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DEDICATED TO THE ARTISTIC CAREER ADVANCEMENT OF EXCEPTIONALLY GIFTED YOUNG PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS AND TO THE PROMOTION OF PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING THROUGH MUSIC.

39
SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSCHITER

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Dear Friends and Music Aficionados:

I am pleased to report that our 20th annual iPalpiti Festival was EXCEPTIONAL, and the following tour to Salzburg's Mozarteum produced memorable and super successful performances. The Austrians STOOD UP(!) and demanded numerous encores. The leitmotif comment "this one is the best ever!" – which we hear EVERY year – only challenges us for the seasons to come. Thank you for your patronage - it could not have happened without our audience and supporters. In this post-festival Opus, we share with you the feature LA Times dedicated to our 20th season and the mementos from this summer. Enjoy!

Los Angeles Times

iPalpiti fest beats strong: Stellar showcase of elite young musicians turns 20





Post-concert: Maestro Schmieder, Cameron, Helena & Stanley Kolodziey, Mrs & Mr. Shinoda of Nakamichi Foundation.

Rick Schultz | July 19, 2017 | Read full feature: http://www.ipalpiti.org/ipalpiti-fest-beats-strong-los-angeles-times-july-19-2017

Inside [iPalpiti's] Century City office are posters from several years of the iPalpiti Festival of International Laureates, the annual showcase for young-adult musicians Laura Schmieder and her husband, Eduard, founded 20 years ago. One poster for the concert of the 2005 festival at Disney Hall shows photos of the iPalpiti orchestra, Eduard Schmieder, who is the orchestra's conductor and music director, and a young man in dark glasses, a long black coat... "That's Cameron," she says. As in Cameron Carpenter, the star organist that Times music critic Mark Swed has called "astoundingly original" and "full of joy and daring." ... Laura Schmieder recalls of Carpenter's audition at the Juilliard School in New York for that festival. "After he played a few bars, Eduard turned to me and said, 'We take him.' It was such an explosion of talent." ... Since its founding in 1997 as Young Artists International by the Schmieders, the orchestra, festival and musical-talent network known as iPalpiti since 2008, has fostered the careers of 379 musicians from 45 countries. Reached by phone in Encinitas where the festival began last Thursday, Eduard recalls violinist Karina Canellakis, who made her iPalpiti debut in 2004. Canellakis leads the L.A. Philharmonic on Aug. 8 at the Hollywood Bowl ..., returning in April to conduct the L.A. Chamber Orchestra. "Karina was very musical with a lot of intellect, which helps to become a conductor," Eduard says. Carpenter and Canellakis, as well as pianist Valentina Lisitsa and crossover violinist David Garrett, are just some of the talents who got their start with iPalpiti (Italian for "heartbeats").

... the full iPalpiti string orchestra ... typically draws connoisseurs of the ensemble's precision, warmth and intensity, as well as those curious to see emerging young professionals. This year's festival features 23 musicians from 18 countries, including six concertmasters from international orchestras. Some of them return, Laura said, because they see iPalpiti as a rejuvenating experience. ... Along with returning veterans, the ensemble's younger players — 21 and up — are indeed laureates, prizewinners who need the right platform to help them toward the next career step. "We take care of these young people who have dedicated their lives to the tradition of classical music," Eduard says. From May to August, Eduard will have participated in 10 festivals in seven countries, including a second invitation to conduct the iPalpiti Orchestra at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. "I never go for famous," Eduard says. "I go for talent... I listen for honesty and positive emotional energy in performance."

Conductor Schmieder, a Russian-trained violinist who is also director of strings at Temple University's Boyer College of Music in Philadelphia, says he's especially proud that iPalpiti is a nonprofit organization. "The great violinist and humanitarian Yehudi Menuhin helped get us off to a good start by lending us his name," he says. "Maybe I'm naive, but...if people supported each other, there would be peace."

The orchestra's Disney Hall program on July 29 includes Mozart's Adagio and Fugue in C minor... Sinfonia Concertante ... and the Beethoven-Mahler Quartetto "Serioso." Eduard says the program "starts with tragedy and ends with sunshine," adding that the encores, announced from the stage, will be "very unusual."

