

Selected Coverage February 2008

National

CNN

New York Times

All About Jazz

New York Sun

Fox Business

The Modesto Bee

Las Vegas Times

Salt Lake Tribune

Boydell & Brewer From

Beyond the Stave

Jazz Quad

Jewish Comment

Local

Democrat & Chronicle

RNews

Rochester Business Journal

13WHAM-TV

HIGHLIGHTS

CNN (February 22)

Retirement is a great time to strike up the band

Practicing the clarinet may be beyond tedious for teenagers forced into music lessons by their parents but for 70-year-old Joe Pedlosky it's a labor of love. Pedlosky, who plays with a local band, is one of many seniors picking up a musical instrument late in life. Many can thank New Horizons International Music Association, which sponsors senior bands and orchestras in the United States and Canada.

The group was founded by Roy Ernst, professor emeritus at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, New York. When he formed the first senior-only band in 1991, it was a radical notion.

New York Sun (February 5)

The Ultimate American Composer

In 1999, when Jay-Z recorded and shot a video for "Hard Knock Life (Ghetto Anthem)," a rap interpretation of a Broadway show tune, "It's a Hard Knock Life," from "Annie," he wasn't just being ironic by parading his "ghetto anthem" in front of a choir of Caucasian moppets and using their whiteness to emphasize his blackness. Really, the rapper was only amplifying and anthematizing the antisocial feeling that songwriter Charles Strouse had instilled in the song in 1977, when he captured the aggression of a gang of future delinquents who were kicked rather than kissed.

Mr. Strouse's roots were in classical music; at age 10, he actually wrote a song titled "The Best Tunes of All Come From Carnegie Hall." It wasn't long before this **Eastman School of Music** graduate began exploring rock and rhythm and blues.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 23)

Music student gives back to life-changing camp

It is hard to predict where Louima Lilite, 33, would have been had he not gone to the camp in his native Haiti. However, it is safe to say that he would not be where he is now. A doctoral student in voice at the **Eastman School of Music**, Lilite also performs throughout the area and beyond.

In addition to teaching at Eastman, he teaches at Nazareth College in Pittsford and Houghton College in Allegany County. He goes back to Haiti every summer to volunteer at the camp that started him on his way.

Conway Daily Sun (February)

Trent Austin and Mike Sakash play Fryeburg Academy Feb. 6

Trent Austin and Mike Sakash are playing as part of the 2008 Goldberg Concert Series at Fryeburg Academy Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Sakash is an active performer and educator with experience in jazz and classical genres. He holds a master's degree from the **Eastman School of Music**, Rochester, N.Y. He has studied the classical saxophone repertoire with Lynn Klock, improvisation with Yusef Lateef, woodwinds with Dr. Ramon Ricker, and composition and arranging with Fred Sturm. As a saxophonist Sakash has performed with the Rochester Philharmonic, Erie Symphony, Roanoke Symphony and has performed the Glazounov Concerto with the Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra. As a jazz saxophonist he has backed up performers such as Dave Holland, Lou Rawls, Kenny Wheeler, and Eliane Elias.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 1)

Silent films had no dialogue but plenty of sound

The term "silent film" is a misnomer. In opulent big-city theaters, screenings would often be joined by the music of full-fledged orchestras. The **Eastman Theatre**, for example, was originally a mecca where silent film and symphony music came together. Such music not only underscored the mood and the action of the film but actually gave the enterprise some inexplicable degree of reality.

The BQE Project, a New York outfit headed by Tom Nazziola and featuring musicians trained at the **Eastman School of Music**, will perform Nazziola's music live to accompany a silent Buster Keaton comedy at the George Eastman Houses' Dryden Theatre.

Carleton College News (February 1)

Carleton College to Host Concert Celebrating the Work of Composer ...

Renowned musicians from around the globe will come together to perform selected chamber and solo works by composer **Alex Freeman** on Friday, Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. in the Carleton College Concert Hall. The concerts pay tribute to the work of acclaimed composer Freeman, now a professor of composition at Carleton College.

