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35 SEMI-ANNUAL

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# Greetings

THANK YOU, our audiences, our sponsors, our friends, for the BIG APPLAUSE to iPalpiti musicians!

Nothing can be more gratifying to musicians as full houses and thunderous applause, and 18th festival was another testimonial of musical celebration iPalpiti international musicians bring to thousands of SoCal audiences. Those who attended will feel gratified that critics agreed with the magnificence of iPalpiti, and those who missed it – this Opus is as close as you can get a glimpse of what was.

The Disney Hall grand-finale was video-recorded again – generously underwritten by the Rigler-Deutsch Foundation – and we plan to present a "broadcast" screening of the concert to those patrons who missed it.

We would like to share with you the reviews and the mementos from this summer. Enjoy!

Laura Schmieder, Director

# American Record Guide

independent critics reviewing classical recordings and music in concert

# IPALPITI ORCHESTRA LOS ANGELES JACQUES LOUSSIER: VIOLIN CONCERTO NO.2 (US PREMIERE)

This might come as a revelation to those who believe that all classical musical life in Los Angeles migrates outdoors in the good old summertime. For one evening in July, the iPalpiti Orchestra, the flagship of the region's Festival of International Laureates, holds its annual Grand Finale concert in Walt Disney Concert Hall, and it has become one of the highlights - in some years, the highlight - of the summer here. Founded by two Russian emigres, conductor Eduard Schmieder and his wife Laura, iPalpiti (Italian for "heartbeats", also the name of a Paganini piece) is composed of 22 expert young string players from all over the world. To emphasize the point, the flags of their countries of origin were hung in a colorful display in back of the stage. Yet the way these musicians played together July 25 with unforced ease and polished gorgeous tone, I was unaware of any national differences.

Schmieder's programming over the years has become quite imaginative and increasingly unpredictable. He isn't afraid to select favorites or obscurities from the past in styles that have gone out of fashion; nor is he reluctant to try new things. After a brief frolicking baroque Allegro by Joseph - Hector Fiocco, Schmieder coupled Arensky's unabashedly lush, now rarely heard Tchaikovsky Variations with Concerto No.2 for violin with tabla by Jacques Loussier, the same Loussier who is best known as the "Play Bach" jazz pianist. With violinist Alexandru Tomescu's silky timbre up front, the concerto turned out to be a pleasing goulash of tango rhythms, walking-bass jazz, and gypsy flourishes, with a steal from the Cuban hit song 'The Peanut Vendor' at the close of the second movement. All the while, Christopher Garcia's churning tabla (a pair of Indian drums) and mbwata (a Nigerian pottery drum) threw a bracing collection of ad libitum wrenches into the rhythmic machinery.

Tomescu and section violinist Davide de Ascaniis then served up Jacob Gade's 'Jalousie' in a Yehudi Menuhin-Stephane Grappelli version that fortunately decreased the high-fructose content with jazzy elaborations. "Dances and Romances from the Heart of the Old World" was a new label for an old concept, a throwback to the days when short classical pieces were marketed on 78 rpm records and played regularly at "pops" concerts. In quick succession, iPalpiti turned out Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances, Borodin's Nocturne, Boccherini's famous Minuet, the Waltz from Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings, the Rigaudon from Grieg's Holberg Suite, an oddball adaptation of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2, and, as an encore, Khachaturian's 'Sabre Dance'. In this company, Schnittke's 'Mischievous Polka' was not at all out of place. Although a few conductors like Michael Tilson Thomas and Leonard Slatkin have reembraced this tradition, one doesn't encounter it very often in the overture-concerto symphony world. The key to bringing this concept back to life is to invest as much care, nuance, and energy into these pieces as one might for a Brahms symphony. And iPalpiti did just that.

As a touching closing gesture, iPalpiti honored the memory of the great folk singer-actor-world citizen (and iPalpiti board member) Theodore Bikel, who had died four days earlier, by having all the violinists play the lead in a continuous loop of the tune popularly known as Haydn's Serenade.





# **ENSEMBLE 2015**

# **Eduard Schmieder, Music Director & Conductor FEATURED SOLOISTS**

Violinist Alexandru Tomescu, Romania

#### VIOLINS

Kreeta-Julia Heikkilä\*

Finland Co-Concertmaster

Irakli Tsadaia

Georgia

Co-Concertmaster

Niv Ashkenazy Israel-USA

Davide de Ascaniis

Italy

Azer Damirov

Azerbaijan

Anna Egholm

Denmark

Nora Hapca Romania

Noko Kawamura Japan

Alexander Kislitsyn

Pablo Rapado-Jambrina Spain

Yury Revich\* Austria

**Boris Borgolotto** 

France

Akhmed Mamedov

Turkmenistan

# 18<sup>™</sup> ANNUAL

# **FESTIVAL**

**VIOLAS** Joseph Kauffman USA

Midori Maruyama\*

Adelya Shagidullina Tatarstan

Can Sakul Turkey

**VIOLONCELLI** 

Lars Hoefs

USA-Brazil

Francisco Vila\* Ecuador

Jacob Shaw\*

UK -Denmark

Giorgi Kharadze Georgia-Germany

**BASS** 

Mariechen Meyer RSA

Svetlana Smolina Russia-USA

**PERCUSSION** "a most uncommon

percussionist"

