



**Cambridge Suzuki
Young Musicians
NewsNotes
MARCH 2008**

STUDENT NEWS.

On February 16, as part of the EPTA Piano Weekend at the Purcell School, **May Kershaw** and **Natalie Kantaris** were two of four participants in a master-class given by Murray MacLachlan, Head of the Keyboard at Chetham's School of Music.

The experience was a welcome bonus for their participation in the EPTA 2007 competition as 1st round winners. Both May & Natalie enjoyed the experience and felt they gained much useful advice.

A BUSY MONTH FOR CSYM PERFORMERS: Congratulations to **Sarah Chung, Benjamin Somers-Heslam, Hannah Kershaw,** and **Noa and Zak Cebon** for their participation in the Cambridge EPTA Festival (non-competitive) this past Sunday, 2 March.

On March 8th **Molly Upjohn** and **Madeleine Gowers** will take part in the Cambridge EPTA Competition in Oundle.

On March 15 **Sharzad Shini** will participate in a Master-class for advanced players with Michael Young, formerly Head of Piano at Wells Cathedral School and on the faculty of the Royal Academy of Music. This master-class and all EPTA events are open to the public; for more details, please contact Ilga Pitkevica, EPTA Cambs Regional Organiser.

March 16 the EPTA Competition in Cambridge takes place with participation from CSYM students **Rose Last, May Kershaw, Nathalie and Lucas Kantaris, Sam Wood, Claudia Bisutti, Isabella Shallcross and Roxanna Shini.**

AND ANOTHER BUSY MONTH FOR CSYM PRACTICE CLUB MEMBERS!

For 90 days consecutive practice, CSYM Practice Club Gold Members include **Alexander Mitchell, Mathilda Streets, Sarah Chung, Benjamin Somers-Heslam, and Claudia Bisutti.** Others are still working hard to join the club...**Christopher James** has reached 60 consecutive days, and **Francesca Blake** is fast-approaching 60 days.

PARENTS If your child has practiced either 30 (Bronze), 60 (Silver) or 90 (Gold Club Member) consecutive days this term, PLEASE notify Betty by email preferably at least one week in advance of the April 20th concert so the appropriate awards can be prepared and distributed. We would also love to know of any CSYM Practice "Hero" or "Heroine" such as Alexander Mitchell, age 6, who have not STOPPED practicing, who have not missed a day.

Due to the tight schedule this Spring Term, we will schedule a Pizza Party celebration for all Gold Club Members one Saturday tea-time in May – so keep practicing if you're nearby!!!!

CSYM is proud to welcome a keen and lively new group of **Pre-Twinklers** to its fold. The students and their parents have been participating in Musicianship Classes together since September 2007, a few having moved on from the MusicNow! Class as toddlers. They have begun the listening programme at home and are observing lessons in the studio while their parents prepare to start lessons in the Summer or Autumn Term. The children from age 3-5 include: **Megan Wynn, Erin Barnes, Imogen Ransome, Oliver Hawkes, Petra Oliver, Hamza Noor-Dahlmann, Conrad Green and Leili Sabourian.** We look forward to giving them a warm welcome at our April "Piano Festival" Concert at West Road Concert Hall.

SCHEDULE REMINDER:

SATURDAY 8 MARCH –

Group Class Concert Day. All classes in Stephen's studio – be prepared with polished pieces for the April concert, or those decided by your teacher. **All parents are encouraged to attend to help support each child's long-term efforts and achievement.**

The final group class this Spring Term is **Saturday 15 March.**

Summer 2008 Term Dates (PROVISIONAL)

10 Saturday Group Classes: *concert day
April 12*(first class back from holiday!), 26
May 3, 10, 17
June 7, 14, 21*, 28
July 5
(*Advanced Players from 4-5PM)

Stephen's Teaching Schedule

April 14 until July 19th inclusive (excluding May 24-June 1st). Sharzad: lessons start April 10

Betty's Teaching Schedule

13 Weeks starting Mondays:
April 14, 21, 28
May 5, 12, 19
June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
July 7, 14 (May Day make-up on July 21)

YOUNG ARTISTS NEEDED!

We would like to use CSYM Students' drawings of animals for our April Concert programme, publicity posters and display. Drawings on A4 paper can be left on Saturday March 8 or 15th at group class, or in your teacher's studio.

