



The Newsletter of the Bellingham Music Club

Fall Pleasures

BMC is glad to welcome you to Trinity Lutheran Church and First Congregational Church for our October programs.

Our 'homes' are truly like comfort food, bringing familiar delights along with discoveries. These joys will be reflected in our programs also, mixing West and East, the old and the new!

Our guests offer European and American works as well as newer pieces with Armenian and Iranian connections. Selections ranging from the 18th century to 2016 will please every taste!

Across time and boundaries, music sometimes takes us in unexpected directions, but it always has the power to unite us in shared experiences. We know you will enjoy this adventure!



Photo Credit: Cynthia St. Clair

Last month

Our "Music to Your Ears" season opened with two rousing programs at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. **Organist Dongho Lee and guitarist Eli Schille-Hudson** treated us to highly technical works paired with humor-filled selections.

Night Beat attendees enjoyed extra perks: a closed-circuit live broadcast of Dongho's hands on the manuals - that also made us appreciate her virtuosity on the pedals - and an elegant post-concert reception in the Social Hall.

Board Notes

BMC extends a warm welcome to its newest supporters Karen Allen, Michael Copland, and Suzanne Snortland. We look forward to meeting you!

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.

You can also make BMC thrive by volunteering on the board or committees. There are also opportunities in the wings. Let us know of your interests!

Bellingham Music Club

Our 2024-2025 Season is...

Music to Your Ears

Next month

Rebekah Hood-Sava takes us on a **Multimedia Cello Journey** accompanied by nature films from cinematographer Radu Sava. With the help of *layered and looped cello*, Rebekah invites us to explore the emotions and psyche of a one-woman orchestra. Free matinee preview is on **Wednesday, November 6, 10:30am** at **Trinity Lutheran**, and full-length Night Beat, on **Friday, November 8, 7:30pm** at **First Congregational Church**. No ticket purchase is required for Night Beat. Students are always free; we suggest a \$20 donation for others. All are welcome!



"To foster and encourage the development of music appreciation and performance in the community"

Upcoming Events

The **Bellingham Festival of Music Annual Meeting** is on **Friday, October 4, at 6:30pm** in the Walton Room at Mount Baker Theatre. All are welcome to attend, enjoy a performance by local youth, and hear maestro Marcelo Lehninger unveil the 2025 summer season.



The legendary **Four Freshmen** are headlining this year's Lynden Music Festival during the week of October 9-13, and you are invited to attend their concerts and the festival as well! The Four Freshmen will perform on **Friday, Oct 11 at 7pm**. This performance promises to be a "dazzling" evening to remember, as The Four Freshmen open their two-night stand with Northwest Washington's very own "big band," **The Swing Connection!** On **Saturday, Oct 12, 7:00pm**, the Four Freshmen perform a completely different set of tunes. There may also be a few surprises in store! This concert is paired with an optional buffet dinner at 5:30pm. With their unique brand of vocal harmonies, the "Freshmen Sound" has endured for more than 76 years and continues to inspire countless musicians and audiences worldwide! Read more about the shows and get tickets too on lyndenmusicfestival.com.

Pacific Northwest Opera presents **Falstaff**, Giuseppe Verdi's final opera, a great masterpiece and his only comedy. Based on Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor," it recounts the misdeeds of drunken, absurdly vain, formerly thin knight Sir John Falstaff, who has fallen on hard times and schemes to get his hands on some cash by seducing two wealthy wives of Windsor. There are four performances at McIntyre Hall in Mount Vernon on **November 1, 3, 8, and 10**. Information and tickets on www.pnopera.org.



Remembrance: St. Paul's Episcopal presents a concert of choral song in observance of All Saints' Day. Works from the British choral tradition resound alongside James Whitbourn's magisterial Requiem to meditate on our shared experiences of mortality and loss in the light of the Gospel. The serene atmosphere of a candlelit evening in St. Paul's church offers the perfect frame for peaceful reflection with organist Jay Rozen daal, saxophonist Fred Winkler, an ensemble and chancel choir led by Dongho Lee. **Sunday, November 3, 5 pm**. Tickets on <https://music-stpauls.org/events>.