Christopher Garcia

Los Angeles

\*Soloists in Encinitas July 8-12, 2015

# Dear Eduard and Laura and folks:

THANK YOU for inviting me to perform with iPalpiti - the boundless energy and enthusiasm of everyone, what an amazing EXPERIENCE. I am just a guy from EAST LOS Angeles, CA 4 miles down the street from the concert hall and I have been blessed to have opportunities performing on 5 continents. What you have done and continue to do is a tremendous blessing for all involved, with lots and lots and lots of hard work and LOVE, and for your graciousness, and kindness, and generosity I THANK YOU.

Christopher Garcia

Symphony Orchestra in Norway and the Norrlands Opera in Sweden, and perform in her piano trio in Copenhagen with iPalpiti cellist Jacob Shaw.

Cellist Kian Soltani, Austria, most recently became a scholarship recipient from Anne-Sofie Mutter Foundation in 2014/2015. He is engaged with concerts in Tonhalle Zurich, with the NDR Radio Sinfonieorchestra Hamburg, Sinfonieorchestra Liechtenstein Munich, Rome, and many others.





GUY BRAUNSTEIN, DANIEL BARENBOIM AND KIAN SOLTANI PLAY BEETHOVEN'S TRIPLE CONCERTO AT BBC PROMS, LONDON



# Alumnus violinist Vadim Tchijik, **France**

Concert violinist, founder and artistic director of FOUR music festivals in France. Professor of the Toulouse Conservatorie.

# Alumnus violinist Vladimir Dyo was a soloist UN concert at Carnegie Hall, NY





With Ulsan Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong-Jae Kim conductor, and Sumi Jo - one of the worlds greatest coloratura soprano.

## Dear Laura and Dr. Schmieder,

My heart is full of memories and warm feelings which I will never forget. iPalpiti is a festival where I can laugh more than in many months. The facilities and experiences which you create and offer to your musicians are unique! Many musicians could only dream to be in my position. I am truly grateful of what I feel and learn through your festival. I am full of inspiration and ideas to bring classical music to the people and new audience. I highly respect both of you and your sense of music making. And it is really rare to hear every day that someone says "I love you all"! This great gesture from Dr. Schmieder made my days. I am very much looking forward to study under him and learn more from his passion for music and to deliver it forward in many ways in the future. Sincerely, Kreeta-Julia

# **SEASON MEMENTOS**

# Festival begins in **Encinitas**

Responding to intense audience demand from points south, Festival began with a return to Encinitas, featuring five soloists in daily concerts from July 9-12 at their oceanview Encinitas Library. The City of Encinitas enthusiastically embraced iPalpiti, so in the following week, entire iPalpiti arrived to this lovely ocean community (a huge bonus for our musicians to be 3 blocks from the beach!), preparing exciting programs for SOKA and Los Angeles and present Virtuosi V recital and FREE community orchestra concert at San Dieguitos Amphitheater.



First day arrival rehearsal



Full house every day.



Kreeta, Jacob & cello



Mayor Maestro with Encinitas Kristin Gaspar and her adopted celebrity dachshund Frankie.







Encinitas Soloists Francisco Vila/Ecuador, Kreeta-Julia Heikkila/Finland, Yury Revich/Austria, Midori Maruyama/Japan, Svetlana Smolina/USA-Russia, Jacob Shaw/UK-Denmark



# **Rotary MEETS iPalpiti**

Pictured right - City of Beverly Hills Arts & Culture Dept. Brad Meyerowitz, Patty Acuna, Sara Scrimshaw with Laura Schmieder and Alice Roston, incoming President of the Beverly Hills





Maestro Eduard Schmieder, Rotarian and iPalpiti Advisory Board member Wanda Pressburger with iPalpiti artists

# Meet the Artists Gala



Romanian Consul General Eugen Chivu awards hosts Dr. Said & Jila Rahban with recognition from LA County Supervisor Sheila



Vice Chair Ada Sands with patrons Marilyn Stampler and Yana Shukman







For a performance encore Spanish Pablo Rapado Jambrina and French Boris Borgolotto improvised a duo on famous Monte' Czardas.





iPalpiti musicians received commendations from LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl.



Pianist Svetlana Smolina with Ada Sands and board member Nathan Frankel

# **Disney Concert and Post-Disney Reception**



Rehearsal at the Disney Concert Hall.



Romanian State Soloist Alexandru Tomescu iPalpiti alumnus - after performing Jacques ' Jazz-Gypsy concerto.