Friday evening's program will represent a cross-section of Freeman's instrumental chamber works from the last seven years, including "Sonata" (2000) for piano and "Magnolia" (2002) for the Finnish national instrument, the kantele. Other highlights include "Intermezzo," composed for the wedding of two friends in 2006, and "Blueshift," a joint commission by the U.S. Embassy in Finland and The Sibelius Academy in celebration of composer/musician Steve Reich's 70th birthday. Freeman studied at the **Eastman School of Music**, Boston University, and The Juilliard School, where he received his DMA.

13WHAM-TV (February 2)

State of the Arts

A report on the financial challenges facing the arts community noted State Assembly grants of \$18 million were awarded to several local groups and that the George Eastman House, the Dryden Theater, the **Eastman School of Music** and the **Eastman Theater** are all being renovated.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 3)

Isbin's strumming is humming...

Commenting about classical guitarist Sharon Isbin, Nicholas Goluses, professor of classical guitar at the **Eastman School of Music**, said, "In the guitar world, when someone does something good, it's good for all of us. And Sharon has done a lot of good."

The Kentucky Kernel (February 4)

For learners, a new movement

As Jeffery Simpson sits in the back row of his music class, he pays close attention to the instructor and the sheet music in front of him, working toward his end-of-semester goal. Designed to give those over 50 a chance to learn a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument, **New Horizon Music** believes it is never too late to learn music. David Sogin, an associate professor of music education at University of Kentucky, and Christine Carucci, a music education graduate student, started the program in Lexington.

New Horizons Music began at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, where Carucci received her undergraduate degree. The program is now international, with more than 100 groups teaching music to people over 50. Last fall

was the first time the program took place in Kentucky.

RNews (February 4)

Pain help for busy musicians

A report on successful physical therapy for professional drummer Sean Jefferson noted that Dr. Fred Onufryk is no slouch in the music business. He's worked with Wycliffe Gordon from the Wynton Marsalis septet, singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco and for seven years with students from the **Eastman School of Music**. (Also reported on News10Now Syracuse.)

All About Jazz (February 5)

Worth the Wait

A review of Peter Erskine's and Tim Hagans's new album *Worth The Wait* notes that composer/arranger and professor of the **Eastman Jazz Ensemble** at the University of Rochester Bill Dobbins contributes arrangements of Erskine's "Plan 9" and the percussive "Scotland, Africa."

Democrat and Chronicle (February 8)

No plans? Here are 10 things to do this weekend

9. "I Got Rhythm," "My Funny Valentine" and "The Trolley Song" are on the program for The Eastman Bunch organ concert at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Auditorium Theatre. The concert is sponsored by the Rochester Theatre Organ Society and will feature David Higgs, chair of the organ department at **Eastman School of Music**, and some of his students.

The Western Gazette (February 8)

Dett founds legacy of black classical music

Think the only black musicians are rappers and reggae artists? Nathaniel Dett breaks the mold Robert Nathaniel Dett was born in Drummondville, Ontario in 1882. A talented pianist at a young age, he went to New York to study at 19. After being introduced to music by the popular Czech composer Antonin Dvorak, Dett explored the idea of taking traditional spirituals and converting them to classical music. In 1924, he became the president of the National Association of Negro Musicians. Dett was also one of the first African-American members of the American Society of Composers. He later earned a

Master's degree at the prestigious **Eastman School of Music**.

blogTO - Toronto, Ontario, Canada (February 10)

AMICI CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Heidi Krutzen, currently Principal Harp of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra, is much in demand as a soloist and chamber musician across North America. She has been featured at festivals such as the Seattle Chamber Music Festival, Oregon Bach Festival, Vancouver Chamber Music Festival, Music in the Morning, Festival Vancouver, Strings in the Mountains, Bach Dancing and Dynamite Festival and the Seattle Winter Interlude Series. A graduate of the **Eastman School of Music** with both a Bachelor and Masters of Music degree and the school's highest honour, the Performer's Certificate, Heidi is a prizewinner in the American Harp Society's National Competition.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 10)

