



Selected Coverage April 2010

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HIGHLIGHTS

News 10NBC (April 20)

From the football field to singing stage center

Nicholas Wiggins has a different kind of coach these days.

Wiggins, a baritone, is vocal performance major at the **Eastman School of Music**. But he is also majoring in economics at the University of Rochester and that is where he worked with his "other" coach: on the Yellow Jackets football team. Wiggins, of Clifton Park, New York, came to the U of R to play ball but in his sophomore year an Eastman Voice Teacher urged him to tackle something else. Wiggins laughing, says "She was like "Hey, this kid has a voice."

So, he auditioned and was accepted at Eastman. But he stayed on the gridiron too. His teacher cautioned mixing the two might not be the best thing for his voice. . . .

His current teacher Professor Jan Opalach describes Wiggins as "a very strong talent with a good instrument." and says his days on the football field have actually helped.

Batavia Daily News (April 22)

A harmonious connection: World famous Eastman Winds shares a link with GSO

Mark Scatterday does not mince words when asked about conducting Eastman Wind Ensemble. "The best ensemble of its kind in the world," Scatterday said about EWE, which is scheduled to perform May 1 at Genesee Community College.

He's not the only one who thinks that. The Eastman Wind Ensemble long been praised for its precision performances and recordings, ever since Frederick Fennell established the group in 1952.

This year's ensemble features about 50 undergraduate and graduate students from **Eastman School of Music** at the University of Rochester. The ensemble has performed throughout the world, including several tours of Asia, the last in 2004 with Scatterday as conductor. Scatterday is the ensemble's fourth conductor in its 58-year history.

Downbeat (April 1)

Eastman School Establishes Niewood Scholarship

After saxophonist Gerry Niewood died in an airplane crash last winter, his wife, Gurly, began to look for ways to honor his memory.

She began consultations with Bob Sneider, who played guitar alongside Niewood in Chuck Mangione's Band from 1994 to 1997 and who is now the instructor of jazz guitar at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., and chair of the Eastman community music school jazz studies department. Both Gurly and Gerry Niewood graduated from the school. An initial wave of generosity from the Glen Ridge Congregational Church in New Jersey led Gurly Niewood and Sneider to establish a scholarship fund in Niewood's memory at Eastman. Gurly explained that scholarship money had enabled Niewood as well as his two children to attend college, and that now the family "had a chance to create a scholarship where a young musician can start down the path to realize their own dreams," she said.

After discussions with Eastman's development office and the jazz studies department, the Gerry Niewood Memorial Scholarship fund was established to provide support for a deserving undergraduate student pursuing a major in jazz studies and performance at the **Eastman School of Music**. With a goal of raising \$50,000 as an endowment, the jazz studies department began looking for ways to kick-start the campaign.

Bucyrus Telegraph Forum (April 1)

Lutenist plays on OSU campus

Recognized as a distinguished teacher, scholar and author, Paul O'Dette is director of Early Music at the Eastman School of Music and artistic director of the Boston Early Music Festival.

Batavia Daily News (April 1)

Student musicians have dinner invite

"I figured it'd be fun for them, and hopefully inspiring, to sit with Eastman Wind Ensemble musicians at dinner," Knipe said, noting that the Wind Ensemble musicians – graduate and undergraduate students at the **Eastman School of**

Music – are not that much older than the high school musicians.

The Day Weekly Digest (April 1)

Oleh Krysa: the worst thing for me is bad taste in music

Violinist Oleh Krysa is David Oistrakh's student, one of the most called-for contemporary performers. "There are wonderful opportunities to incarnate my ideas and projects in the USA, which would be difficult to carry out here in Ukraine. However, I remain a European, a Ukrainian. Each time I come to home is like a holiday. I teach and play in the States. I am a professor at the **Eastman School of Music** at the Rochester University."

All About Jazz (April 3)

Harold Danko: Escapades & Gone

Pianist Harold Danko is well known in the jazz education field as chair of the Jazz Studies Department at the **Eastman School of Music**. One would suppose that, while taking his educational work seriously, this 'steady job' allows him to pick and choose the best moments for creative musical statements. Two recent CDs--*Escapades* (piano trio) and *Gone* (with tenor saxophonist Rich Perry's Quartet)--display the scope of his artistry. Danko's approach is one of subtlety and sophistication, not of pyrotechnics (though his technical facility is formidable). He often takes a recognizable tune and changes the setting and mood to produce performances that are pleasantly surprising.

Democrat & Chronicle (April 5)

Software a second teacher for many music students

. . . More and more students are using technology to enhance their practices and rehearsals, but Steve Laitz, an associate professor at the **Eastman School of Music**, questions whether this inclination toward more technology is hindering students' abilities to understand the basics of composition.

