

**The Embassy of
Austria**



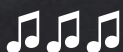
*Washington International
Piano Arts
Council*

proudly presents

The
Twelfth Annual
WINNERS'
GRAND PRIX CONCERT

Friday April 26, 2013 7:00 PM

**The Embassy of Austria
3524 International Drive, NW
Washington, DC**



“An Evening of Classical Piano Music”

The Winners Grand Prix Concert Committee

Patron Ambassador and Honorary Chair

His Excellency, the Ambassador of Austria Dr. Hans Peter Manz

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Counselor for Cultural Affairs, Embassy of Austria

Washington International Piano Arts Council

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To
Honor
The Memory
Of a
Founding Member

Countess Gertrude d'Amecourt,

WIPAC fondly dedicates

This 12th WGPC

Concert

The Board of WIPAC



Washington International
Piano Arts
Council

3862 Farrcroft Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

WWW.WIPAC.ORG WIPACUSA@gmail.com

**Welcome to Wonderful World of Music
In Washington, DC
the most exciting city in the world, where music lives!
Congratulations to the First Place Winners!**

It is my distinct pleasure to present in concert the 2012 First Place Winners of the Chicago (Concerto Division), Manchester (UK), Vienna (Austria) and Washington (DC) international piano competitions.

On behalf of WIPAC, may I welcome you, our friends and patrons to this extraordinary and fabulous concert in beautiful atrium of the Embassy of Austria. This concert amplifies what most of us believe that performing should not be limited to a select few in the classical music world. There is indeed a wealth of highly talented artists around us who needs to be recognized, encouraged, and heard by a wider audience.

Our sincere appreciation to this year's Honorary Chair, H.E. **the Ambassador of Austria Dr. Hans Peter Manz** for his gracious patronage.

Personal thanks Andreas Pawlitschek, BA, Counselor for Cultural Affairs of the embassy. Sincere thanks to our **Concert Committee Chair Rhoda Septilici**, who single-handedly arranged with the embassy to make this concert a reality.

Sincere appreciation goes to **Susie and Clayton Eisinger** for always standing ready to support our programs; to our dear loyal WIPAC'er, Harriet Becker, for sheltering our visiting pianist from Germany; and to Rob and Christine Piacesi with daughter Maria for hosting another pianist and giving us a lavish welcome party. Most especially to all our WIPAC Board and Committee Members for their constant advice and assistance; the embassy staff and WIPAC volunteers without whom this concert would have not been possible.

To the audience, the advertisers, patrons, donors and sponsors, my gratitude. I hope that you will continue to support WIPAC and its activities.

Last, but certainly not least, I salute our pianists, **Emanuela Zaharia-Donici, Robert Finley, Michael Slavin and Keng Siong Sim** for their devotion to the great art of piano performance and for being here tonight and celebrating their recent artistic achievements with us!

WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL PIANO ARTS COUNCIL

**Chateau Gardecki
Board Chair and Founder**

In cooperation with
The Embassy of Austria



Washington International Piano Arts Council

proudly presents

The 12th Winners Grand Prix Concert
“An Evening of Classical Piano Music”

April 26, 2013

Agenda of the Evening

- 6:30 pm *Arrival of Guests and Cocktails*
7:05pm *Greetings by Andrew Pawlitschek*
Welcome by WIPAC President, Susie Eisinger
7:10pm *Salutation and Introduction of Pianist*
By Master of Ceremony, Chateau Gardecki
- 8:00pm *Short Intermission*
- 8:10pm *Concert continues*
- 9:00pm *Buffet Dinner will be served*
- 9:40pm *Champagne Toast and Dessert*
- 9:45pm *Presentation of Gifts*
To artists
- 10:30pm *Evening ENDS*

Gifts for everyone



Washington International
Piano Arts
Council

In cooperation with

The Embassy of Austria

WIAPAC proudly presents

"Celebrating 12 Years of Classical Piano Music"

Winners Grand Prix Concert

April 26, 2013

Pianists and Program

Emanuela Zaharia-Donici of Bavaria, First Place Winner

The 2012 Boesendorfer International Piano Amateur Competition, Vienna, Austria

Ludwig van Beethoven	Piano Sonata No. 23, Op. 57, "Appassionata"
I.	<i>Allegro assai</i>
II.	<i>Andante con moto (Variations)</i>
III.	<i>Allegro ma non troppo. Presto.</i>

Robert Finley of Boston, First Place Winner

The 2012 International Amateur Piano Competition, Manchester, UK

Fryderyk Chopin	Nocturne in B major, Op. 9, No. 3
Gabriel Fauré	Barcarolle No. 3 in D flat major, Op. 42
Richard Wagner	Liebestod from <i>Tristan and Isolde</i> , transcribed by Franz Liszt
Roger Quilter	Three English Dances, Op. 11.

