



Fall Greetings!

Just a short note to wish all of our BMC sponsors and friends a wonderful Autumn!

A huge thank-you to those of you who have already contributed to supporting our programs and student awards program this year.

Also, a special thank-you to our BMC Board Members for their dedication, vision and just plain good-heartedness: Carol Reppun, Celie Thomas, Gail Haines, Rollanda O'Connor, Anneliese Lust, Orphalee Smith, Darlene Mathias, and Isabelle Cormier.

And finally, an invitation to all: please come to the BMC Concerts and bring a friend!

Joan Youngquist
BMC President



A True Gem

Did you know that right here, on beautiful WWU campus, is one of the very top Music Libraries in the western U.S.? Over the years, Head Librarian Marian Ritter has built a catalogue of over one hundred thousand audio recordings, musical scores and books that are available to the community. The best news is that you don't have to affiliated with WWU to enjoy it! Anyone can access the WWU Music Library immense resources, both physical and online, with their Bellingham Public Library card! To learn more, pick up a brochure at our table in the lobby, and give the WWU Music Library a try!



Board Notes

There are many ways you can help BMC thrive. In the wings, volunteers like Judy Corliss and Scott Henderson make our communications run smoothly, photographer Cynthia St. Clair captures the best moments of our events, and Judy Orvik supplies us with artsy, handmade cards (help yourself!).

We are looking for help with online Publicity, which just requires a few hours per month from the comfort of your home. Let us know of your interest!

Your dues and gifts support all BMC endeavors. See us in the lobby; pick up a return envelope, or use your credit card securely on our website.

Next month

Grant Donnellan invites us to another travelogue in his European series. This time, Grant headlines a program of Spanish music featuring violin, guitar and piano. Free matinee preview is on **Wednesday, November 1, 10:30am**, and full-length Night Beat, on **Friday, November 3, 7:30pm**. Both programs are at **First Congregational Church, 2401 Cornwall Ave**. Free; \$20 suggested donation for Night Beat. **Sounds Sublime!!!**



Upcoming Events

The Bellingham Festival of Music Annual Meeting is on **Wednesday, October 11, from 7 to 9pm** at Lairmont Manor. Share this fun evening of wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert with the Board of Directors and new Artistic Director, **Marcelo Lehninger** (at right). This is a free event – no ticket necessary!



St. Paul's Music Ministry presents two amazing nights of music inspired by the season. On Monday, **October 30, 7pm**, watch a spooky screening of the 1925 silent film masterpiece **The Phantom of the Opera** with live accompaniment by John Schwandt! On Wednesday, **November 1, 7pm**, St. Paul's choir and guest organist John Schwandt come together under the baton of **Dongho Lee** (pictured) to present Duruflé's magnificent **Requiem**. Tickets for both events are \$25, students, \$15, online at eventbrite.com and at the door.



Metropolitan Opera Soprano
Katie Van Kooten



PACIFIC NORTHWEST OPERA

Marriage of Figaro

November 3, 5, 10, 12, 2023
McIntyre Hall, Mount Vernon

Pacific Northwest Opera presents Mozart's brilliant masterpiece, **The Marriage of Figaro**, a journey of love, laughter, and intrigue that has delighted audiences for two centuries! With its ingenious blend of comedy and drama, this timeless tale is both endlessly entertaining and profound. Singing the role of the Countess, **Katie Van Kooten** leads a cast of superb singers that includes soprano Hallie Schmidt, mezzo Sarah Mattox, and tenor Stephen Rumph. **Fridays November 3 and 10 at 7:30 pm, and Sundays, Nov. 5 and 12, at 1:30 pm**, at McIntyre Hall in Mt. Vernon. Information

and tickets on **pnoopera.org**. If you would like to skip the driving, join an Academy for Lifelong Learning group on Sunday afternoon on November 12! Reach Gail Haines at 360-676-1344 for details.

ABOUT BMC: Since 1916, the Bellingham Music supports music in the community with live performances, and encourages the next generation of musicians with its philanthropy. BMC sets the highest musical standards in all its endeavors: free matinees, evening concerts, and student competitions.



BellinghamMusicClub.org

Contributions and comments? Write to us at bellinghammusicclub@gmail.com or BMC, P.O. Box 193, Bellingham, WA 98227



*You like what BMC does and want to support its endeavors?
Use the slip below and put a check in the mail — or go online!*

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Ph.: _____

Email Address: _____

BMC is an all volunteer, non-profit organization approved by the IRS under section 501(c)(3); any donation will be deeply appreciated. Please enquire if your employer has a gift-matching program.

