



A m a d e u s

November 2012

Newsletter

A publication of the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta, Inc.

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Don't Forget to...

**Make Reservations
for the 2012 Holiday Gala**

Notes about Mozart:



Admirer: Herr Mozart, I am thinking of writing symphonies. Can you give me any suggestions as to how to get started?

Mozart: A symphony is a very complex musical form. Perhaps you should begin with some simple lieder and work your way up to a symphony.

Admirer: But Herr Mozart, you were writing symphonies when you were 8 years old.

Mozart: Yes, but I never asked anybody how.

Caroline Thomas in Concert

Sunday, November 18, 3 p.m.



The Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta presents world-renowned soprano Caroline Thomas of Detmold, Germany in concert in the sanctuary of [Peachtree Christian Church](#). Ms. Thomas has held a full professorship at one of Germany's leading university-level schools of music, the Hochschule für Musik Detmold, since 2002. She will be assisted by soprano Rhonda Hambright and accompanied by pianist Randy Elkins (Pro-Mozart's past Vice President of Programs). *A meet-the-artists reception follows in Stew Wood Hall.*

The concert is open to Pro-Mozart Members, \$15 to Non-Members, \$5 to Students

Peachtree Christian Church, Sanctuary
1580 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta



Rhonda Hambright
Assisting Soprano



Randy Elkins
Piano Accompanist

Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m.

Pro-Mozart Atlanta also is presenting Miss Thomas in a Master Class for university students of voice and their professors. Limited seating available.

The Lovett School Chorus Room
4075 Paces Ferry Road, NW, Atlanta 30327

Pro-Mozart Holiday Gala Saturday December 1



This year's Holiday Gala, our primary scholarship fundraiser, is just around the corner. If you have not marked December 1 on your calendar, you will want to do so now.

We will be at the beautiful Thalia N. Carlos Hellenic Center of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, and the festivities will begin at 6:30 p.m. and go until 10:00 p.m. There will be a wonderful silent auction filled with not-to-be-missed items. And as always, all funds raised benefit our scholarship fund.

Party-goers will be treated to a seated dinner provided by Proof of the Pudding. Featured entertainment will be by The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, the Kanzanetti String Quartet and the Premier Brass Ensemble. And this year, we will present an award to nationally recognized choral conductor, William O. Baker.



Dr. Baker founded the original William Baker Festival Singers in 1985 and now there are three Festival Singers choirs that include the Kansas City and Atlanta ensembles and the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers. His first summer ensemble, the Summer Singers of Atlanta, was created in 1990. The William Baker Choral Foundation also is committed to serving children and youth with opportunities for meaningful choral participation. The Northside Young Singers was founded in 2008 and in 2011 and 2012 performed to large and enthusiastic audiences at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina. In the nearly twenty-eight years of Festival Singers tradition, and in the twenty-three years since the Choral Foundation itself was founded, thousands of singers have given hundreds of concerts and offered dozens of recordings, broadcasts and tours. Dr. Baker states that it has been and remains his vision to enrich lives and change destinies with every note of music that his choral groups offer. It is for these reasons that this outstanding musician was

chosen to be our 2012 Gala honoree. I know you will want to be a part of this wonderful evening as we support our scholarship fund and honor Dr. William O. Baker for his significant musical contributions.

And last, but most certainly not least, Herb Buffington reports, "It is my distinct privilege to announce that the honorary chair of the 2012 gala will be Mrs. Donald Dietrichs. Marilyn's many and significant contributions to The Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta extend back to the late 1960's, just after the Society was founded. Without her dedication over these many years, including holding the office of President during a period of unprecedented membership growth and community involvement, our Society would not be what it is today. Thank you Marilyn for all that you have done and continue to do for our Society."

Look for your Holiday Gala invitation in the mail and purchase your tickets by returning the reply card along with your payment. Or you may go to our Web site, www.MozartAtlanta.com and purchase your tickets online.

A Message from Our President



Greetings to all of our members and friends,

Our 48th season is underway with much excitement. To a great degree that is due to the commitment of new board members and committee chairs.

