



## Selected Coverage April 2008

### National

All About Jazz  
Asian Journal Online  
BroadwayWorld.com  
Jerusalem Post  
The London Inquirer  
The New York Times  
Fox Business

### Local and Regional

Democrat & Chronicle  
Rochester Business Journal  
Messenger-Post Newspapers  
RNews  
WROC TV 8  
WHEC TV 10  
WHAM TV 13  
WXXI AM  
Akron Beacon Journal  
Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin  
Joplin Globe  
Rapid City Journal  
Syracuse Post Standard

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

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#### ***The Inquirer (London, April 2)***

##### **Computer clarinet solo compressed to 1000 times less than mp3**

Boffins at Rochester University say that have managed to digitally recreate a 20-second clarinet solo and cram it into less than a single kilobyte – 1,000 times smaller than a regular MP3 file. Mark Bocko, professor of electrical and computer engineering and co-creator of the technology reckoned that the new technology was “essentially a human-scale system of reproducing music”. Bocko’s boffins are also working on ways to combine more than just one instrument at a time. What they have managed to do, with help from post-doctoral researcher Gordana Velikic and Dave Headlam, professor of music theory at the University of Rochester’s **Eastman School of Music**, is create a way of extricating multiple instruments from a mix enabling highly compact recordings. *(Also reported by U.S. News & World Report, Scientific American, The Hindu, Democrat & Chronicle, and others)*

#### ***R News (April 11)***

##### **Kodak Moment Seals Theatre Expansion**

The **Eastman School of Music's** \$35 million expansion and renovation of the Eastman Theatre and its facilities got a big boost from the company George Eastman founded. Kodak is donating \$10 million to the project. That will now be added to the \$13 million from the state and \$5 million from other donors that's already secured. Kodak CEO Antonio Perez says the gift continues the long-standing relationship that Kodak has with the University of Rochester. And he says it's possible, because of what he calls, the new Kodak. *(Also reported by WHAM TV 13, WHEC TV 10, WROC TV 8, WXXI AM, WCAX TV Vermont, Staten Island Advance, Rochester Business Journal, Messenger Post, Democrat and Chronicle, City, blackshutter.vox.com)*

#### ***New York Daily News (April 13)***

##### **Making joyful noise & living a dream**

Six months ago, Jennifer Pascual and Edward Cardinal Egan sat in the living room of the cardinal's residence behind St. Patrick's Cathedral, listening to sacred music CDs and going over musical scores. They had just learned that Pope Benedict was coming to New York and had begun the daunting, yet exciting process of selecting music for his visit. That effort will culminate Friday, when the Pope arrives in the city for a whirlwind three-day tour that will feature several public Masses, including one for more than 50,000 at Yankee Stadium. Just about everywhere the Pope goes, there will be music, most of it conducted by Pascual.

"To direct this and put it all together is definitely the highlight of my career - and my faith," said Pascual, 37, the first woman to serve as the director of music at St. Patrick's. "It's also been a lot of work." In 1995, when Pope John Paul II conducted a Mass in Central Park, Pascual sang soprano in one of the assembled choirs. Since then, she has gone on to get her doctorate in organ performance at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y. *(Also reported by Asian Journal Online, Pinoy/Philippines News, Democrat and Chronicle, WXXI AM)*

***Press & Sun-Bulletin (April 3)***

**A piece of their own: Philharmonic musicians debut work by orchestra's composer-in-residence**

This weekend the Binghamton Philharmonic, under direction of José-Luis Novo, will perform the world premiere of "... Ex Machina" by Carlos Sánchez-Gutiérrez, as he and Novo complete the Philharmonic's first-ever composer-in-residency venture.

Sánchez-Gutiérrez' credentials speak for themselves. He received his musical training at the Peabody Conservatory, Yale, Princeton and Tanglewood under Henri Dutilleul, Jacob Druckman and Martin Bresnick. Currently an associate professor of composition at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, he is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships. His work is performed and recorded frequently in the U.S, Latin America, Europe and Asia. (*Also reported by Binghamton University Pipe Dream*)

***Rapid City Journal (April 5)***

**Expanding Horizons**

Inside each of us lives a musician waiting to be heard. Even Albert Einstein said had he not been a physicist, he probably would have been a physician. Local seniors are getting the chance to live out that dream with the New Horizons Band. Some are revisiting past experiences with high school band, but others are picking up an instrument for the first time.

The first New Horizons program was started by Dr. Roy Ernst at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., to serve the senior population. Under the belief that everyone has musical potential, the program was designed to be inclusive rather than exclusive, allowing members of all musical levels to take part.