"Students are coming in very often without even the most basic music theory background, the understanding of scales and keys and chords," said Laitz, of Pittsford.

... Ten years ago, Laitz said he and most **Eastman** faculty made their students learn a little about these technological programs, but Laitz now discourages the use of such software.

“There are patterns that get transposed, and the cut and paste function (of notation software) allows students to write fast a number of measures that really are not musical and don’t really work,” Laitz said. “Using the technology, these students miss out on the arduous process of putting the notes down from their pencils to the paper.”

Pop City (April 7)

Pop Star: Chatham Baroque's Andrew Fouts

Two years ago, Andrew Fouts moved from the redwood-lined sanctuary of his family's Napa Valley home to an apartment in Lawrenceville to join world-renowned early-music ensemble Chatham Baroque. And in that brief time, Fouts has learned that this isn't just the perfect place for him to live, but the best place to make a name for himself – as one of the best young Baroque violinists in America. . . .

As a promising violinist in the more standard 'modern' sense – Beethoven, Mozart, etc. – Fouts attended the highly regarded **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, New York. And while he realized he was good, very good, he also knew that it would take something extra to push himself from naturally talented to world-class. . . . But while at **Eastman**, looking to fill his class schedule, a fellow violinist suggested he join Collegium Musicum, the school's ensemble dedicated to baroque music.

Helena Independent Record (April 8)

Joining forces

One of the Myrna Loy Center's favorite groups, the Ying Quartet, returns for a concert, “No Boundaries,” 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 9. This time the Grammy Award-winning group will mix classical chamber music with bluegrass and folk when it joins forces with master mandolin player Matt Flinner. The Yings are looking forward to a return trip to the Queen City. This will be their ninth Helena visit to play concerts and lead workshops during the past 15 years.

“Montana has been a favorite place for me, personally, and my quartet for many years,” said

cellist David Ying, in a phone interview from Rochester, N.Y.

... The Ying Quartet is quartet-in-residence at **Eastman School of Music** at the University of Rochester, teaching in the strings department.

City Newspaper (April 7)

Classical: David Efron (4/9)

While I could expound the talents of **Eastman** students, what really interests me about this concert is the chance to see conductor David Efron in action. Efron began his professional career as an opera conductor and spent 11 years on the faculty at **Eastman** before joining the faculty of Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music where he has been since 1998. He has also been the director of the Brevard Music Festival in North Carolina since 1997. The last time I saw Efron conduct, it was Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*. The enthusiasm that Efron brought to the piece was incredible.

New York Times (State Version) (April 8)

Jazz listings

BRITTON BROTHERS BAND (Friday) Ben Britton, a tenor saxophonist, and John Britton, a trumpeter, share a bloodline as well as training from the **Eastman School of Music**; their fun-informed ensemble has a new album out, “Uncertain Living” (Record Craft), featuring a guest turn by the tenor saxophonist Christ Potter, who reprises that favor here.

WXXI (April 8)

Eastman Student Launches Grand Musical Experiment

This weekend, an Eastman music student is launching a huge artistic experiment with more than two hundred guinea pigs: singers in the **Eastman** Rochester Chorus. Deanna Joseph will lead a performance of a rarely-heard 19th century Mass by composer Anton Bruckner. She told WXXI's Brenda Tremblay that she's conducting it in a way that's never been tried in Rochester before, at least not in the last century. (Note: Deanna Joseph will conduct Anton Bruckner's Mass in D minor in Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral. She'll give a pre-concert talk at 8:00 p.m. and then conduct the work at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 10th. You can hear more from her

conversation with Brenda Tremblay in an Arts podcast at wxxi.org.)

Columbus Dispatch (April 8)

Curious composer takes note of variety of outlets

Four decades ago, when Paul O'Dette was growing up in Columbus, he chafed at the lack of freedom in his violin lessons. So he bought an electric guitar and joined a rock band. That musical rebellion put O'Dette on track to becoming one of the foremost players of an instrument that predates the electric guitar by a millennium.

O'Dette will play the lute for his "The Lyre of Orpheus" concert Sunday as part of the Chamber Music - Sunday Afternoons series presented by the Jefferson Academy of Music.

... Today, he teaches lute and is director of early music at the **Eastman School of Music** of the University of Rochester in New York. He won a Grammy Award in 1996 for an album he was part of and has been nominated for Grammys four other times.

