

Flute Fair 2022 – What Happened and What You Might Want to Know, Including Temporary Links to Performance Videos

GPFS is happy to report our annual Flute Fair and associated activities was a success despite what we all hope is the last year of "harbinger covid." On April 8th and 9th, over 50 people participated in another year of Flute Fair being online. A special thank you to Haynes Flutes for their sponsorship of Gareth McLearnon, a Wm. S. Haynes European Artist in Residence, along with our Commercial Members and Sponsors - Commercial Membership | Greater Portland Flute Society (gpfs.org).

The Friday Evening Guest Artist Concert



Guest Artist Gareth McLearnon's Friday evening concert featured six pieces, all of which he personally introduced and shared his thoughts about. It would be neglectful of us to fail to mention he generously got out of bed at 4:30 a.m. his time to do this (Strasbourg, France).

It was especially interesting to hear some of the details of his recording experience working with the outstanding musicians of L'APPASIONATA Orchestra da Camera di Verona, Italia for a performance of Contrafactus for Flute & String Quintet by Giovanni Sollima. On the next page, see a picture of the hall in Verona where they recorded - Verona's 'Salle Maffeiana' housed in the oldest Philharmonic Society in the world, founded in 1543. Mozart performed in this very hall at age 14 and most certainly had his works played there from that time forward. Imagine the spirit of the location and then the spirit of the performance.



One of the most memorable pieces on the program was the Contrafactus for Flute and String Quartet composed by Giovanni Sollima. Sollima is the internationally renowned Italian composer and cellist (born 1962) who has collaborated with "the greats," including cellist YoYo Ma. In short, this piece simply must be heard. Keep your eye on Gareth's social media as he will gradually be releasing each of the recordings he created for our event. That said, the recordings on YouTube that were used for Flute Fair can still, as of the time of this publication, be used. You can find the links below, for now.

In addition to Sollima's piece, Gareth performed the Mozart Flute Quartet in D Major arranged by him for strings and three of his own compositions/arrangements. See the program below, including the YouTube links which for now are active. So, you can listen to the performances yourself.





PROGRAM & LINKS

Mozart: Flute Quartet in D Major K285: 15:00 (w/strings) - https://youtu.be/SZUm_1IYGEw

McLearnon: Cosmic Dawn for Flute Ensemble: 6:00 Originally written for four flutes, alto and bass/contra -https://youtu.be/2GZ5zPiGON0

McLearnon: Single Yellow Line for Flute Quintet (brand new arrangement): 4:00 Originally written for six flutes, alto and bass -https://youtu.be/0Pg-nxzASPo

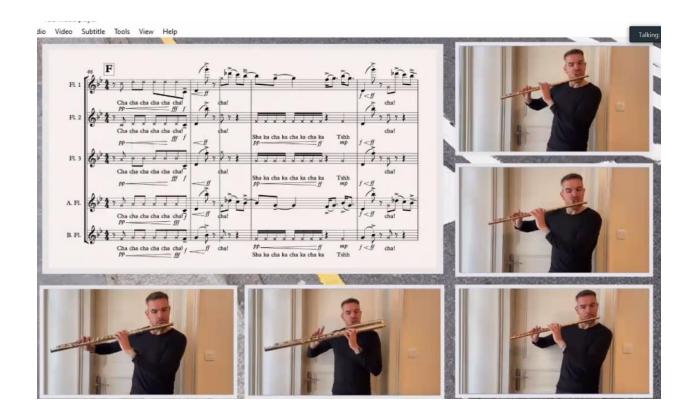
Trad. Arr. McLearnon: A Few Wee Jigs for Flute & Flute Ensemble (new arrangement) 3:00 - https://youtu.be/F3EvcYC8Io8

Sollima: Contrafactus for Flute & String Quintet: 12:00 - https://youtu.be/rnJT5sX5NyU

Trad. (Arr. McLearnon): Danny Boy for Flute & Strings: 4:00 - https://youtu.be/WrSiLh-Yb7M

With musical collaborators from L'APPASIONATA Orchestra da Camera di Verona, Italia

Lorenzo Gugole: Violin I Elisa Spremulli: Violin II Vincenzo Starace: Viola Andrea Marcolini: Cello Matteo Zabadneh: Double Bass



Saturday Flute Fair Day

Guest Artist Workshops

On Saturday, Gareth presented two robust workshops. Below you will find brief descriptions and links to the presentation materials.

To learn more about these workshops please see our summary in this April, 2022 issue of The Portland Piper.

