

Classical Sonoma

Reporting on classical music across the North Bay

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Recital

MUSCULAR DE SILVA AND BEETHOVEN PERFORMANCES HIGHLIGHT MCCULLOUGH RECITAL

by Terry McNeill

Sunday, February 06, 2011



Piano recitals often split into two parts, the ostensibly profound scores first and after intermission lighter fare is played. Ryan MacEvoy McCullough's Feb. 6 recital at Mendocino College unfolded in a different way, the blockbuster works

appearing just at intermission and during the entire second...

Symphony

ALASDAIR NEALE CONDUCTS HAYDN AND MOZART AT MARIN SYMPHONY CONCERT

by Donna Kline

Tuesday, February 01, 2011



Poignancy and passion, or possibly "Sturm und Drang," was certainly the intended focus of the Marin Symphony's third concert of the season Feb. 1 in San Rafael's Marin Center's auditorium. Music Director Alasdair Neale led the

orchestra in three works by Haydn and Mozart that typify this late 18th...

Recital

DANESHPOUR IGNITES MENDOCINO AUDIENCE WITH VIRTUOSO PIANISM

by Richard E. Goodman

Sunday, January 30, 2011



Sara Daneshpour came from Washington, DC, to present a solo recital Jan. 30 in the Fort Bragg Center for the Arts Series in Mendocino. The white water on the Big River Beach out the south windows of Preston Hall in this tiny Northern California town were witness, along with an astounded audience, ...

Chamber

FISCHER DUO CAPTURES BEETHOVEN'S MANIFOLD MOODS IN OCCIDENTAL RECITAL

by Joel Cohen

Saturday, January 29, 2011



The Redwood Arts Council presented two concerts of Beethoven's music for cello and piano at the Occidental Center for the Arts January 29 and 30, ably performed by the Fischer Duo - cellist Norman Fischer and pianist Jeanne Kiernan. Included were the five cello sonatas, plus two sonatas originally ...

Symphony

DYNAMIC DIEMECKE LEADS BOUYANT RODRIGO AND DISSONANT CHÁVEZ AT SYMPHONY CONCERT

by Robin Brown

Saturday, January 22, 2011



A nearly full house of Santa Rosa Symphony concertgoers wildly applauded guest conductor Enrique Arturo Diemecke Jan. 22 at Wells

SYMPHONY REVIEW

Marin Symphony / Tuesday, February 01, 2011

 Alasdair Neale, conductor
Robin Sutherland, piano


Sage Mace (left) and Robin Sutherland at J-B Piano (Michael Phillips Photo)

ALASDAIR NEALE CONDUCTS HAYDN AND MOZART AT MARIN SYMPHONY CONCERT

by Donna Kline

Tuesday, February 01, 2011

Poignancy and passion, or possibly "Sturm und Drang," was certainly the intended focus of the Marin Symphony's third concert of the season Feb. 1 in San Rafael's Marin Center's auditorium.

Music Director Alasdair Neale led the orchestra in three works by Haydn and Mozart that typify this late 18th-Century movement of emotionalism and passion. It was the beginning of a new form replacing the old. Haydn's Symphony No. 49 in F minor (La Passione) began the evening and the four movements, all in the dramatic key of F minor, makes this work the archetypical example of the composer's emotional and dynamic imagination. The orchestra seemed to perfectly capture the emotion of this infrequently heard but important example of middle-period Haydn. It set the stage for the two Mozart works that followed.

The centerpiece of the concert of the season was the Mozart Piano C Major Concerto, No. 25, K 503. Robin Sutherland, the orchestra pianist of the San Francisco Symphony, performed this masterpiece concerto with deft technique and tonal beauty. No wonder Mr. Sutherland is known as "the perfect Mozart pianist." The work is one of Mozart's longest and it was a *tour de force* performance. The cadenza at the end of the first movement was perhaps unexpected as Mr. Sutherland chose to follow the out-of fashion tradition of the soloist improvising, or writing out, his own cadenza discarding the many printed versions.

It should also be noted that Mr. Sutherland was also the guest of the "Piano Contest Winner," and an 11-year year-old student, Sage Mace, won the contest with her answers to the question, "What does the piano mean to you?" One of the prizes included meeting Mr. Sutherland at San Rafael's J-B Piano Emporium, the event hosted by J-B owner Glenn Woodruff.

Mozart's 41st Symphony in C Major, K. 551 (Jupiter) completed a classic evening. While the orchestra had performed Mozart's G minor Symphony, No. 40, during the last season, tonight's performance completed a triptych of masterful symphonies, all composed in 1788. The first movement opened with a theme played with vigorous chords and then was answered with a delicate and soft response from the string section. The conductor and the orchestra were terrific in bringing out just the right balances and intonation was excellent. Woodwind playing was exceptionally rich in this performance, especially in the Andante cantabile slow movement. Mr. Neale showed his appreciation by personally giving each woodwind player a handshake at the end.

The audience, nearly filling the hall, provided a standing ovation following the elegant Mozart performance.

Fargo Center. Piazzola's "Tangazo" stood out as the most enjoyable score of the evening, and the final concert the set Jan. 24 is recommended. Mr. Diemecke uses his who...

Chamber

I SOLISTI DI SONOMA BEGINS THREE-CONCERT SERIES TO BENEFIT APSC IN HEALDSBURG CHURCH

by [Terry McNeill](#)

Friday, January 14, 2011



Chamber music was launched in grand style for the 2011 year Jan. 14 when the American Philharmonic Sonoma County presented the first of three small group concerts featuring artists associated with the APSC. Designed as a fund raiser to cover costs incurred from the historic tour to China, the conce...

Chamber

ENSEMBLE VERMILLIAN ADDS A THEORBO IN JAN. 8 WALDORF SCHOOL CONCERT

by [Joanna Bramel Young](#)

Saturday, January 08, 2011



The Ensemble Vermillian performed an exquisite concert Jan. 8 of both early and high Baroque delights at Summerfield Waldorf School in Santa Rosa. The ensemble likes to explore less-familiar works of the early Baroque (about 1600 – 1700), but in this concert they also included works by the great Hi...

HOMETOWN PIANIST HERO SARABI PLAYS TO LARGE HEALDSBURG AUDIENCE

by [Kenn Gartner](#)

Thursday, December 23, 2010



Lawrence Sarabi, a 19-year old pianist now studying in Singapore, played a Dec. 14 concert in Healdsburg's Raven Theater to benefit an injured friend of the artist, Honza Ripa. I have followed the pianist's career in recent years with interest, and with the audience of 500 was looking to hear if M...

Choral and Vocal

TUBRIDY LEADS RIVER CHOIR IN FESTIVE HOLIDAY GUERNEVILLE CONCERT

by [Terry McNeill](#)

Sunday, December 19, 2010



Sonia Tubridy, along with Carol Menke the late Nina Shuman, must be noted as Sonoma County's most multi-tasking musician. In addition the playing the piano for chamber groups and in shows, singing, playing the accordion and leading Klezmer groups, Ms. Tubridy has found time to lead a first-rate cho...

OHLSSON TRIUMPHANT IN NAPA BEETHOVEN BIRTHDAY SONATA RECITAL

by [Terry McNeill](#)

Thursday, December 16, 2010



Virtuoso pianist Garrick Ohlsson is clearly at the top of his game, the latest evidence being a blockbuster Beethoven Sonata recital Dec. 16 in Napa's United Methodist Church. Celebrating the Bonn's master's 240th birthday and coming off a project recording all 32 Sonatas, Mr. Ohlsson met a jammed ...

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