



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Quarter Notes

Vol. 26 No. 3 March, 2010

Jim Hogan, Editor

“A RISING STAR”

17 YEAR OLD PALO ALTO VIOLINIST PERFORMS WITH THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Seventeen-year old violinist Stella Chen will perform the ever popular, and always spectacular, Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the California Youth Symphony on March 7 at 2:30pm at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center and on March 14 at 2:30pm at the Flint Center in Cupertino. Ms. Chen was a winner of the 2009 CYS Young Artist Competition. She has been described by Itzhak Perlman as “not only musical but has the stamp of an artist that is unusual at any age”, and her performance with the Welsh National Symphony Orchestra was chronicled by the *Strad* magazine as having a “warm sound” and “long musical lines”. She was also noted in the *Wall Street Journal* as a “rising star to watch”.

Continued on page 2



SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2:30PM

San Mateo Performing Arts Center
600 N. Delaware, San Mateo

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2:30PM

Flint Center, De Anza College
Stevens Creek at Highway 85, Cupertino

An Afternoon with
California Youth Symphony

Featuring
STELLA CHEN - SOLOIST



LEO EYLAR
music director



SUNDAY, MARCH 7
2:30 P.M. • SAN MATEO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

SUNDAY, MARCH 14
2:30 P.M. • FLINT CENTER

Manuel de Falla / *The Three-Cornered Hat*,
Dances from Part II
Peter Ichaikovsky / *Violin Concerto*
(Stella Chen, soloist)
Jennifer Higdon / *Blue Cathedral*
offertorio e respighi / *Pines of Rome*

TICKETS:
\$15, Adult
\$10, Senior and Student
Available at the door

For more information call
(650) 325-6666 or visit www.cys.org

CYS CONTINUES 58TH SEASON

The California Youth Symphony, under the direction of Maestro Leo Eylar, continues its 58th season by featuring CYS Young Artist Competition winner, violinist Stella Chen on Sunday, March 7 at 2:30 p.m. at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. And on Sunday, March 14 at 2:30 p.m. at the Flint Center in Cupertino. Ms. Chen is one of the most accomplished young musicians ever to win the CYS award (see accompanying article). She will perform the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto. A featured new work will be *Blue Cathedral* by contemporary American composer Jennifer Higdon. Higdon won a Grammy award this month for Best New Classical Recording. Also featured will be Respighi’s beloved *Pines of Rome* and *Three Dances from the Three-Cornered Hat* by de Falla.

Tickets are \$15 adults, \$10 students and seniors. A \$30 family ticket admits two adults and up to 4 children. Tickets will be available at the door the afternoon of the concerts. For more information visit www.cys.org.

Rising Star, continued from page 1

Ms. Chen's achievements include being the youngest prizewinner ever at the Yehudi Menuhin International Competition and first place at the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Bronislaw Kaper Awards. She also won the American String Teachers Association's State Branch and the Grand Prize Plumb Scholarship of the Music Teachers Association of California's VOCE at the age of ten. She has performed with the London Chamber Orchestra, the Welsh National Symphony Orchestra, and members of St. Martin in the Fields. In addition, she was invited to perform at the San Francisco Conservatory's Groundbreaking Ceremony as well as at the Kennedy Center and on the radio show From the Top. During the year, Stella studies at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music under Li Lin, as a recipient of the Marilyn Jo Wood Scholarship. She has spent the past three summers at the Perlman Music Program, and has participated in master classes with artists such as Itzhak Perlman, Robert Mann, Michael Tilson Thomas, Midori, and Ian Swensen. This past February, she was invited by Mr. Perlman to be the guest soloist for "An Evening with Itzhak Perlman" in Napa Valley. She is a student at Palo Alto High School. In her spare time she enjoys reading classics, dancing, and exploring new varieties of music.



Alex Chien, piano
2009 YAC Winner



Kenneth Renshaw, violin
2008 YAC Winner

2010 CYS YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

Talented young instrumental soloists are invited to compete for the opportunity to perform with the California Youth Symphony Orchestra during the 2010-2011 Season. The CYS Young Artist Competition will be held on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at Stanford University. The competition is open to instrumental soloists under age 19. Contestants may be auditioned on the piano, or any symphonic instrument. Two artists will be chosen, by a panel of three judges, to perform with the CYS Orchestra during the November or March concert series. Visit our website at www.cys.org to sign up for the competition. Applications must be received by March 16, 2010.

CORRECTION TO SEASON BROCHURE

Please note the correct dates for our May concerts:
May 16, 2:30pm San Mateo Perf. Arts Center
May 23, 2:30pm Flint Center, Cupertino

AUCTION FOR THE CYS 2010-2011 SEASON

The California Youth Symphony offers multiple programs for young musicians on all symphonic instruments -- beginning to advanced levels. To audition for a spot in one of our orchestras or ensembles, visit our website at www.cys.org and register online. Completed applications and a \$25 fee must be received by March 15 and will be processed in the order received. Auditions will be held in April at Foothill College.