WXXI (April 9)

Pipedreams Live! from Rochester on Classical 91.5

In February 2009, the Eastman-Rochester Organ Initiative, the Rochester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), the Rochester Theatre Organ Society and WXXI-91.5 FM collaborated in a three-day organ festival with Pipedreams host Michael Barone. ... **Eastman School of Music's** organ professors David Higgs, Hans Davidsson, and William Porter, performed alongside current **Eastman School of Music** students Benton Blasingame, Lars Gjerde, Steve Seigart, Annie Laver, Thatcher Lyman, Brett Judson, David Baskeyfield, Malcolm Matthews, and now graduated Amanda Mole.

Baraboo News Republic (April 9)

'METROPOLIS' COMES ALIVE

TONIGHT: Orchestra gives life to storied 1927 Sci-fi film

... tonight at the Al. Ringling Theatre in Baraboo, "Metropolis" will be shown in a restored version, accompanied by a 42-piece orchestra.

Creating a new live soundtrack for the film is a project conductor James Ripley has spent five years on, bringing new life to a movie with a storied past. He has set out with his students at Carthage College in Kenosha to bring the film to four towns with historic theaters. It will give audiences a rare glimpse at entertainment that could only be found in big cities during the Roaring '20s.

... Five years ago, while spending the summer painting his house, Ripley listened to music he thought could accompany the movie "Metropolis" and that fit into his love of science-fiction films.

The plan was for his students to perform it. Ripley took the idea from his days at **Eastman School of Music** in New York, which had a long history of showing silent films with an orchestra.

Democrat & Chronicle (April 11)

Upgrades draw fresh crowds to venues

If there's anything better than a blockbuster show to pull in crowds, it's a brand-new or renovated building.

... Since its September debut, the renovated Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre has become a magnet for music lovers. The redesign trimmed its capacity from 3,100 to 2,250 listeners, added box seating and enhanced the lobby area.

By November, a new wing will connect the theater to its parent, the **Eastman School of Music**. Total cost for the theater and wing is \$46.9 million. The school hasn't reported any significant new funding beyond the \$30 million already raised, but Dean Douglas Lowry says that the project is fully financed.

The Daily Record (April 12)

Theater renovation film to be screened

WXXI, The **Eastman School of Music** and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra will screen "Restoring a Masterpiece: The Renovation of the Eastman Theatre at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre" at 7 p.m. today. . .

The one-hour film captured the story of the Eastman Theatre and documents its recent restoration and is narrated by Rochester native, actor and director Philip Seymour Hoffman.

Historic photographs, film and video — including live performances from the **Eastman School of Music** and the RPO among others — also are featured. The film's television premiere WXXI is set for June. *(Also reported by WXXI, YNN)*

City Newspaper (April 14)

CLASSICAL: Lotte Lenya Competition

Out of 230 contestants, only 16 singers remain. They arrive Saturday from Canada, Germany, and the United States to compete in the 2010 Lotte Lenya Competition for cash prizes. The competition was founded in 1998 and is sponsored by the Kurt Weill Foundation. The finals round, which starts at 11 a.m. and continues until 3:30 p.m., will feature the remaining singers performing an opera/operetta aria, a song from American musical theater, and two songs by Weill. All 16 contestants will perform one number in the concert at 8 p.m., after which the prize winners will be announced.

The 2010 Lotte Lenya Competition takes place Saturday, April 17, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., with an evening concert at 8 p.m. at **Eastman School of Music's** Kilbourn Hall, 26 Gibbs St. Free. 274-1110.

The Daily News (April 15)

Joseph Irrera to perform with GSO

Pianist Joseph Irrera, a Batavia native and **Eastman School of Music**, will be featured in the Genesee Symphony Orchestra's season closing concert on May 2. . . .

Irrera teaches piano at Eastman's Community Music School. He first entered **Eastman School of Music** in 1993 as a student in the Community Education Division of the school's Preparatory Department. In 2000, he began full-time studies as a college student, earning a bachelor's degree with distinction from Eastman in 2005 after taking a year to study in Germany, Italy and France. A year later, Irrera completed his master's degree at Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Md. Usually a two-year program, he finished in about 18 months.

Democrat & Chronicle (April 17)

Eastman renovation book to be discussed in Brighton

A book chronicling the history and renovation of the **Eastman Theatre** will be previewed at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave.

All About Jazz (April 19)

Take Five with Shauli Einav

Shauli Einav is an emerging jazz saxophonist. He has already performed with his ensembles on prestigious stages such as the Red Sea Jazz Festival, The Israel Festival in Jerusalem, The Rochester International Jazz Festival, Tel-Aviv Intl Jazz Festival, The Knitting Factory NYC, Fat Cat, Smalls and more. Shauli has been invited to perform with some of today's finest jazz musicians, including bassist Omer Avital, pianist Aaron Goldberg, guitarists Bob Sneider and Frank Gambale, and the late saxophonist Arnie Lawrence, among others.