***Fox Business (April 8)***

**Women's Sports Foundation Names New CEO**

The Women's Sports Foundation, founded in 1974 by Billie Jean King, today announced the appointment of Karen Durkin as its CEO. Durkin joins the Foundation from the National Hockey League where she served as executive vice president of communications and brand strategy. She is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Rochester, where she studied at the **Eastman School of Music**. Durkin earned a master's degree from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and she began her career at Cohn & Wolfe Public Relations.

***Democrat and Chronicle (April 10)***

**John Beck plays final show as Eastman Contemporary Percussion director**

At the Clothesline Festival 24 years ago, John Beck spotted a fellow named Ward Hartenstein selling ceramics; ceramics that were musical instruments. "I

was impressed with him making the instruments, the potting that he does, and that he could play them," says Beck. So impressed, he wrote a piece for Hartenstein. Claycussion is one of the compositions to be featured at the Eastman Contemporary Percussion's performance at 8 p.m. Thursday at Kilbourn Hall. The founder of the group and a one-time percussionist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Beck is winding down a 49-year career at the **Eastman School of Music**.

***Electronic Urban Report/EURweb.com (April 11)***

**Conductor Releases Debut Gospel Album**

Earlier this year Victor Simonson, a classically trained musician and associate conductor of the national production of The Color Purple, released his debut Gospel album titled, "Victory!" The CD has a groundbreaking sound that combines jazz, classical, Gospel music to opera into inspirational songs. Simonson believes that music lovers will enjoy the variety of music styles. **The Eastman School of Music** trained baritone self-produced the 13 track album.

***Manitou Messenger (April 11)***

**Koenigsberg performs**

On Friday night, April 4, renowned jazz pianist Toby Koenigsberg performed in Urness Recital Hall, captivating the audience with his fresh and rich music. His unique drive and style made for a creative and commanding tone, which enthralled the audience. The spectacular tone and vivacity of Koenigsberg's playing was to be expected because of his impressive and full résumé. Koenigsberg received his undergraduate degree at the University of Oregon, where he is currently an assistant professor of jazz piano, as well as associate director of jazz studies. He participated in graduate study at the Peabody Conservatory, followed by a master's degree from the **Eastman School of Music**. While at Eastman, Koenigsberg received the prestigious Eastman School of Music's Schirmer Award for his outstanding jazz performance.

***Syracuse Post Standard (April 12)***

**Crash claims gifted musician**

Gretchen M. Snedeker packed a lot into her short life. At 24, she was already the principal French horn player in two orchestras. She was three weeks shy of earning a master's degree from the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester. An adjunct music professor at Colgate University, she was being groomed to take over as principal horn player at Glimmerglass Opera in Cooperstown. She shared her musical talent with people all over the world, traveling to Asia, Finland and Austria.

Thursday evening, the Lysander woman's life was cut short when she died from injuries suffered in an

accident hours earlier in the city of Oneida. Snedeker was on her way to teach a class at Colgate at the time of the crash. (*Also reported by WHAM TV13, WHEC TV10, WROC TV8, Utica Observer Dispatch, Democrat and Chronicle and others*)

### ***Watertown Daily Times (Apr 13)***

#### **Canadian Brass to conclude concert series**

##### **Saturday**

A group of talented musicians who have performed worldwide and appeared on television shows such as "The Tonight Show," "Today" and "Entertainment Tonight" will take the stage Saturday in Potsdam. Canadian Brass, known as Canada's leading brass quintet, will conclude the 2007-08 Community Performance Series at SUNY Potsdam. The group often provides master classes when it travels, and has developed an innovative brass summer course at the famous **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester.

### ***R News (April 14)***

#### **Walk Honors Late Eastman Music Student**

The family of an **Eastman School of Music** student killed last week is holding a memorial walk. Gretchen Snedeker died Thursday in a car crash in Oneida County. She was a candidate for a master's degree in horn performance at Eastman.

### ***Gettysburg News (April 15)***

#### **Piano trio to perform classical music April 20**

A piano, cello and violin trio will perform April 20 at Gettysburg College. The classical music recital will feature the Sunderman Piano Trio. Sunderman Conservatory of Music professors Jocelyn Swigger, Yeon-Su Kim and Daniel Levitov will play pieces from Mendelssohn, Mozart and Shostakovich. Swigger has performed as a soloist, accompanist and chamber musician in the United States, Europe and South America. She earned bachelor's degrees in piano performance and English at Oberlin College. At the **Eastman School of Music** she earned a master's and doctorate in piano performance and literature and a master's in pedagogy of theory.