It's never too soon to plan for the Holiday Season! **The Bellingham Symphony** will premiere a **new work by BMC member, Scott Henderson, on Sunday, December 15, at 3pm**. Scott describes his festive piece, *The Feast of Stephen*, as "a lively romp, with a 10th-century flair – and lots of harp." This is Scott's fourth work to be played by the BSO over the past eight years, three with the Whatcom Chorale. Details and tickets on www.bellinghamsymphony.org/event/holiday-magic-24.

ABOUT BMC: The Bellingham Music supports music in the community with 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 awards.



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?
Pick up a preaddressed envelope and put a check in the mail
or go online to give securely with your credit card!*

Dr. Edward Rutschman introduces
Mehrdad Gholami, flute
Rebecca Mañalac, piano

- Sonata in Eb – BWV1031
Allegro Moderato
Siciliana
Allegro
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (1714-1788)
- Elegy
Aram Khachaturian
(1903-1978)
Transcribed by Mehrdad Gholami
- Elegy (Dedicated to Aram Khachaturian)
Arno Babajanian
(1921-1983)
Transcribed by Mehrdad Gholami
- Danses Mystiques (2016)
Kouchyar Shahroudi
(b.1959)

Intermission (for Night Beat only)

- Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune (1894)
Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)
- Songs
Bayou Home
If You Should Go
Song for the Lonely
William Grant Still
(1895-1978)
Arranged by Alexa Still
- Sonata
1. Allegretto ben Moderato
2. Allegro
César Franck
(1822-1890)

• **Matinee Preview**
Wednesday, October 2 10:30am
Trinity Lutheran Church

Bellingham Music Club



Night Beat Program
Friday, October 4, 7:30pm
First Congregational Church

Biographies

Iranian flutist, Mehrdad Gholami, received presidential award and Iran's National Elites Foundation scholarship to continue his training at the University of Tehran.

As an orchestral player, he started with Tehran's ensembles such as Tehran Contemporary Ensemble, Tehran City Hall Orchestra and Tehran Symphony. Other orchestral appearances include Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra (Los Angeles, Disney Hall debut), Fort Worth symphony and McKinney Philharmonic.



A recipient of Susan and Ford Schumann fellowship in 2017, Mehrdad attended Aspen Music Festival, where he served as Aspen Contemporary Ensemble (ACE) flute fellow and studied with Nadine Asin, Mark Sparks and Demarre McGill for three consecutive summers (2017-19). Other fellowships include Atlantic Music Festival's contemporary ensemble fellowship served on Summer 2021.

Mehrdad's Doctoral dissertation was on the subject of "Iranian contemporary music for flute" where he included an expansive chapter on the history of Western music in Iran. As an advocate of his "Iran Flute Project", Mehrdad has premiered works by Iranian composers at the National Flute Association and Mid-Atlantic Conventions. He received his MM and DMA in flute performance under the guidance of Dr. Shauna Thompson at Texas Christian University. In August 2023, Mehrdad's dissertation was named the winner of National Flute Association's Graduate Research Competition.

Mehrdad is the Assistant Professor of Flute at Western Washington University and coordinator of the woodwinds area. For more information and a full bio please visit: www.MehrdadGholami.com

Pianist Rebecca Jordan Mañalac earned her bachelor's degree in piano performance cum laude from the University of Washington in Seattle, and obtained her master's degree in piano performance from Loyola University New Orleans. Rebecca has appeared as soloist with the Academy Chamber Orchestra, the University of Puget Sound Orchestra, and the Loyola Symphony Orchestra.

Rebecca is Staff Pianist at Western Washington University, and pianist for Trinity Lutheran Church, where she also directs the handbell choirs and children's music program. An experienced collaborator, Rebecca has appeared on programs for the Bellingham House Concert series, the Firefly Classics series at the Jansen Art Center, and the Bellingham Music Club's "Night Beat" series. She maintains a private piano studio and an active piano duo partnership with her husband Gabriel.