Suggested levels of support:

- \$25, Annual Member
- \$45, Family Membership
- \$50, Silver Annual Gift
- \$100, Gold Annual Gift
- \$_____ (other amount)

Please mail this form and check payable to BMC to:

Bellingham Music Club
P.O. Box 193
Bellingham, WA 98227

Enclosed Donation : _____

I - Seven Songs by Clara

Opus 13

- No. 2 Sie liebten sich beide
- No. 1 Ich stand in dunklen Träumen
- No. 3 Liebeszauber (Emanuel Geibel, 1815-1884)
- No. 4 Der Mond kommt still gegangen
- No. 6 Die stille Lotosblume
- No. 5 Ich hab' in deinem Auge
- Opus 12 No. 4 Liebst du um Schönheit (t)

Clara Wieck Schumann
(1819-1896)

II - Songs of the Water

- Petals – Amy Lowell
- Seashore Girls – e. e. cummings
- Holdfast – Holly J. Hughes

Rick Asher
(b. 1945)
Richard Hundley
(1931-2018)
Rick Asher

III - A piano composition by Clara's best friend, Johannes!

- Rhapsody in G minor, Op. 79, No. 2

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

IV - The Many Facets of Love

“O Sleep, Why Dost Thou Leave Me” from *Semele*, 1744

George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

“Vedrai carino” from *Don Giovanni*, 1787

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

“Faites-lui mes aveux” from *Faust*, 1859

Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)

Intermission (for Night Beat only)

V - Poems of a day and what a day it was! Whew!

Poème d'un jour, Op. 21

- No. 1 Rencontre
- No. 2 Toujours
- No. 3 Adieu – Charles Grandmougin

Gabriel Fauré
(1845-1924)

VI - One cannot do a concert with Fauré and leave off Debussy!

Suite bergamasque, L. 75

III “Claire de lune”

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

VII - Four Songs by Rick Asher

- Memorable – Kathryn I. W. Sparks
- Take My Hand – Robert Bode
- Joy – Langston Hughes
- The Stormy Evening – Robert Louis Stevenson

VIII - Four Spirituals

My Lord, What A Mornin'

arr. by H. T. Burleigh
(1866-1949)

Sing Aho

arr. by Margaret Bonds
(1913-1972)

- Little David, Play On Your Harp

arr. by H. T. Burleigh

- Ride On, King Jesus!

arr. by Hall Johnson
(1888-1970)

Bellingham Music Club

● **Matinee Preview**
Wednesday, October 4, 10:30am

Night Beat Program
Friday, October 6, 7:30pm

Biographies

Diane Johnson is thrilled to be singing in Bellingham again and with Rick Asher!

It was Rick who gave Diane her first Washington State solo way back in 1990 when he was conducting the Whatcom Chorale. Diane received her Bachelor's (1984) and Master's (1985) degrees in Music from the University of California in Riverside, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting and Voice (1990) from Claremont Graduate University.

In the past 30+ years, Diane has been a featured soloist with the Whatcom Symphony, the Everett Symphony, the Whatcom Chorale, the Everett Chorale, the Skagit Valley Chorale, Pacific Northwest Opera and the Skagit Symphony.

As head of the Music Department at Skagit Valley College, Diane keeps busy conducting college choirs, directing college musicals (auditions for "Music Man" are Nov. 7 and 8!) and teaching a wide variety of music classes from music theory to "Psych"edelic Rock, a class which combines Psych 101 and a History of Rock'n'roll.

When not working, Diane loves to travel, hike, travel, hike, oh yes, and travel. This past July, she had the opportunity to sing the International Mass at La Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain, with the Wanderlust Women's Choir of Seattle. She is the proud wife of Pastor Mark Johnson and together they have two wonderful children, Clara and Andrew. She thanks her friends and family for their unwavering support throughout the years!

Rick Asher holds degrees in Music Education from Western Washington University and the University of Oregon, each with emphasis in conducting and piano. He studied the Alexander Technique with Catherine Madden in Seattle, and applies that technique in his teaching and in his own life.

His career has included teaching instrumental and vocal music in elementary school through university levels, as well as studio instruction in piano and voice. Following eight years of teaching elementary and high school music, he began working at Edmonds Community College where he taught in the Music Department for twenty-four years before becoming its Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences.

He has also served as director of Cascade Youth Symphony, the Whatcom Chorale in Bellingham, and the 80-voice Sanctuary Choir of Seattle First Baptist Church.

Now retired from full-time positions, he maintains a studio of piano, voice and composition students at his home in Shoreline, and spends time almost every day playing the piano and writing music.

More important than all of that, he is husband to artist and calligrapher, Jocelyn Curry Asher, father to Eli and Emily, and Papa to twelve-year-old Ada.