### ***Carolina Newswire (April 16)***

#### **WCPE "Preview!" Features 'Iceblink'**

TheClassicalStation.org announces today that its weekly program "Preview!" will feature an interview with composer Dr. Allen Anderson and UNC professor of music Dr. Brooks de Wetter-Smith. The pair will discuss the April 27 world premiere of "Iceblink" as part of the Sights & Sounds on Sundays concert series at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences. Dr. Brooks de Wetter-Smith has had a distinguished career as a recitalist, concerto soloist and master class teacher. He has performed in nearly all 50 states in the U.S. and in 20 nations throughout the world. His editions of 19th-

century repertoire are published by International Music Company and Southern Music Company. His principal teachers include James Galway, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Karlheinz Zöller, Walfrid Kujala and James Pappoutsakis. He holds a DMA from the **Eastman School of Music** and is the James Gordon Hanes Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### ***All About Jazz (April 16)***

#### **Featured Visual Artist**

Pianist/composer Harold Danko is best known for his long-term associations with an impressive list of jazz legends including Chet Baker, Gerry Mulligan, Thad Jones/Mel Lewis, Lee Konitz and Woody Herman. Beginning his piano studies at the age of five, Harold became serious about pursuing a career in jazz at the age of fifteen when he commenced studies with Gene Rush in Youngstown, Ohio. After graduation from Youngstown State University and a stint in the Army band, Harold landed the piano chair in Woody Herman's Thundering Herd, which launched his career as a much sought after jazz musician. He also developed a reputation as a respected jazz educator and served on the faculties of the Manhattan School of Music, the New School/Mannes, and Hartt College. He accepted an appointment from the **Eastman School of Music** in 1998 and now chairs the Jazz and Contemporary Media department. He teaches jazz piano, directs the Jazz Performance Workshops, and heads the Eastman Jazz Trio, whose first CD was released in 2003. In addition to his own educational video, *Jazz Keyboard Techniques*, available only in Brazil, he can be seen and heard on video performances with Gerry Mulligan, Chet Baker, and Lee Konitz. Harold's featured column, "Solo Piano", appeared in *Keyboard Magazine* for more than five years, and his keyboard improvisation method, the *Illustrated Keyboard Series*, is a widely used reference.

### ***Tampa Bay Online (April 19)***

#### **Share In A Papal Musical Gift**

What to give a pope for his birthday? He got a lot of gifts from his American hosts. But perhaps the best will be right here in downtown Tampa at 4 p.m. Sunday. That's when Florida Pro Musica performs the world premiere of "Missa pro nova aurora" ("Mass for a new dawn") in the breathtaking venue of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. This 30-minute work was composed by John Paul Russo, a Capuchin-Franciscan friar and former Tampa resident. In the summer of 2006, he dedicated the piece to the music-loving pope, who graciously accepted the gift through an intermediary in Rome. Benedict signed one of the two scores sent to him and returned it to Brother John.

Brother John was well on his way to a career in music when God called him to spiritual life. The Delaware

native started playing the piano at age 9; two years later, he was composing his own works. During high school, he attended a community music school to study theory and composition. Then he went on to the prestigious **Eastman School of Music** to earn his bachelor's degree in music, followed by a year at Indiana University.

***Akron Beacon Journal (April 22)***

**Eight shows on roster for summer at Ohio Light Opera**

Ohio Light Opera will be back for a 30th season this summer, doing eight shows at the College of Wooster. Steven Daigle, head of the **Eastman School of Music** Opera Program, returns as artistic director.

***Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers (April 22)***

**Talented Students Earn Nearly \$40,000 at Crescendo**

Rotary Club of Tulsa held its 10th Annual Crescendo Music Awards April 10-12 at the Van Trease Performing Arts Center for Education on the campus of Tulsa Community College Southeast Campus. Preliminary rounds were held April 10-12, with the finals concert taking place on the evening of April 12. Cash prizes totaling almost \$40,000 were awarded. The String Division winners included Michael Kaufman, **Eastman School of Music**, Bronze. In the Piano Division, winners included Sun Min Kim, **Eastman School of Music**, Gold.

***Canandaigua Daily Messenger (April 23)***

**Where jazz can live and breathe**

Jazz is one of the great American art forms, but it's come to be more valued elsewhere than in the country that gave it birth. "Kids don't have the opportunity to hear the music like they once did," said trumpeter Rick Holland, who lives in Brockport. "People don't go out and see music any more. Music like this, to survive, needs a place in public life where it can live and breathe." In recent years, (Holland) has moved to the Rochester area and teamed with trombonist Evan Dobbins to head up the Little Big Band, many of whose members are **Eastman School of Music** faculty, students and alumni. He credits the composition work of friends who write specifically for his band, seeing its size and composition — two trumpets, two trombones, three saxes, along with bass, piano and percussion — as an opportunity rather than an obstacle. Among them are Strayer, Jim Martin and Bill Dobbins, father of Holland's co-leader and an **Eastman** jazz studies professor. (Bill Dobbins also produced the band's CD.)

