

PORTLAND ROSSINI CLUB

145th Season

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke
Portland, Maine

3:00 PM
Sunday, March 20, 2016

President
Program Chair

Cecile DeRoche-Cain
Luette Saul

Program

Auf dem Strom

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Molly Harmon, soprano *
Seth Blank, horn
Mark Braun, piano

Etude in C sharp minor, Op. 25, No. 7 (1836)
Ballade in F minor, Op. 52 (1843)

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

Richard Roberts, piano

A City Morning
In the Amber Light
Sonatina
The Towing Path

Derek Herzer (b. 1983)

York Bowen (1884-1961)
John Ireland (1914-1992)

Derek Herzer, piano*

Two Landscapes (*premier performance*)
I. Springtime Elegy
II. Coast of Maine--a Saltarello

Arthur Welwood (b. 1934)

Robert Enman, piano
Bill Meyers, cello*
Stephen Schiffman, clarinet

* Guest

We request that the audience reserve its applause until the end of each performance

Please join us for a reception following the program

You are invited to our next program, which will take place here Sunday, April 24

Many thanks to St. Luke's Cathedral for the use of their facilities for our programs

Today's Performers

Seth Blank, Horn: Seth Blank has played horn since elementary school in New York. He participated in a wide variety of symphonic, opera, chamber and solo work while attending Boston University for both undergraduate and Medical School. Since settling in Maine in 1992, he has played with the Southern Maine Symphony, the Maine State Ballet Orchestra and the Centennial Brass Band, and he substitutes in the Midcoast Symphony Orchestra. Seth is a physician in the Portland area and has been a member of Rossini Club since 2004.

Mark Braun, Piano: Mark Braun grew up in Minneapolis, MN, moved to Chicago at age 28 and came to Maine on the winds of the blizzard of '96. Since becoming an active member of both the Marston-Kotzschmar Club and the Portland Rossini Club in 1996, he has played music of all eras and has performed solo, four-hand and eight-hand compositions and chamber music, including sonatas for French horn and piano, and trios for piano, French horn, and violin or voice, and recently the Britten *Canticles*. He writes his own program notes, finding that the process helps him to better understand and interpret what he's performing. He is on the board of the Portland Conservatory of Music and is an internist in Scarborough.

Robert Enman, Piano: Robert Enman studied both piano and violin as a youth in Oregon. As a graduate student at Yale his focus was on the piano where he earned a Master's Degree in performance. While he has taught piano and appeared in solo and chamber music in each of his teaching positions at the college and private school levels, he has also maintained his skills as a violinist in several symphonies, including his current role as a member of the first violin section in the Bangor Symphony. Having recently retired, Robert is increasingly active in several chamber groups including a piano trio, various instrumental duos, a two piano team, and as violinist in a string quartet. Robert joined Rossini Club in 2013.

Molly Harmon, Soprano: Molly Harmon has performed as a chorus member and soloist numerous times in the southern Maine area with the University of Southern Maine Chamber Singers, USM Chorale, Choral Art Society, the St. Mary Schola, Lincoln Festival Chorus and the Portland Symphony Orchestra. She has been the soprano soloist in Haydn's *Creation*, Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, and Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. She has also performed the role of Gretel in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* with Paperbull Puppets and Sister Mathilde in *The Dialogues of the Carmelites* with the PSO. Recently she has been in musical theater productions of *Avenue Q* as Kate Monster and in *Sweeney Todd* as Pirelli, at Lyric Music Theater.

Derek Herzer, Piano: Originally from Gaylord, Michigan, Derek began teaching himself to play the piano at the age of 17. He was accepted into the piano performance program at Western Michigan University and received his bachelor's degree in piano performance in 2010 and his Master's from University of Southern Maine. While at USM, Derek performed with the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra and has been both a finalist and a winner of several competitions. Before moving to Maine, Derek was on the faculty of Crescendo Academy of Music and The Gilmore Piano Camp in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He has begun to specialize in the research, study and performance of obscure and neglected works from the early- to mid-twentieth century. He is on the piano faculty at Bay Chamber Music School, Music Makers, Portland Conservatory of Music and is the accompanist for the Oratorio Chorale.

Bill Myers, Cello: Bill Myers studied the cello at the Hartt College of Music under Luigi Silva and at the Yale School of Music with Aldo Parisot where he received his Master's Degree in 1962. He has taught music at both the public school and college levels, retiring in 1992 from the Independent School District in Dallas, Texas. On returning to his home state of Maine he joined the Bangor Symphony Orchestra where he performed for more than ten years. He continues to enjoy performing chamber music and teaching the cello privately. Recently, he and his wife Julia, a pianist, church organist and choir director, moved to Maryland to be closer to their daughter and new grandson who live in Washington, D.C.

Richard Roberts, Piano: Richard Roberts is Professor of Music Emeritus at the University of New England, where he taught at its constituent, Westbrook College, for forty-one years. He holds baccalaureate and master's degrees from the Juilliard School. He has presented solo recitals throughout New England, including at Bates and Bowdoin Colleges, at the University of Southern Maine, at Saint Joseph's College and at Boston's Gardner Museum. A former member of the keyboard section of the Portland Symphony Orchestra, he has appeared as soloist with that group in works of Bach, Beethoven, Poulenc and Rachmaninoff. He joined the Club in 2002 and served on the Board as Program Chair for many years.

Stephen Schiffman, Clarinet: Prior to moving to Portland, Stephen Schiffman, emeritus faculty member at Babson College and the F.W. Olin College of Engineering, lived in Boston for 30 years and played with various ensembles and chamber music groups there. He has been playing the clarinet for over 55 years and his teachers have included Sherman Friedland, Julie Vaverka and Thomas Hill. Also a member of the Marston-Kotzschmar Club, he joined Rossini Club in 2015. He serves on the Board of Visitors of the New England Conservatory of Music.