Intermission

Michael Slavin of New York, First Place Winner

The 2012 Chicago Amateur Piano Concerto Competition

Fryderyk Chopin	Scherzo in B flat minor Op. 32, No. 2
Felix Mendelssohn	Rondo Capriccioso Op. 14
Franz Liszt	Rhapsodie Hongroise No. 12

Keng Siang Sim of Singapore, First Place Winner

The 10th Washington International Piano Artists Competition

Alexander Scriabin	Preludes from Op.11 XI. Prelude in B major XII. Prelude in G-sharp minor XIV. Prelude in E-flat minor
Enrique Granados	<i>Allegro di Concerto</i> , Op. 46
Earl Wild	Seven Virtuoso Etudes on Popular Songs IV. Embraceable You I. I Got Rhythm

Buffet Dinner to follow the concert
No cell phones, videotaping or cameras allowed.

About the Pianists

♪ Emanuela Zaharia-Donici of Bavaria, First Place Winner, The 2012 Boesendorfer International Piano Amateur Competition, Vienna, Austria

Emanuela Zaharia-Donici started playing the piano at the age of eight in the music school of her hometown Hof in Bavaria. After a disruption of three years as a young teenager she continued practising until her A-levels. As a pianist and singer, she participated in several Bavarian music competitions for teenagers. During her studies of medicine in Berlin, her piano playing was very rare, but for the past two and a half years she has resumed practising regularly. Since one year she takes piano lessons again, first with Ana Libanio in Berlin and actually with Wolfgang Doeberlein in Hof.



In 2012 she won the Boesendorfer International Piano Competition for Amateur Pianists in Vienna, Austria, which gave her big motivation to improve her musical abilities. She works at the Red Cross blood donation department in the field of transfusions medicine.

♪ Robert Finley of Boston, First Place Winner, The 2012 International Amateur Piano Competition, Manchester (UK)



Robert Finley was born in Hull, England, and started to play the piano at the age of seven. He won a scholarship to study piano and musicianship at Trinity College of Music in London. He was awarded the Associate of Royal College of Music (ARCM) Diploma with Honors. He also has a Bachelor of Science degree in electronic engineering from the University of Sussex in England. He immigrated to the USA in 1980 and worked for GTE and General Dynamics as an engineer before retiring in 2006. He studied with some of the world's finest concert pianists and teachers including Norma Fisher, Albert Ferber, Michael Lewin, and in the masterclasses of Louis Kentner, Jorge Bolet and Vlado Perlemuter. He has given recitals in the UK, USA,

Israel, Poland, Hungary, Russia, Argentina, France, and Germany. He has performed piano concertos with symphony orchestras in the UK and USA and last year played the Liszt 1st Piano Concerto with the Boston Civic Symphony Orchestra. He was a concerto competition winner in 2008 and 2010 during the PianoTexas festival and played the first movement of Rachmaninoff's 1st and 3rd piano concertos with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. In August 2012 he was the winner of the Pianist Magazine International Piano Competition in Manchester England and this August will be invited back to play recitals in Manchester and London and the first movement of Chopin's 2nd piano concerto with the Manchester Camerata orchestra. He is the founder and President of the bi-annual Boston International Piano Competition to be held this June at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge.

♪ Keng Siong Sim of Singapore, First Place Winner, The 10th Washington International Piano Artists Competition



Keng Siong Sim was born in Singapore and started playing the piano at the age of 11. In 1991, he was awarded a scholarship to read music at the University of York (UK) and studied piano with Kaoru Bingham and Ka-Kit Tam. He has also studied with Nadine Shank and Estela Olevsky at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he obtained his Master of Music. He holds the ARCM (Associate of Royal College of Music) and LTCL (Licentiate, Trinity College of Music) in piano performance.

Keng has participated in several piano festivals. At Music Appassionata in 2011, he won the Second and Audience Prizes and the Award for the best performance of an Impressionistic work. He currently studies piano with Read Gainsford in Tallahassee, Florida. Keng is also a cellist, and finds time to perform with orchestras and chamber music groups.

Keng is an Associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society and works in a Property and Casualty insurance company in Jacksonville, Florida.