***baltimore.broadwayworld (April 23)***

**Stacy Keach Joins 'Camelot' Cast at the NY Philharmonic**

Stacy Keach — who has portrayed everyone from Hamlet and Napoleon to the hardboiled detective Mike Hammer on television — will make his New York Philharmonic debut guest starring as the magician, Merlyn, King Arthur's tutor, in the Philharmonic's semi-staged presentation of Lerner and Loewe's *Camelot*, May 7–10, 2008. Also joining the cast is soprano Erin Morley, a member of The Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, who will portray Nimue, the nymph who lures Merlyn into her cave and eternal sleep. Erin Morley completed her artist diploma at the Juilliard Opera Center in May 2007; her master of music degree from The Juilliard School; and her bachelor of music degree from the **Eastman School of Music**. She won first place in the Licia Albanese–Puccini Competition of 2006.

***Marin Independent-Journal (April 23)***

**East meets West with gamelan at Marin Symphony**

In the United States, a public gamelan performance is fairly unusual. But April 27 and 29, the Marin Symphony provides the opportunity to hear authentic gamelan and an East-meets-West amalgam in a program called "The Wind Beneath the Wings." The authentic gamelan in the Marin performance consists of the three musicians of Gamelan Kori Mas, including Michael Steadman, who became acquainted with the music when he was studying harp at the **Eastman School of Music**. He describes gamelan as "a lot like marimba" because of its intricate rhythms, which, he adds, is "one of the most distinguishing things of Balinese music."

***Jerusalem Post (April 24)***

**A bassman for all reasons**

One tends to think of the older generation of artists as more rooted in the source styles and, possibly, less inclined to mix it with the younger crowd. However, 70-year-old jazz bassist Ron Carter has just about done it all over the past almost half century. His predominantly softly softly jazz approach notwithstanding. Local jazz fans will get a chance to feed off some of Carter's richly sequined instrumental skills next week when the bassman brings his longstanding quartet to Tel Aviv for a 3-day 6-gig stopover.

Carter has always been serious about his craft. While some jazz musicians learned as they went along, Carter was determined to make sure he had the best possible grounding in music per se, gaining a BA from the **Eastman School of Music** followed by an MA from the Manhattan School of Music. Besides his pure jazz endeavors, Carter has experimented with third stream



ideas - a synthesis of classical music and jazz, with a strong emphasis on improvisation.

#### ***Madison News (April 24)***

##### **Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra names new executive director**

The Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra has named Doug Gerhart as the orchestra's new executive director. WCO's board president, Sarah Reiter, announced Thursday that Gerhart, the executive director of the Sioux City Symphony in Sioux City, Iowa, will join the WCO on June 1.

Gerhart was also president and CEO of the San Diego Symphony, executive director of the Alabama Symphony at Birmingham, executive director of the Tulsa Philharmonic, and executive director of the Baton Rouge Symphony. An American Symphony Orchestra League Fellow, Gerhart holds a master's degree from the **Eastman School of Music** of the University of Rochester and an undergraduate degree in music education from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University.

#### ***Democrat and Chronicle (April 25)***

##### **Eastman School of Music student wins Links award**

The Links, founded in 1946, is made up of more than 11,000 women of color intent on furthering human rights and social and racial justice through educational, cultural and civic activities. Each April, the Rochester chapter of the national organization presents its \$3,000 scholarship to a black **Eastman School of Music** student. Andre Washington, the 23rd recipient of the award, celebrates his mother's intuition with a 3 p.m. recital Sunday at Kilbourn Hall.

#### ***The Roanoke Times (April 25)***

##### **A pianist, an orchestra, a new experience: The Kandinsky Trio's pianist, Elizabeth Bachelder, makes her first solo appearance with the Roanoke Symphony.**

The pianist, who has a doctor of musical arts degree from the **Eastman School of Music**, has been a member of the Kandinsky Trio with Goodfriend and cellist Alan Weinstein since 1987. The Kandinskys, the resident chamber music trio at Roanoke College, have performed around the world.