Thank you to these dedicated individuals who serve on the Executive Committee for the 2012-2013 season: Claire Hanson, executive vice president; James Gorsline, vice president of finance; Ulrich Weiss, vice president of membership; Kevin Pritchett, vice president for programs; Rex Simms and Joy Simms, vice presidents for scholarships; Peter Parsonson, vice president for publicity; Mary Ann Wilson, recording secretary; and Carolyn Rich, parliamentarian. Jonathan Jarrell serves as legal counsel.

Also serving are past presidents and members-at-large Marilyn Dietrichs, Mary Ann Hill-Meehan, and Fay Selvage. Committee chairs for the season: Holiday Gala, Sandra Minnich; Amadeus Newsletter, Ingrid Hanson; Telephone, Betty Arden; Web site, Gene Sanders; and Patron's Party, Sherry and Kevin Pritchett and Christina and Victor Polizos.

Some of these folks have served us before and others are new to our leadership; we appreciate your time, talents and energy both new and old!

The President's Reception on October 20 saw approximately 70 people in attendance, who enjoyed wonderful food by Jerry Dilts & Associates. Featured artist soprano Megan Brunning performed beautifully five famous operatic arias by Mozart. She was accompanied by pianist, Grant Jones. Benjamin Rollings, our 2012 scholarship winner, attended and spoke to the crowd about his experiences at the Mozarteum this past summer and how appreciative he is to Pro-Mozart Atlanta for giving him the opportunity. How wonderful it was to have such affirming feedback; I hope that makes you proud as a member to be able to help further classical music education and appreciation.

November 18 will be our first concert of the season, featuring Miss Caroline Thomas, world-renowned soprano of Detmold, Germany, assisted by soprano Rhonda Hambright and accompanied by our own Randy Elkins. More information about the event, including a Master Class the previous day, can be found elsewhere in this issue of Amadeus.

And mark your calendars for the 28th Holiday Gala, Saturday, December 1, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Hellenic Community Center of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation on Clairmont Road. The black-tie-optional fundraising event, which supports our scholarship fund, includes dinner, a live concert and a silent auction. Great auction items are already piling up, waiting for your bids and the gift-giving season. See the full article on the 2012 Gala in Amadeus and look for your Gala invitation soon.

Also this season:

- Patron's Party, Saturday, January 26, 2013, 6 p.m.
- Choral Ensembles from the William Baker Choral Foundation in concert, Sunday, February 10, 2013, 3 p.m.
- Scholarship competition final round, Sunday, March 10, 2013, 2 p.m.
- 2012 Scholarship Winner Benjamin Rollings in concert, Sunday, April 21, 2013, 5 p.m.
- Spring Fling members' concert, Sunday, May 5, 2013, 2 p.m.
- Annual Meeting and Picnic, Sunday, June 16, 2013, 4 p.m.

Please join me in sharing the great offerings of the Pro-Mozart Society. Thank you for being part of it and helping us bring wonderful music and music education to friends, neighbors, colleagues and, especially, so many talented young people.

Yours for great music,

Herb Buffington
President

The Pro-Mozart Society Up-Coming Events

November 17, 2012 – Caroline Thomas, soprano, Masterclass on Saturday at 10am, The Lovett School, Chorus Room, 4075 Paces Ferry Road, NW, Atlanta, GA 30327

November 18, 2012 - Caroline Thomas, soprano, In Concert, 3:00pm, Peachtree Christian Church Sanctuary, 1580 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30309

December 1, 2012 – Holiday Gala Scholarship Fundraiser, 6:30pm, The Thalia N. Carlos Hellenic Community Center Ballroom, Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, 2500 Clairmont Rd. Atlanta, Ga. 30329

January 26, 2013 – Patrons' Party, 6:30pm, private home

February 10, 2013 - Choral Ensembles from the William Baker Choral Foundation In Concert, 3pm, St. Benedict's Episcopal Church, 2160 Cooper Lake Road Southeast, Smyrna, GA 30080

March 10, 2013 - Scholarship Competition Final Round, 2:00pm, venue to be determined

April 21, 2013 - Benjamin Rollings, pianist, In Concert , 2012 Scholarship Winner, 5:00pm, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, 3180 Peachtree Road, NW, Atlanta, GA 30305

May 5, 2013 - Spring Fling Members' Concert, 2:00pm, venue to be determined

June 16, 2013 - Annual Meeting and Picnic, 4:00pm, venue to be determined

Be sure to visit our Website, www.MozartAtlanta.com for a complete listing of events in our 2012-2013 season.



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