While the L.A.-based couple share the joy of fostering gifted musicians, it is Laura who had to become a Jill-of-all-trades. She handles iPalpiti's chamber music programming (Eduard takes care of the orchestral side) and everything else, from visa problems to lost instruments. "Because of her administrative abilities, it's sometimes easy to forget that Laura is a first-rate music coach and teacher who has done some transformative things in chamber music," says iPalpiti chairman Jonathan Steinberg. "She's a big presence." Over the years, Laura says iPalpiti has been "very choosy" about what they perform. "Musicians take notice of our programming," she says. "It has to be music that moves you." On July 30, the festival concludes at LACMA's Bing Theater with Ernest Chausson's seldom-performed Concerto in D for Violin, Piano and String Quartet. "I waited 20 years to put this piece on a program," Laura says. "It's massive, so you need the right group, the right combination."

Although Eduard demurred when asked about highlights of the past 20 years, Laura offered this: "For me, the ensemble's first rehearsal is always the highlight," she says. "After handling so many logistics to make the festival possible, I say I'll never do it again. Then I hear the sound they immediately make and think, It was worth it."



MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR Eduard Schmieder

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**iPalpiti Featured Soloists

20[™] ANNUAL

FESTIVAL ORCHESTRAL ENSEMBLE 2017

VIOLAS

Victor de Almeida* Australia-Brazil-USA

Juan-Miguel Hernandez** Canada

Joseph Kauffman

Alexandr Kislitsyn Russia

Can Sakul Turkey

VIOLONCELLI

Ofer Canetti* Israel

Jaani Helander Finland

Gundula Leitner Austria

Ecuador

Republic of South Africa

PIANO

*Soloists in Encinitas festival †concertmaster



Concert at Rolling Hills UMC: Gyehee Kim, First Prize Winner of the Enescu International Violin Competition & Special iPalpiti Prize ecipient, was featured as a soloist in Schubert's Rondo in A







iPalpiti alumni violinist Sami Merdinian & cellist Yves Dharamraj, co-founders of the New Docta Festival in Cordoba, Argentina - in their 5th season outreached 1500 children, pictured here at the Teatro del Libertador San Martín, with fellow musicians from NY. Eduard & Laura Schmieder visited as special guests, with Maestro giving a master class and serving as a member of the jury for New Docta International Competition.



iPalpiti's FIRST singer, Latonia Moore, was featured in 1999! We knew then she was destined to succeed. The next year, she won the Met Young Artists Auditions. In 2012, Opera News Magazine wrote: "...There are so few sopranos who seem able to lay claim to the Italian repertoire that there is bound to be plenty of excitement when one breaks through. That happened when Latonia Moore made an unexpected **debut** at the Metropolitan Opera, filling in for an indisposed Violeta Urmana in the title role of Aida. Moore has a gleaming spinto sound, with thrilling cut, a wide range of vocal colors and a stunning pianissimo... is a born stage performer." The New York Times review added further praise: "she received an ecstatic ovation...her voice was radiant, plush and sizable at its best, with gleaming top notes that broke through the chorus and orchestra ... Moore has enormous potential." With 52 records and Askonas Holt management, she finished this season as Aida at the English National Opera, where iPalpiti Chairman Jonathan Steinberg heard her in early October.

Karina Canellakis leads a full Askonas Holt line-up in their debut with the Orquesta y Coro Nacionales de España performing Rachmaninov's choral masterpiece, The Bells. Since the start of the season, Karina has had her BBC Proms debut, her debut with the Rundfunk Sinfonieorchester Berlin and a re-invitation to Opernhaus Zurich for a production of Mozart's Die Zauberflöte. After Madrid, she has her debut with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra before returning to her hometown of New York. In August, she was conducting the LA Phil at the Hollywood Bowl and, in April 2018, she returns to LA to conduct LACO.





iPalpiti alumni (1994-1997) violinist Yevgenia Pikovsky and violist Dmitri Ratush are principals of the Israel Philharmonic and are a power music couple in Israel. Married as students while studying with Prof. Schmieder in Dallas, they were among the "original" members of iPalpiti. On October 30th, they complete the IPO tour of the US at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. Returning to their home, BOTH take two weeks from IPO to join iPalpiti on our tour to Israel!



FESTIVAL MEMENTOS

The festival opened in Encinitas (iPalpiti's 6th season in this welcoming oceanside community), featuring six happy soloists.









The iPalpiti orchestra held residency in the City of Beverly Hills, with daily rehearsals at the Municipal Gallery. Rehearsals are FUN.