They're pulling all the strings

Grammy-nominated Ying Quartet works to expand repertoire for their genre

A preview of the Ying Quartet's annual LifeMusic concert notes that The Yings join others connected with **Eastman School of Music** in their Grammy nominations. Also nominated were Churchville native and Eastman grad and opera singer Rene Fleming, graduate and jazz composer Maria Schneider and professor of early music Paul O'Dette.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 10)

Eastman grad wins Grammy

Maria Schneider, a graduate of the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, won a Grammy today for best instrumental composition for her "Cerulean Skies." Schneider lost in the category of best large jazz ensemble album to Terence Blanchard's *A Tale of God's Will (A Requiem for Katrina)*. The Maria Schneider Orchestra's *Sky Blue*, which has been self-produced and promoted by Schneider, was nominated.

The Daily Evergreen (February 11)

A lifetime of jazz: WSU professor driven by an unending passion

Although he may not have reached Sonny Rollins' popularity, Greg Yasinitzky has achieved greatness

in the eyes of his peers. On March 28, he will deliver WSU's 2008 Distinguished Faculty Address. The only other musician to give the address was internationally renowned Hungarian pianist Istvan Nadas in 1972.

During his career at WSU, which began in 1982, Yasinitsky has taught practically every class offered in the university's music program. He currently directs the WSU Jazz Big Band in addition to teaching the History of Jazz and private saxophone lessons. He took a year of leave in 1991 to attend **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, NY, to pursue a doctorate he received four years later.

Jewish Comment (February 13)

Remembering Francis James Brown

Francis James Brown, the American composer who died on 18 January 2008, was a piano and composition graduate of **Eastman School of Music** and in 1951 earned a scholarship to study composition under Luigi Dallapiccola at Tanglewood. In 1952 he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to continue his studies with Dallapiccola in Florence, where he met Stanley Seeger, with whom he was to collaborate on many musical works, including the score of the feature film 'Priest of Love' directed in 1980 by Christopher Miles and starring Ian McKellen as DH Lawrence and Janet Suzman as Frieda. Amongst his prolific repertoire of operas, film scores, musicals, ballet suites and orchestral works performed around the world are song cycles based on the works of Walter de la Mare, Kathleen Raine and Rainer Maria Rilke. His most recent premieres were organ suites at Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral.

Battle Creek Enquirer (February 13)

Central Michigan University Percussion Ensemble to perform

The percussion ensemble is led by Andrew Spencer, an active recitalist and clinician, who has performed as a soloist in the United States, Poland, Japan, Canada, and Costa Rica. In 1999, he released the CD "Slender Beams," which features works by composer Dave Hollinden. In addition, Spencer has premiered numerous compositions, including works by Hollinden, Mark Polishook, Samuel Adler, Robert May and Henry Gwiazda. Spencer received the bachelor and master of music degree in performance

(percussion) at Northwestern University and the doctor of musical arts degree in performance and literature (percussion) from the **Eastman School of Music**, where he studied with John Beck. In addition, Eastman granted Dr. Spencer the Performer's Certificate as a percussion soloist.

Jazz-Quad (February 13)

Victor Simonson's debut CD

Victor Simonson, classically trained musician and Associate Conductor of Oprah Winfrey's national production, The Color Purple, scored with the release of his debut CD, Victory! during New York City area performances last weekend. Audiences raved about the multi-genre composer, arranger, pianist, and baritone as Simonson showcased his Neo-Eclectic mix of smooth jazz, classical, gospel, opera, acoustic jazz, and inspirational songs during packed-house concert debuts. Simonson has established himself as a multi-genre musician and has served as the Music Director for 'Three Mo' Tenors, the Boys Choir of Harlem, and 'Three Mo' Divas. **The Eastman School of Music** trained baritone has also worked on projects for gospel great Donnie McClurkin and Kim Thompson, Beyonce's drummer, another featured soloist at the concerts.