**2010-2011
California
Youth
Symphony**

Auditions

59th Season

Register Online by March 15!

2010 CYS TOUR UPDATE

MAESTRO EYLAR PREVIEWS SOUTH AMERICA CONCERT HALLS DURING PRE-TOUR VISIT

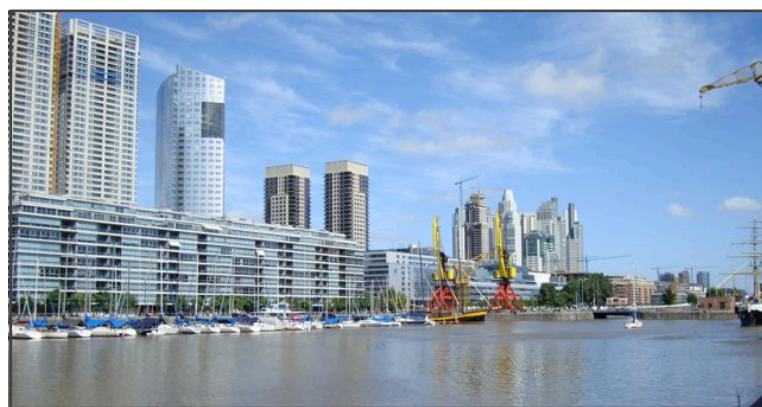


*The English Clock Tower
in Buenos Aires*

Maestro Leo Eylar has just returned from an inspection trip to Uruguay and Argentina where he traveled the same route the orchestra will travel in June and July. He checked out all the concert halls, met the presenters, looked over the hotels, etc. The overall message that he returned with -- its going to be a fabulous tour! Some of the things that he noted were that the concert halls that CYS will be playing in are some of the best in the world, many of them modeled on the scheme of the traditional Italian opera house.

He was also struck by the generosity and hospitality of everyone he dealt with there.

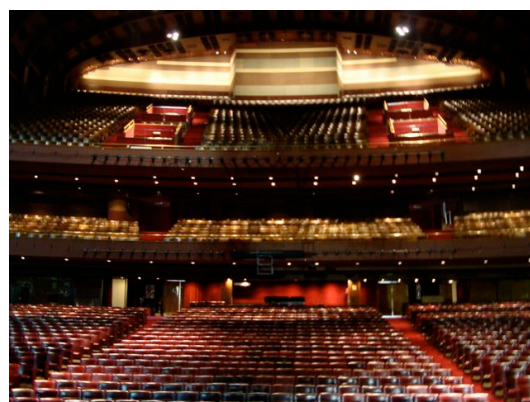
Since Leo was traveling alone, with his Spanish-English dictionary, he was especially grateful for this. In the most remote location that CYS will visit, San Juan, one of Leo's hosts was of German heritage, so she and Leo got along famously speaking in German! Leo also mentioned that the acoustics in the hall in San Juan are among the best he has encountered in any of the numerous halls he has performed in throughout the world. One of Leo's main concerns was to ensure the availability and quality of certain instruments that CYS will be renting or borrowing. This was especially true for the piano, since the tour's featured soloist will be phenomenal 11 year old prodigy, Alex Chien, who wowed CYS audiences last November with the first Beethoven Piano Concerto. For the South American tour, Alex and CYS will be performing the Grieg Piano Concerto. Those of us who won't be on the tour will still get a chance to share in the music and the excitement. The tour orchestra will present a "Buen Viaje" tour preview concert on Sunday, June 20 in the Spangenberg Theatre in Palo Alto. Keep your eyes on our site for more information.



The riverfront in Buenos Aires



Teatro El Circulo, Rosario, Argentina



Gran Rex Theater, Buenos Aires



Teatro Solis, Montevideo, Uruguay



Mozarteum, San Juan, Argentina

CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Leo Eylar, Conductor

For senior citizen ticket
information contact
Deanna Gerner
dgerner@gmail.com



58th Season

“The [CYS] orchestra played brilliantly and with a keen feeling for the composer’s style. This I consider semimiraculous. Hats off to conductor Eylar”

Renowned critic Heuwell Tircuit in “San Francisco Classical Voice”, on CYS’ performance at the first Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival at Davies Symphony Hall, January 2009

Blue Cathedral Higdon

Violin Concerto Tchaikovsky

Stella Chen, soloist

Three Dances from the Three-Cornered Hat de Falla

Pines of Rome Respighi

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600 N. Delaware, San Mateo

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Flint Center, De Anza College
Stevens Creek at Highway 85, Cupertino

TICKETS; Adults \$15, Students and Seniors \$10

Available at the door or from any CYS member

CYS, 441 California Av. #5 Palo Alto, CA 94306 phone 650/325-6666 www.cys.org

No children under five, please