Greystone Mansion concert



Israeli cellist Ofer Canetti with his sponsor, Mr. Roger Berg



Backstage keyboard warm-up



A moving performance of the Rachmaninov Trio was deeply appreciated



Laura introducing musicians - all 23 one by one

Concerts at LACMA: July 23 & 30



Jacopo Giacopuzzi & Gyehee Kim in solo recital

Illustrous alumni Kazuhiro Takagi & Juan-Miguel Hernandez opened with the Haendel-Halvorsen Passacaglia, followed by Chausson Concerto for Violin, Piano & String Quartet. -->





Post-concert congrats from fellow iPalpitians

Festival Grand Finale at Walt Disney Concert Hall



Mozart Sinfonia Concertante was divine with featured soloists violinist Samuel Nebyu and iPalpiti alumnus violist Juan-Miguel Hernandez (who also played as an iPalpiti member in the Salzburg concerts).



Well-deserved standing ovation.



Post-concert reception at the Founders Hall: << iPalpiti Artists with Benefactors and the Board



iPalpiti concertmaster Peter Rainer with board members of the Ernest Lieblich Foundation.

Salzburg, Mozarteum: August 13-17, 2017

iPalpiti in Salzburg was underwritten by iPalpiti Chairman Jonathan Steinberg & Dr. Buf C. Meyer and the following supporters:

Anonymous, Joyce & Aubrey Chernick, Lisa & Gary Foster, Nathan Frankel, Dr. Bernard Franklin, Thomas Dengler, Michael Gendler & Jessica Teich, David & Kiki Gindler, Ann Leonard, Nancy Scanlan, Trudy & Herman Zillgen.



Concert 1 featured renowned baritone Wolfgang Holzmair in Schubert songs, in a special orchestral arrangement by Sergei Dreznin



Post-concert dinner at the famous Sternbräu



Concert 2: Alumnus violist Juan-Miguel Hernandez & violinist Samuel Nebyu were featured soloists in Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante.



Final goodbyes.

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iPalpiti performances and programs have won unanimous praise around the world. Starting a 3rd decade, we must work towards our long-term sustainability. Help iPalpiti continue our commitment to talented young classical professional musicians, and to our community. PLEASE DONATE NOW AT iPalpiti.org

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November, 2016 -October, 2017

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IN BETWEEN...

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017 7:00 PM Pavel Šporcl & his BLUE VIOLIN

at the Hollywood Hills "Moroccan" home of Sari Zelikowsky



Pavel Šporcl played an impressive solo program of Bach, Ysaÿe, Paganini, his own Czech Anthem virtuoso variations, and Gypsy improvisations for iPalpiti patrons, the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences members, and friends in a "Moroccan" home in the Hollywood Hills. The special surprise was the appearance of *Miss Nations of the World California Ambassador Lauren Dani*. In the photo, **L-R**: host Sari Zelikowsky, Benefactor Dr. Bernard Franklin, Miss Nations Lauren Dani, Pavel Šporcl & his blue violin, Benefactors Annette & Herb Wolas.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017 6:00 PM

"Broadcast" screening of selections from the 2017 Grand Finale Concert at Disney Hall & Mozarteum Salzburg Hillcrest Country Club Hosted by iPalpiti founding Chair Mary Levin Cutler for

NOVEMBER 19 - DECEMBER 2, 2017

iPalpiti's next destination: ISRAEL!

Benefactors & Special Friends

iPalpiti orchestra, under the direction of Maestro Eduard Schmieder, will be in residence at the famous kibbutz Keshet Eilon Music Center in the Northern Galilee, continuing with eight concerts in all major cities and venues, including Tel Aviv Museum of the Arts and YMCA Jerusalem.

Come to Keshet to vacation with iPalpiti! Call: 310.205.0511

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017 3:00PM

In collaboration with and under the auspices of Consul General of Azerbaijan Nasimi Aghayev

Azer Damirov, violin/iPalpiti alumnus & Cem Oslu, piano

Performing Azerbaijani Mugam & Romantic Classics Home of Ada Sands, Brentwood



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Presented in New York at the home of Susan and Charles Avery Fisher since 2007

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2018 7:00PM

iPalpiti alumni to share music & impact of their Argentina's New Docta Festival

Sami Merdinian, violin Yves Dharamraj, cello & Solange Merdinian, Mezzo-Soprano

APRIL

Day/Artist(s) TBA

*All private events are by invitation only. Inquire at info@iPalpiti.org or call 310.205.0511 Visit www.iPalpiti.org for Invitations/RSVP/Host locations iPalpiti Artists International, Inc. 1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1880 Los Angeles, CA 90067

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!...until next celebration with iPalpiti in 2018!