KC Community News (February 14)

KC Wind Symphony to perform in Big Apple

As a student at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., in the 1960s, Phillip Posey was playing with the Eastman Philharmonia the first time he performed at Carnegie Hall. Now decades later as resident conductor of the Kansas City Wind Symphony, Posey, of Liberty, will again fly to New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall. The performance at Carnegie Hall Sunday, April 6, marks the 10th anniversary of the Kansas City Wind Symphony's founding. Posey has been its conductor for the past five years.

Keizertimes (February 14)

Learning from the master

Trumpeter extraordinaire Allen Vizzutti has been around the world. He's performed with the NBC Tonight Show Band, played in more than 40 countries, played a tune at Lincoln Center in New York City and has been praised for his "finely tuned wind, easy control (and) polyharmonic wit" by jazz legend Chick Corea. Vizzutti conducted master classes and performed with students from

McNary High, Claggett Creek and Whiteaker schools. Vizzutti plays classical and jazz trumpet. He graduated from – and has taught at – the prestigious **Eastman School of Music** and is currently the Artist in Residence at the University of Washington. He resides in Seattle. (*Also reported by Strauss News.*)

The Modesto Bee (February 17)
still rockin’

As baby boomers near senior citizenship, music remains a big part of their lives.

“There are more older adults and senior citizens making music today than at any other time in history,” said Joe Lamond, president and chief executive officer of the International Music Products Association, more commonly known as NAMM (the acronym is a holdover from an earlier name). A program called Weekend Warriors offers a practice room and professional coaching to baby boomer groups. Other music programs aimed at adults also have emerged over the past 10 to 15 years, including **New Horizons** and NAMM's own "Wanna Play?" campaign. In the early 1990s, Roy Ernst, professor emeritus at the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music** in New York state, created the first New Horizons program.

Boydell & Brewer From Beyond the Stave (February 18)

Eastman's 50th

This month the University of Rochester Press will publish the 50th volume in its acclaimed series, Eastman Studies in Music. "When we began, I didn't dare dream that this could happen," says Ralph Locke, a professor at the **Eastman School of Music** for more than 30 years and series editor since 1994. "We started producing two books a year, and now we are up to seven and growing, which means we can publish books on a range of topics and reach a wider spectrum of the reading public."

In addition to his teaching at the **Eastman School of Music** and his work with the University of Rochester Press, Locke is writing a book about his most recent love, opera, and other theater works including West Side Story, from the perspective of how Western composers portray different places and ethnic groups.

Las Vegas Sun (February 19)

Tonight: Krysa conducts his father, the violinist

Violinist Oleh Krysa is in town to perform as this evening's guest soloist with the UNLV Symphony Orchestra. If you're wondering how the university snagged an **Eastman School of Music** professor whose bigger gigs include Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center, check the program. He's the father of Taras Krysa, the conductor for the UNLV Symphony Orchestra.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 19)

Development plans rejected; Committee to restart process for East Main Street property

A committee reviewing four proposals for development of a 1.5-acre parking lot at Gibbs Street, across from the **Eastman Theatre**, has rejected the designs, which ranged from a \$20 million hotel and townhouse complex to a \$92 million, 15-story glass-and-brick high-rise. The committee plans to start over. The site is the Cultural Center Commission's last parcel to be developed.

IdahoStatesman (February 20)

Guest conductor brings touch of Poland to Idaho

Conductor Mariusz Smolij landed his first orchestra job at 18 and has been working since. He came to the United States to attend the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., where he earned his doctorate in conducting. His first U.S. job was with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. One of his strong points, he says, is that he is as comfortable with pop-arrangements as he is with classical, a clear byproduct of his eclectic background, he said. "No matter what you do in life, it's going to benefit you as an artist," he said.