2008 CSYM DIARY DATES

Sunday April 20th

CSYM Spring Concert

Repertoire Theme: *The World of Animals*. The dress rehearsal schedule will be available from your teacher no later than 15 March, with rehearsals on-stage at West Road Concert Hall throughout the morning and early afternoon on the Sunday.

Parents please note: The CSYM Committee decided in January that, because any profits from the Dr Suzuki Anniversary Concert would go to charity, the group would not use this Spring's concert for charity fund-raising.

Saturday 21 June (provisional)

CSYM Play-a-thon Concert Day

Mixed age and ability groups will perform repertoire programmes for fund-raising, to be decided by our CSYM Committee. If at all possible, we would like to perform in a venue other than the ZBC studio in order to raise our public profile and offer the children a new concert experience, but would need this to be donated free of charge or sponsored by a business or patron. Please be in touch with either Jane Kershaw or Betty & Stephen Power if you have any ideas or could liaise on the group's behalf.

CSYM HOSTS DR SUZUKI ANNIVERSARY CONCERT 29 JUNE 2008

WEST ROAD CONCERT HALL

The Concert in Memory and Celebration of Dr Shinichi Suzuki (1898-1998) includes a very interesting programme with duets, trios, and solos from beginning to a very advanced standard by composers including Chopin, Gershwin, Granados, Fitkin, Mozart etc. Students performing include several CSYM students as well as other Suzuki piano students from England, with one 8-year-old from California playing Bach's Italian Concerto, and students from Germany.

As hosts of this concert, CSYM students and parents have a WONDERFUL opportunity to enjoy a piano concert that promises to represent a high-level of student achievement as well as pay homage to Dr Suzuki's lifelong work, that EVERY child has wonderful potential. Hearing this kind of repertoire played by children provides motivation for our pupils, and we recommend that EVERYONE plan to attend. Tickets will be priced at £5 and will be available a month in advance and also on the door. All profit will go to a children's charity, (Save the Children).

RECOMMENDED DVD'S

- Barenboim on Beethoven Piano Sonatas Volume 2-Concerts 3&4 (includes book 4 repertoire).

- Angela Hewitt Bach performance on the Piano Hyperion DVDA68001

TEACHER UPDATE... Stephen continues to travel periodically to Barcelona, Spain where 8 enthusiastic piano teachers are enrolled in his ESA Suzuki Piano Teacher-Training Course. Betty has been invited to teach on the BSI's National Easter Weekend Course in London in early April, and will also teach piano again at the London Suzuki Group's annual workshop at Bryanston this coming August.

CSYM COMPOSER FRIENDS/ NEWS FITKIN & WATKINS!

The Power family recently attended one of Kettle's Yard New Music coffee concerts, which take place in that unique setting on Sundays at 12.00 during the university terms. The concert was given by **Huw Watkins** and Nicholas Daniels consisting of music by Huw, Julian Anderson, Tansy Davies, and John Woolich, who were all present to hear extremely fine performances of their work for oboe and piano. A week later, the Schubert Ensemble 25th Anniversary Concert at the Purcell Room at Royal Festival Hall proved another wonderful concert of recent commissions by the ensemble of new music for piano trio, quartet, and quintet. The composers were again all there to hear the performances, and it proved a chance to catch up with **Graham Fitkin**, whose recent piano quartet TOUCH, we heard and enjoyed immensely-it's a GREAT piece). Graham's new CD of his two-piano concerto CIRCUIT will be released later this year or in 2009. Played by Noriko Ogawa and Kathryn Stott you can follow the release by looking at Kathryn Stott's website.

Huw Watkins will be playing again in Cambridge on Tuesday 11 March as part of the Britten Sinfonia's Lunchtime Concert Series, and April 24th at Kettle's Yard as part of their Thursday evening subscription series. To see what concerts our composer friends have coming up, re: Graham's website www.fitkin.com and Schott Publishers site for Huw Watkin's, or just Google Huw Watkins.

Our pupils have also worked in the past with **Philip Cashian** and his works are often to be found in concert in London and Birmingham.

Next CSYM Executive Committee Meeting:

Wednesday 7 May from 8 PM

Meetings take place at 5 Hillfield Road, Comberton – The Committee welcomes any parents who are interested in attending and being further involved. We will soon be in need of a new Treasurer, a Website manager, and would like to organize new fund-raising activities for the next Summer Institute. Please contact Jane Kershaw if you could volunteer your time perhaps 1-2 hours monthly.