major* with six choirs from around the country under the baton of André Thomas.



McCallum Fine Arts Academy Orchestra and Choir performing Schubert's *Mass in G* in Carnegie Hall, New York



Master Class Calendar

Friday, 6 November 2009

Introduction of Music by M^o Longobardi

Sunday, 8 November 2009

Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal

Monday, 9 November 2009

Chamber Orchestra Class

Tuesday, 10 November 2009

Chamber Orchestra Class

Music Theory AP Class

Advance Piano Class

After school rehearsal

Wednesday, 11 November 2009

Chamber Orchestra Class

Music Theory AP Class

Advance Piano Class

Thursday, 12 November 2009

Chamber Orchestra Class

Music Theory AP Class

Advance Piano Class

After school rehearsal

Friday, 13 November 2009

Chamber Orchestra Class

Saturday, 14 November 2009

Final Rehearsal

Lecture

Performance

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

3 P.M. Matinée

7 P.M Evening



McCallum Fine Arts Academy Chamber Orchestra in rehearsal with M^o Longobardi.



St. Martin's Lutheran Church The Perfect Setting for a Beautiful Night of Music



When traveling east on Enfield Road, St. Martin's is a stunning sight as one crests the bluff where Enfield becomes 15th Street, downtown. Its distinctive barrel vault copper roofline, exposed steel columns and soaring steeple represent the very best of late 1950s architecture.

Inside, the nave is impressive, with its 180-degree barrel vault ceiling resting upon steel beams, seemingly suspended above serpentine walls and stained glass clerestory windows; its floor entirely covered with 24 tons of imported Indian slate; and the massive four-story free-standing apse which enshrines a magnificent high altar carved in 1929 from the previous St. Martin Norman Gothic Church.



Turning to the rear gallery, the stately Visser Rowland Organ with its amed copper pedal towers, chrome principals and copper horizontal trumpets rises into the barrel vault encased in natural oak. Flanking it, matching oak pipe chambers are suspended from the flat portion of the ceiling, housing the Great and Swell divisions of the Kilgen Choir Organ installed in 1999. Its console is separate from that of the Visser Rowland, with a second console playable from either of the front transepts.

The sanctuary space became one of Austin's premier concert venues with the completion of a million dollar face lift to the nave, dedicated in November of 1999. The rear gallery was expanded and most of the sound-absorbing materials removed. The result exceeded our expectations as the building's natural acoustics now partner beautifully with voice and musical instruments. The delicate balance of clarity and musical bloom in the room can be heard during concerts in this glorius space.



Thomas Pavlechko
Cantor & Composer-in-Residence
St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin, Texas