♪ MICHAEL SLAVIN of New York, First Place Winner, The 2012 Chicago Amateur Piano Concerto Competition

Michael began playing the piano at age 5 and by the age of 9, attended the Juilliard School of Music preparatory division for the next 10 years. His undergraduate years were spent at Cooper Union in New York City where he studied physics and then attended medical school, and was a full time practicing ophthalmologist in Long Island for 25 years.



During the time at Juilliard, he gave many piano recitals (two at Town Hall in NY City). At age 11, he performed Mozart's Piano Concerto in D major (the Coronation) with the Little Orchestra Society in Lincoln Center. Several years later I performed Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1 in the Brooklyn Academy of Music after winning a piano concerto competition (circa 1965).

His retirement from ophthalmology practice several years ago has afforded him the time to again study music and practice the piano seriously. Last year, he recorded the 4 Chopin Scherzi, and the year before that, all 21 of the Chopin Nocturnes. He looks forward to continued recordings and future performances. the Chicago international piano concerto competition in May 2012, Michael was awarded first prize and was a finalist in both Chicago and Washington international piano competitions and awarded certificates for the Best Performance of a Romantic work.

Congratulations to WIPAC!!!



To our Founders Chateau and John Gardecki, our Board and our dedicated volunteers for 13 years of successfully bringing beautiful music to our community.

Susie Eisinger, President

Congratulations on this year's



*“Winners’ Grand Prix” Piano
Concert!*

*Dr. Joyce Hagel-Silverman
& Mr. Charles Silverman*

CARLETON PENN III

ATTORNEY AT LAW

HALE CARLSON PENN, PLC

10 WIRT STREET, NW
LEESBURG, VA 20176
(703) 777-8040
www.valawyers.com

10511 JUDICIAL DRIVE
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030
(703) 591-4900 ext. 1318
FAX (703) 591-5082
DIRECT LINE (703) 218-8326
DIRECT FAX (703) 218-8327

EMAIL: cp@valawyers.com



Agenda SOS International
Bruce Organization

Nicole D'Amecourt
President

3225-D Sutton Plee
Washington, D.C. 20016

202-362-5056
mobile: 202-413-4586

nicourt@aol.com

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MYRA G. HISER
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Office: 703-631-3200

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Cell: 571-426-4391

myra.hiser@longandfoster.com





Washington International
Piano Arts
Council



&

The Kosciuszko Foundation

Proudly present

WIPAC Summer Piano Concert Part II

Featuring



JANICE WEBER

*Pianist, Author and Piano Faculty Member
Boston Conservatory and M.I.T.*

Saturday * May 18, 2013 * 1:30PM-2:30PM

Informal tea reception follows

OPEN Free to the public on First Come, First Served

The Kosciuszko Foundation
2025 O Street NW
Washington, DC 20036



Washington International
Piano Arts
Council

Established 2001

WIPAC HISTORY



Washington International Piano Arts Council (**WIPAC**) was conceived and organized in 2001. With the assistance of Jerome Barry, Director of Embassy Series, a non-profit organization for the performing arts, **WIPAC** launched its first public event on April 24, 2002, the “*Winners Grands Prix Concert*,” at La Maison Française, French Embassy in Washington, DC. It was a truly innovative concept and the concert featured four winners of different international competitions for outstanding amateur pianists. Its huge success provided **WIPAC** the impetus, courage and energy to continue its mission and develop into what it is today.

In July 2003, with the invaluable assistance of Roy Guenther, Chair of the Music Department of The George Washington University, **WIPAC** Board Members, volunteers and outstanding panel of jurors, the *Festival of Music and the First Washington International Piano Amateur Competition* became a reality.

WIPAC MEMBERSHIP

Washington International Piano Arts Council Membership is an integral part of its existence. **WIPAC** seeks private and federal funding through grants. It relies on the support of a public that believes that music enriches and enhances the quality of our lives and that the promotion of international friendship through music and musical events such as **WIPAC** sponsors will make this world a better place to live in.

WIPAC accepts membership in different categories and different levels of contributions. *Diplomatic Membership* is given to diplomats representing their country and military missions during their tour of duty and tenure of office. In December 2002, **WIPAC** received the letter of acceptance from the US Internal Revenue as a 501(c) 3 status, a non-profit category in the federal tax code, which provided its accreditation as a bona-fide tax-exempt organization. All contributions are deductible according to the extent provided by law.

Becoming an *Active WIPAC Board Member* requires sponsorship or invitation from a sitting Board Member. To become a *General Member* does not require the above; a full application can be downloaded from the website at www.wipac.org or e-mail us at wipac@verizon.net.

