

Oregon Coast Music Association

E-Newsletter — Spring / Summer 2020

We sadly regret cancellation of our 2020 Festival.

We will work with our community and musicians to plan a robust schedule and venues for 2021.



We are grateful for the sponsors and patrons who provided support for 2020 Winter Fest

Madrona Duo generously provided two events in February to promote educational opportunities and performances of string instruments. On Friday February 28th, they provided an educational workshop at Marshfield Auditorium for more than 100 area students. On Saturday afternoon, the Duo performed in the auditorium of the Coos History Museum. The Portland-based duo has developed a noteworthy reputation playing a wide range of music spanning Bach, Bartok and Beatles to Ysaye and Zipolli.

Shelley Mathewson, OCMA Festival Orchestra principal violist is a member of the Portland Opera Orchestra, and was principal violist of the Oregon Ballet Theatre for more than two decades. She is founder of the Delphinium String Quartet, is a member of the Portland Chamber Orchestra, and the Newport Symphony Orchestra. She holds bachelor and master's degrees in viola performance from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music.



Sharon Eng serves as a violist with the OCMA orchestra and maintains four violin/viola teaching studios, performs with the Raphael Spiro String Quartet, is president of the Oregon Viola Society and serves on the faculty of the Intermuse International Music Institute and Festival. Eng has appeared as guest soloist, chamber musician and master class clinician throughout the world. In 1995, she co-founded Classical Nuances, a unique trio comprised of piano, oboe and viola. Her rich musical career has included contracts with the American Ballet Theatre and New York City Opera orchestras, two tours to China as co-principal viola of the Polish Sinfonietta. She completed her Bachelor and master's degrees in viola performance at the Juilliard School.



A bonus concert was held on Friday evening, February 28, featuring Shelley Mathewson's son, Ian Harris, and his band *Family Mystic*, at Seven Devils Brewery.



February 28th youth workshop with Madrona Viola Duo

Thank you local music teachers, Marshfield High School Auditorium Manager Drew Jones, and North Bend High and Middle School, Amber Yester, Sarah Massey.



Memorial Tribute to Craig Gibson (1959 - 2020) and Joseph Pagán (1965 - 2020)

At the concert at the Coos History Museum, Sharon and Shelley dedicated the premier performance of a composition written especially for the Duo to the memory of **Craig Gibson** and **Joseph Pagán**. The music was composed by David York, choral director and composer in Houston Texas.

Craig Gibson was long-time Principal Trumpet and died at home in his sleep in January. Craig was a talented performer and music educator, teaching students of all ages from kindergarten through college. Memorial accounts have been set up to assist with his youngest son's post-high school plans and to help Portland-area music students. Contact All Saints Episcopal office@allsaintspdx.org.



Joseph Pagán had a passion for classical music and was a member of the OCMA Orchestra for over a decade. He began playing viola at age 8. Joseph was a member of the Tucson Symphony viola section since 1989, and performed with the Tucson Pops Orchestra. He toured seasonally to play with the Britt Festival Orchestra, Southern Arizona Light Opera, Catalina Chamber Orchestra. Joseph will be remembered for his sharp sense of humor, perfectionism, compassionate spirit, and infectious laughter.



OCMA 2020 Image

Local artist **Susan Chambers** created the image for 2020 that features our 2019 beloved Octavius, but with the addition of two other local popular sea life creatures. For 2020, Clarence the Dungeness Crab conducts Octavius and a Tiger Rockfish named Tucker in a duet. In light of the cancellation of the 2020 Festival, we will retain Susan's image for our 2021 Season.

Susan loves to paint the animals of the ocean and the people of the fishing communities. Her favorite place is Sunset Bay and this work features animals from that nearby environment. Susan shared her story of the image with the audiences at the WinterFest benefits. When not painting, Susan serves as deputy director of the West Coast Seafood Processors Association, and Vice Chair of the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel of the Pacific Fishery Management Council.



WinterFest Afternoon Jazz Tribute

Jazz saxophonist, clarinetist, and flutist **Aaron Johnson** arranged for OCMA a program of music to recognize the career and contributions of **Matt Utal** (1926—2019). Utal, a noted big band musician and educator, studied music as a child and began professionally in high school. He attended UCLA and graduated from Westlake College of Music. He played with Les Brown, performed as a studio musician, traveling throughout the world. After moving to the Oregon south coast, Utal played with many local groups and instructed students (including Coos Bay native Johnson) on the saxophone, clarinet, and flute.

Johnson, is now based in New York City where he leads his quartet and freelances as a jazz musician and commercial woodwind doubler. Johnson's group has appeared in nearly every New York jazz establishment, from Smalls to Jazz at Lincoln Center. Johnson is soon to release a live concert recorded at the Oregon Coast Music festival Boat House concert July 2019, engineered by Vincent Cavarra, featuring Jazz great Chuck Israels on Bass as well as frequent collaborator Jordan Piper on Piano.



Joining Johnson in the tribute were guitarist, composer, and educator **Phil Robson** and bassist **Dave Captein**. **Robson** has been part of the New York scene since 2015, after developing a strong career in native UK. Although well known for playing jazz professionally, his versatile skills and love for all kinds of music include performance in rock, soul, folk and Latin bands. **Captein** is an accomplished performer on both string bass and bass guitar, having worked as a professional musician for over 35 years in the Pacific Northwest.

The event was held at Black Market Gourmet, and attendees were provided a reception hosted by Chef Jardin Kazaar and Kristin Hofer.

Dan & Beverly Zeller and Susan & Michael Mlynarczyk provided housing for Madrona Duo musicians. Frank Price provided photos of performers.

We thank the many sponsors and patrons who have already provided financial support for OCMA.

We continue to solicit support, and memberships paid for 2020 will be honored for 2021.