Shortly after earning a B.M degree from the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, Shauli relocated to the United States, where he just graduated with Masters degree at the prestigious **Eastman School of Music**, in Rochester NY. While in Israel, he won second place in the Jerusalem Academy duo competition. In 2005, that same year, Shauli received grants from the America-Israel Culture Fund, and a scholarship from Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. to study in the U.S.

At **Eastman**, Shauli held an assistant teaching position directing the ESM Non-Jazz Majors Jazz Ensemble. He was nominated for the T.A Prize in 2008. He has gained valuable teaching experience also while working for the Eastman Summer Jazz Program in 2007 and 2008, and gave master classes while performing with the Apollo Middle School Big Band, in Greece, NY in 2006.

Broadway World (April 20)

3 top talents selected by Nolen, Vroman and Berman to win Lotte Lenya Competition

Out of 230 contestants and 15 finalists – more participants than in any previous year – seven outstanding singer-actors rose to the top to win prizes in the 2010 Lotte Lenya Competition, held

on April 17 at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester.

City Newspaper (April 21)

CLASSICAL: Music for Wrenches (4/26)

Wrenches belong in hardware stores; so, too, "wrenchophones." But, before you think contemporary, imagine a wrench as a two-ended tuning fork. The true classical connection comes from Rochester composer and musician Paul Coleman, whose training is classical, including a PhD in progress at **Eastman School of Music**. Coleman designed the wrenchophone to express the tones he imagines for his compositions. The wrenchophone is a series of different-sized wrenches, mounted on a flat board. You can hear Coleman's compositions, complete with wrenchophones, at Mayer Hardware at noon or at Christ Church at 8 p.m. Nuts and bolts included in a pre-concert lecture at 7:15 p.m.

WSTM NBC 3 Syracuse (April 21)

Cornell Organ Project: Recreating a 1706 instrument

Cornell offered a first look at its organ project on Tuesday. A historic replica of a 1706 organ from Berlin is being built at Anabel Taylor Hall's chapel. The project, in cooperation with the University of Gopthenburg in Sweden and the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music, is "not because it's old," according to organ designer Munetaka Yokota, but because the new instrument will create sounds that more modern organs are missing.

Springfield News Sun (April 22)

SSO ending season with influential composer

Had things transpired differently 71 years ago, Samuel Adler's photo, however dated it might be, wouldn't be featured on all the posters for the Springfield Symphony orchestra's last concert of the season. He technically retired from the Eastman School of Music in 1995, where he had taught since 1966 and chaired its composition department.

Westport News (April 23)

Taking the lead: Gustav Meier, world-renowned conductor comes to Westport

Classical music aficionados paid homage to a renowned conductor and teacher Maestro Gustav Meier at Steinway & Sons by celebrating the

release of his recently published book, *The Score, the orchestra and the Conductor*. Meier is currently head of the graduate conducting program at Johns Hopkins University's Peabody Institute. He also taught at the Eastman School of Music, the University of Michigan and the Tanglewood Music Center.

Democrat & Chronicle (April 25)

Irondequoit lutist finds thrills in historical music

Parents who worry what their guitar-obsessed, heavy metal-loving teenager might grow up to be like should look at Christopher Wilke and breathe a deep sigh of relief. Wilke spent his teen years worshiping and mimicking the thrashing sounds of Jimi Hendrix, Black Sabbath and Led Zeppelin. Now the professional musician, music teacher and Eastman School of Music doctor of musical arts candidate is fixated with a much quieter genre and instrument: obscure, early European music played on the lute.

MPNnow.com (April 29)

Party sets music hall of fame into motion

If music can be likened to a mighty river — like, say, the Genesee — then there are plenty of streams, creeks and tributaries all throughout the Rochester area.

Rochester and its environs have been home, at various times, to bandleader Cab Calloway, soprano Renee Fleming, singer and record exec Mitch Miller, Delta bluesman Son House and garage-rock gods The Chesterfield Kings — to name just a few. The **Eastman School of Music** has positioned the Flower City as a major player musically; another George Eastman brainchild, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, has performed under the batons of the likes of Leonard Bernstein and Igor Stravinsky. The region's home to a world-class jazz festival, healthy folk and Celtic scenes, an active nightlife, some music stores frequented and lauded by musicians around the world. (*Also reported by Democrat & Chronicle, WXXI*)

City (April 29)

JAZZ: Penfield Jazz Fund Raiser

Jeff Tyzik, principal pops conductor of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, will be joined by Eastman School of Music faculty members

Clay Jenkins (trumpet), Bob Sneider (Guitar), and Mark Kellogg (trombone).

(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.)