Washington International Piano Arts Council continues to host ***The Festival of Music 2013*** and the ***Washington International Piano Artists Competition*** now in its 11th year on July 25-28, 2013 in cooperation with **The George Washington University Music Department**, and the embassies of France, Bulgaria, Portugal and Poland. Deadline for application submission is July 5, 2013 12AM.

The Competition is open to all pianists over 31-years old who are not full time professional pianists; please check our website for complete guidelines. The four days of the competitions are open to the public, Reservations available GWU Music Department during the rounds of competition or call 703-728-7766; email wipacusa@gmail.com.

The exciting **Final Rounds** of the competition will be held on July 28 from 2-6pm. Cash Awards are open for solicitation, Sponsors and Underwriters are welcomed to the Awards Ceremony immediately following the Final Rounds. There will be four **Master Classes** offered by professional pianists, open to the public at \$20 for auditors (2) on Saturday and (2) Sunday mornings at GWU Music Department. Reserve a space in advance for the **Celebratory Dinner** immediately following the Award Ceremony.



Congratulations

*to the winners who will be performing tonight
and special thanks to
John and Chateau Gardecki
for their vision to produce this competition over the past 12 years.....*

*Michael Davidson, Esq.
Chairman of the Jury
and*

*Portia Boggia Davidson
Chairman of the 2013 Festival of Music &
Washington International Piano Artists Competition*

WIPAC 2013 Calendar OF EVENTS

- April 28 – 12:30pm-5pm Middleburg Point-to-Point Races
Patron Box #25, Glenwood Park, Middleburg, VA
- May 4th- 4:30-9pm 'Derby Party, by invitation
- May 18 - 1:30-2:30pm "WIPAC Spring Piano Concert"
Featuring **Janice Weber**, pianist and Professor of Music
Boston Conservatory and MIT at Kosciuszko Foundation
- May 19th – 5pm-9pm POLO Night, The Plains, VA
- June – 9st Sunday - Summer Fling, Upperville Jumper Classic

The Festival of Music 2013 & 11th Washington International Piano Artists Competition

- July 25-26 - 10am-5:30pm Preliminary Rounds
- July 27 - 9am-12:30pm Master Classes
1:30-6pm Semi-Final Rounds
- July 28 – 10am-12noon Master Classes
2:00-6:00pm Final Rounds, TBA



WIPAC Membership

___ Yes, Count me In! I would like to be part of a new and exciting celebration of music in Washington, DC. I heartily accept the kind invitation to become a Member of Washington International Piano Arts Council, host of the **Washington International Piano Artists Competition**.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Membership Levels

---- WIPAC Supporter	\$ 50	Basic Membership
---- WIPAC Sponsor	\$ 75	Listing and above
---- WIPAC Member	\$ 125	One Concert and above
---- Friends of WIPAC	\$ 250	All Concerts
---- Charter Members	\$ 500	Concerts and Competition Dinner
---- Patron	\$1,000	Middleburg Fall Races and above
---- Founder's Circle	\$ 2,000	Special Events, Concerts and above

Basic entitlements for WIPAC membership at \$50.00 are: notifications and invitations to special events, reserved seats for The Anderson House Piano Concert Series, copy of quarterly **WIPAC** newsletter, **Notes from the Piano Bench** ©, and **WIPAC** member pin with the official logo.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To the following individuals and groups for their generosity, assistance and kind support without whom the 12th Annual **Winners' Grand Prix Concert, "an Evening of Classical Piano Music"** would have not been possible:

His Excellency, the Ambassador of Austria Dr. Hans Peter Manz
Andreas Pawlitschek, Counselor of Cultural Affairs, Embassy of Austria
Ms. Rhoda Septilici, WGPC Committee Chairs
Members of the WGPC Committees
Harriet Becker, Host of pianist
Rob & Christine Piacesi, Welcome Party Hosts
Peter Weyland of Look.net
Advertisers, the ushers and volunteers

The Pianists

Emanuela Zaharia-Donici, Robert Finley, Michael Slavin and Keng Siong Sim

Special Guests

H.E., the Ambassador of Bulgaria Elena Poptodorova & Mr. Georgi Petrov
H.E., the Ambassador of Malaysia Datuk Othman Hashim & Datin Rohaya Kamanruzaman
H.E. the Ambassador of Singapore Ashok Kumar Mirpuri
Princess Selene Obolensky
Congressman and Mrs. Dan Burton
The Hon. Dennis Grech, Charge' d'Affaires, Embassy of Malta

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Mr. G. Austin Hay

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