Final bow: well-deserved 7 minutes (!) of applause



ELF board member John Lee with iPalpiti beauties: Midori Maruyama, violist & Noko Kawamura, violinist/Japan.





It was so magical and fantastic. The energy and passion was tremendous. We gave many standing ovations to the

Thank you so much, **MaryJane Mitchell** 



# WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS, DEDICATED AND NEW.

"Classical music is the spiritual factor that brings people together and unites them irrespective of religion and culture, appealing to sublime senses" - Eduard Schmieder

PLEASE CONSIDER iPalpiti IN YOUR END-OF-THE-YEAR GIVING. DONATE ONLINE: www.ipalpiti.org/Donate

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December 2014 - November 2015. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list.

Any omissions are sincerely regretted.

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# 13th Annual Leo Frankel Tribute

On November 14, 2015, 80 guests gathered to support the Leo Frankel Memorial Fund. The Tribute was held at the home of iPalpiti's long-time supporters Helena and Stanley Kolodziey. Performing Mendelssohn' Piano Trio N 2, Nathan, iPalpiti board member, was lead violinist, with Anastasya Terenkova, pianist and cellist Evgeny Tonkha. The Twilight Dinner was set in the house indoor-outdoor beautiful grounds.

Nathan's love for his father and devotion to music merge in this annual tribute to honor Leo's commitment to iPalpiti artists. Established in 2003, the Fund honors Leo Frankel, a founding board member of iPalpiti, and a gifted violinist. Leo's son, Nathan, continues in his father's steps.

Since its founding, iPalpiti has provided essential support to 248 musicians in 45 countries. Through the Frankel Fund the legacy of Leo's love for music continues to support the most outstanding and deserving young professional classical musicians of this generation. The Frankel Fund is a significant contributor toward the ongoing success of iPalpiti.



L to R (front/back rows): Benefactors Herb & Annette Wolas, Harold & Lenny Schloss, Mikhail & Tonia Gershfeld, pianist Anastasya Terenkova, "Pink Lady" Jackie Goldberg (guest of not pictured Albert Sweet), Mary Levin Cutler, Thomas Dengler, Rebecca & Nathan Frankel, HOSTS Helena & Stanley Kolodziey, Dr. Robert Schwartz, Anita Lorber, Mr. & Mrs. Yuri Spiro, Ariane David, Dr. Jim Eninger.



L to R: Nathan, iPalpiti board member and lead violinist, Anastasya Terenkova, pianist and cellist Evgeny Tonkha.

Thank you very much indeed for a wonderful evening at Walt Disney Concert Hall. The programme was perfect... the evening exceeded all expectations. Daryl Cameron | Chief of Staff/British Consulate-General

I am on the Expo Line back home after enjoying an evening of amazing music at the Walt Disney Concert. I am enamored by iPalpiti.

Thank you for the gift of this once-a-year experience. Nora O'Connor

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Few of our members are aware that when we present young artists in iPalpiti programs, we cover ALL expenses (international travel, hotel, meals, local, transportation, venues) and give awards. We produce memorable annual brochures with each artist's photo & bio, and listing every sponsor.

- •100% of Your Contribution goes toward support of exceptional prize-winning young professional classical musicians from around the world, promoting peace and understanding through music.
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# **UPCOMING**

# **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2015 2:00 PM**

**Annual Holiday Appreciation Party** 

Once a Year, NO AGENDA... for Board Members, Benefactors, Volunteers. By INVITATION Only.

# **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2016 5:00PM**

iPalpiti Musicales in New York

PAVEL ŠPORCL: THE INCOMPARABLE WORLD OF THE BLUE VIOLIN

Home of Susan & Charles Avery Fisher



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016 1:00 PM\*
Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium: Pavel plays
Mendelssohn concerto

# WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016 6:00PM

Screening of iPalpiti Concert at Disney Hall from Festival 2015

Private home, Los Angeles

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2016 6:00PM iPalpiti alumnus:
Juan-Miguel Hernandez
Violist of the legendary
Fine Arts Quartet
Private Home, Los Angeles



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2016 3:00PM

SOKA Performing Arts Center: Miguel plays Mozart Sinfonia Concertante with Pacific Symphony

\*Visit www.iPalpiti.org for Invitations/RSVP/Host locations

...captivated...the program was extremely rich in content, touching on a whole series of memories/emotions, with the acute execution of iPalpiti once again proving the brilliance of this ensemble concept.

The (nearly?) uniquely exposing acoustic of Disney Hall revealed the results -- the myriad sound spaces a string ensemble can achieve. Magnificent!

# Mark Evans,

Delos Records/OWN TV/iPalpiti's brochures designer

iPalpiti Artists International, Inc. 1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1880 Los Angeles, CA 90067

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Wishing you a joyous HOLIDAY SEASON and a HAPPY NEW YEAR, filled with Peace, Prosperity & Music!