❖ HANDOUT 1- Demystifying Great Flute Tone: Fundamentals, Artistry and Myth-Busting. In short, he covers: the basics of how you make a sound on the flute; where you strike the wall for high, middle and low notes (focal point and air direction); air speed; how much of the embouchure hole to cover; sculpting of the air stream; his model for and the characteristics of good fundamental tone in all registers; tone colors, including his coffee analogy, pictures below; "sing it" method to tune into colors; projection as different types of speech; and, vibrato and breathing, including some serious myth busting.

Channeling Marcel Moyse, his final Tone Workshop counsel is to always play generously from your heart - "I long ago observed that the real beauty of the sound comes from the generosity of the heart." (M. Moyse)

* HANDOUT 2 - The Whistle Stop Tour of Extended Techniques: A "Flutes Out" Exploration of the Most Common Contemporary Techniques for the Flute. This was a whistle stop tour indeed! While still managing to provide for each technique a very specific learning strategy and benefit for our own playing, he *briefly* covers the topics of: flutter tonguing; harmonics; alternative fingerings; multiphonics; glissando; quarter tones; key clicks; timbral trills & hot trills; ultra-high notes; singing and playing; difference tones with singing and playing; residual tone; explosive articulation; tongue pops; jet whistle; tongue stops/rams; whale sound; ghost/dampened notes; non-standard tones; and, whistle tones.

Claimh Solais



In addition to these two workshops, and his performance Friday evening, Gareth shared a video about the making of his new Haynes flute. https://youtu.be/01QUIPPIDz4

No words can describe the content of this video as well as hearing the joy and respect in Gareth's voice or seeing the photos of the instrument. It is only a few minutes long.

Watch it! Prepare yourself for feelings of wonder and utter desire, at least some rapid breathing.

https://youtu.be/01QUIPPIDz4

Master Class with Gareth McLearnon

Masterclass Performances: Performances in the Sara Lasky Masterclass with guest artist Gareth McLearnon was streamed on Saturday morning 4/9. There were four performers.

To learn more about the master class performers, and hear some of Gareth's feedback please see our article in this April, 2022 issue of The Portland Piper.

Greater Portland Flute Society (GPFS) Guest Artist Master Class Performers, Flute Fair 2022

- ❖ Lauren Huber performed Concerto by Otar Gordeli, pianist Doug Schneider
- Macy Gong performed the third movement of the Concerto by Jacques Ibert, pianist Doug Schneider
- ❖ : John Nguyen performed Fantasie Mignon pour flûte et piano by PaulTaffanel, pianist Artem Arutyunyan
- ❖ Miri Lee performed movement one of the Sonata by Yuko Uebayashi, pianist Garrett Bond

Young Artist Competition

"Music enhances the education of our youth by helping them to make connections and broadening the depth with which they think and feel. If we are to hope for a society of culturally literate people, music must be a vital part of our children's education."

Yo-Yo Ma

Last but not least, the day closed with the performance of the first-place winners of the junior and senior division Young Artist Competition.

To learn more about this competition and the winners please see our article in this April, 2022 issue of The Portland Piper.

- GPFS would like to thank everyone who helped with the Young Artist Competition.
- A special thanks to our amazing adjudicators, Phyllis Louke, Dr. Sydney Carlson, Alicia DiDonato
 Paulsen, and Dr. Jacqueline Cordova-Arrington. As competition judges they took time to give
 detailed comments to every entering participant.
- We extend another thank you to Dr. Sydney Carlson and Amelia Lukas for their time in providing a lesson for the 2nd place winners.
- We congratulate each of the 13 participants for their hard work and wonderful videos. The adjudicators were so pleased!
- Thank you to Alicia Rasmussen and Hear No Evil for their donation to the 2022 Young Artist Competition. Such donations help GPFS support the costs associated with such events such as prize awards and paying pianist collaborators.
- The GPFS Young Artist Competition occurs annually with the release of the application in early February. Watch for communication about next year's competition.
- Lastly, a big congratulations to our winners! Learn a little bit about them below.

Junior Division Winners

Senior Division Winners

FIRST PLACE: Talia Mesecar SECOND PLACE: Jamie Chen

FIRST PLACE: Victor Ceja
SECOND PLACE: Diego Fernandez

Sponsors & Commercial Members

GPFS acknowledges with gratitude the many years of support from our Sponsors and Commercial Members. It is because of their excellence that the GPFS mission can excel and celebrate our 44th year of extraordinary programming for the greater Portland area, including hosting visiting artists and local events, student study grants and a range of other resources for members and the community of flutists at large.

GPFS 2021-2022 Program Sponsors

The Greater Portland Flute Society thanks our Sponsors for their extraordinary support! Please show your appreciation by giving them your patronage.



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