#### ***Joplin Globe (April 28)***

##### **MSIPC competitor offers performance**

A throng of young fans surrounded Chinese pianist Fang Zhang to ask for autographs Friday following a performance at Memorial Middle School. He was among the senior finalists who performed Friday at Taylor Performing Arts Center, competing for the grand prize in the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition. An **Eastman School of Music**

student from Shenyang, China, Zhang works as a music teacher in Beijing, China, each summer. "I've been teaching since college," he said. "You also learn from students as you teach. Generally, a pianist will become a teacher."

#### ***Democrat and Chronicle (April 28)***

##### **Passion for music laid foundation for Eastman**

A group of students stood last night in Kilbourn Hall. One of them remarked: "This place is so beautiful that I am ashamed not to do the best work I can in this school." — *Democrat and Chronicle*, March 4, 1922  
The occasion was the formal public opening of the **Eastman School of Music**, and it was "doubtful if any Rochester event for many years has caused as much comment, exclamations of appreciation and interest," the newspaper reported. (*historical profile in weekly column by Bob Marcotte*)

#### ***BroadwayWorld.com (April 29)***

##### **John Fedchock & The NWSA High School Jazz Ensemble**

Hailed as a world-class trombone soloist, John Fedchock, joins the NWSA High School Jazz Ensemble, first place winner of the 2008 Swing Central National Jazz Band Competition and Festival. The concerts highlight Fedchock's original compositions, introducing the Miami audience to his new repertoire. Born in Cleveland, John Fedchock, acclaimed by *The York Times* as "...dazzling trombone virtuosity..." and by the *Los Angeles Times* as "...a superior jazz trombonist...", is considered one of NYC's premiere jazz artists. Fedchock began his career as a jazz trombonist when he joined the legendary Woody Herman Orchestra in 1980. Touring with Woody's "Thundering Herd" for seven years, he became musical director and a featured soloist, and served as musical coordinator and chief arranger in the production of Herman's last two Grammy Award nominated albums "50th Anniversary Tour" and "Woody's Gold Star." Fedchock is a graduate of The Ohio State University with degrees in Music Education and Jazz Studies. He also holds a master's degree in Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media from the prestigious **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, New York.

#### ***Messenger Post (April 29)***

##### **Young musicians learn the ropes**

The conversations held in the theater of Monroe Community College last week consisted of some unusual words and a language not typically shared with the average ears. Phrases like "You've got to dig into the music a little bit" and "Get inside the sound, not on top of the sound" were thrown back and forth as young musicians conversed with judges during the college's 39th annual Jazz Fest April 23, where five jazz bands from area schools came to share their passion

for music and learn more about their craft. Over the course of the day, bands from schools in Ontario and Monroe counties performed songs for adjudicators Clay Jenkins and Jeff Campbell, faculty members at University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**. Following each school's set, the two professors would spend time on stage with each band talking to them about their performance and running through sections of songs.

*(Note: There are numerous references every day in the media identifying musicians and scholars as Eastman School of Music alumni or current or former faculty; this report includes selected clippings.)*

***R News (April 30)***

**Concert to Honor Eastman Student**

A memorial concert will be held for the **Eastman School of Music** graduate student who died earlier this month in a car crash. Eastman students, faculty, and staff will celebrate the life of Gretchen Snedeker with a concert that will include some of her performances. Snedeker performed the pieces in Eastman's "Women in Music Festival" just three weeks before her death. She was on her way to teach at Colgate University when her car was struck on Route 46 in Oneida, Madison County. The memorial will be held Monday afternoon at 12:30 in Eastman School's Kilbourn Hall.

***The New York Times (April 30)***

**Seldom-Heard Operas Evoke Calm and Storms  
(music review)**

For lovers of vocal music, Lee Hoiby is a name to be reckoned with. Leontyne Price and Renée Fleming have been among the composer's champions, and his songs are common currency for vocal students. Fate has not been as kind to Mr. Hoiby's 11 operas — a pity, given the admirable craft and imagination they reveal. In a valuable act of reclamation, American Opera Projects and the Purchase College Conservatory of Music provided welcome exposure for two of them, "This Is the Rill Speaking" and "The Tempest," on Monday night at Symphony Space.

The American Opera Projects staging, designed by Glenn Reed and billed as the work's first professional production, was spare and economical: a few scattered chairs and benches, a table and a wooden fence long and tall enough to conceal quick costume changes. Ned Canty, the director, provided clean, effective blocking. Among a solid cast of young singers, Abigail Fischer, a mezzo-soprano, stood out for her attractive tone, abundant feeling and clear diction. Andrew Garland, a baritone, and William Ferguson, a tenor, also made strong impressions. The conductor, **Benton Hess**, drew a secure if not always polished performance from his instrumentalists.