



ROSSINI NOTES

VOL. 151 NO. 2 Newsletter of the Portland Rossini Club

Winter 2022

From Our President

“Winter completes herself, yet almost as an afterthought she may, in fit and starts, turn around and launch one last tremor of cold. Nevertheless, something is inexorably moving in us. The daylight is two and a half hours longer than when we began our trek in January. Day and night divide down the middle in equinoctial harmony and balance. Nature, from which we came, completes itself as, calling us to yield to the rising tide of light and life.”

There are little bits of tulips coming up in raised beds, a welcome sign of spring in these extremely trying times. Like phoenix rising from the ashes, these little half inch bits of green pack enough power to help turn around my thoughts when they turn grim after having watched too much news. There are so many questions without a lot of answers. However, one thing is certain, while music may not give answers, it has a great power to soothe the soul and so, let it now play on more than ever.

We have celebrated 150 years of Rossini and are now embarking on the next 150 years! COVID has subsided and we can now enjoy having concerts mask-free at St. Luke's. After the Richard Roberts Concert on March 27th, we have two more remaining performances, one in April and the last one in May.

(continued in column 3)

**To All Active, Privileged,
Honorary, and
Associate Members**

**CALL TO OUR
BUSINESS MEETING
(Masks optional)**

**Following our
Richard Roberts
Memorial Concert
Date: Sunday, March 27**

**Place: Upper Hall of
St. Luke's Cathedral**

BUSINESS AGENDA

**Officer and Committee
Reports**

**Discuss Acoustical Panels
To buy or not to buy**

Young person programming?

**Instrumental performers
for May?**

May Annual Meeting

(continued from column 1)

Having served as your president for several years now, I have learned that in order to keep this club vital, we must attract new members. To that end, this August, we shall have an outdoor concert, this time on the grounds of the Portland Squash Center on Noyes Street. This concert will feature both members of Rossini performing as well as some young guests. The Squash Center is a place which attracts many young people not only to play squash but also for a variety of other programs they offer. It is very family oriented and I'm hoping that our concert there will attract some new members. You will be hearing more about that as time goes on.

Please help us keep this wonderful club alive. Attend concerts, meetings, share your ideas and invite friends and neighbors to come to performances. Please feel free to contact me with any questions/ideas you may have!

Sydney Patten
President, Portland Rossini Club
978-771-0552
sydpatten@gmail.com

From Our Program Chair

Because our January concert (a tribute to Richard Roberts) occurred in the midst of the COVID Omicron variant spike, we decided to offer a Zoom concert. That concert was put together from historic recordings by Dale Ashby and assembled in a “movie” by Dermot Bostock. The movie was later posted to YouTube and offered to Portland Media Center’s Channel 5 for broadcast.

The performance scheduled for January was postponed until March 27.

February’s “test” concert at the Portland Conservatory of Music’s new building at 28 Neal Street was a success but not as well attended as St. Luke’s concerts. We thank the Conservatory for granting this opportunity. We understand that the stage at the Conservatory will be reconfigured to allow better sight lines and recording opportunities as part of future renovations.

The Richard Roberts memorial concert will be held at St. Luke’s on March 27. The winter meeting of the members is scheduled just after the concert. The program for April 24th is almost complete and will be held at St. Luke’s. A group of singers from the USM Osher School of Music will be performing at the May 15 concert. We do need one or two instrumentalists from our Club to perform in May. The Annual membership meeting will be held after that performance.

An outdoor concert is scheduled for August at Portland Community Squash at 66 Noyes Street in Portland. This concert is intended to appeal to young people as we would like to encourage younger performers to join our ranks. A couple of acts have been “booked,” and we are looking for more. The repertoire should tend toward light classical—we will have a keyboard there but no piano.

Hope to see you all soon.

Susanna Adams, Program Chair

OUR OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2021 - 2022

President: Sydney Patten
sydpatten@gmail.com

First Vice-President-Programs: Susanna Adams
saviolabow@maine.rr.com

Jonathan Prak
jonathan.prak@maine.edu

Second Vice-President-Scholarships: Scott Eaton
scotteaton92@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Torrey Gimpel
tngimpel@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Sheila McGarr
smcgarr1@maine.rr.com

Assistant Treasurer: Mathew Nichols
mathewdnichols@icloud.com

Piano Chair: Scott Eaton
scotteaton92@gmail.com

Candidate Chair: Barbara Graustein
barbgrau@gmail.com

Communications Committee Chair: Sheila McGarr
smcgarr1@maine.rr.com

Portland Rossini Club

Coming Programs

March 27

April 24

May 15

Comments or Thoughts or Something to Share?

Please email to Rossini Notes editor, Beth Harmon, bethharmon2@gmail.com, before April 25, for the May issue.