GoErie (February 21)

Sense and sensibility

Soprano Julianne Baird, who will appear in recital at Edinboro University on Friday, is distinguished professor of music at Rutgers University in Camden and holds a Ph.D. in music history from Stanford University. At one point, she described herself as "a musicologist who sings." Upon entering Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, she changed her major from vocal performance. "I could tell that what they really wanted was a big

vibrato and a huge voice. I'm going to be a musicologist. Then I'll get to sing, and no one will attack me for what I want to sing," she remembered thinking at the time. Baird is presenting "Music from the Jane Austen Songbooks."

bryantarchway (February 22)

Bryant hosts guitar virtuoso

On February 12th at 7pm, Bello Grand Hall was filled with the quietly robust notes of Joshua Millard, classical guitarist. Joshua Millard has appeared in concerts at Oberlin Conservatory, MIT, The Eastman School of Music, and Boston's historic King's Chapel to name a few. He holds a doctorate in Guitar Performance and Literature from the **Eastman School of Music**, and serves on the faculties for two New England universities.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 23)

Thumbs Up

For area natives' Grammy connections. Maria Schneider, a graduate of the University of Rochester's **Eastman School of Music**, for winning a Grammy for best instrumental composition for her "Cerulean Skies."

Salt Lake Tribune (February 23)

Chorus of praise for easygoing Allred

Brady Allred, the University of Utah's director of choral activities, is being noticed for his success. In Utah, Allred is known for directing top-notch concerts and recordings with his university groups; effectively mentoring a new generation of choral conducting students; and raising the profile of the Salt Lake Choral Artists, a respected community choral organization. He is married to soprano Carol Ann Allred and performs often as her accompanist. The two earned master's and doctorate degrees together at **Eastman School of Music**.

El Dorado News-Times (February 23)

Free classical slated at library

Carnegie Hall performer Peter Fletcher will present a free classical guitar concert at 7 p.m. on Feb. 29 at Barton Library in El Dorado. Fletcher, who, at the age of 7 began his study of classical guitar under the tutelage of John Sutherland, made his formal debut at 15 with the Brasstown Concert Association in North Carolina. He also studied under Jose Thomas, David

Leisner, David Russell, Oscar Ghiglia and Pepe Romero. Fletcher received a national award in 1990 from the Music Teacher's National Association, and in 1995, he earned a master of music degree from **Eastman School of Music**, where he twice received the Eastman Graduate Award.

New York Times (February 26)

Mature Artist Celebrates Her Roots (and Flowering)

A review of a concert celebrating the 70th birthday of composer and pianist Joan Tower noted the concert concluded with selections from Messiaen's "Quartet for the End of Time." Ms. Tower said she had played this work innumerable times with the Da Capo ensemble. It was also significant for Stephen Williamson, the St. Luke's clarinetist, who elegantly shaped his phrases in the virtuosic solo. Mr. Williamson said this ethereal piece was a crucial factor in his decision, while studying at the **Eastman School of Music**, to choose music over the priesthood.

HULIQ (February 26)

Dayton Orchestra Presents High School Concert

A concert by the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra features the world premiere of "Contentions for Orchestra" by Dayton student composer Chad Latta. Latta, a freshman at the prestigious **Eastman School of Music**, wrote the piece while a senior at West Carrollton High School.

Rochester Business Journal (February 26)

Eastman School wins Best of the Web

The **Eastman School of Music** won the gold award for best overall Web site Tuesday morning at the Rochester Business Journal's annual Best of the Web competition and top honors in the non-profit/cultural category.

Baltimore City Paper (February 27)

Christopher Rouse

An interview with composer Christopher Rouse in advance of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's performance of his most popular composition, the Flute Concerto, notes that he taught at the **Eastman School of Music**. (*Rouse was professor of composition until 2002.*)

Democrat and Chronicle (February 23)

Sax man plays Rochester connection

Saxophonist Rich Perry met jazz pianist Harold Danko, now a faculty member at the **Eastman School of Music**, in the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis band. He visits Rochester this week as a guest with Danko at Exodus to Jazz and performs with Eastman's New Jazz Ensemble. While Perry is mostly known inside New York City jazz circles, he's gained recognition as a founding member of Eastman graduate Maria Schneider's Jazz Orchestra.

Democrat and Chronicle (February 28)

Playing in four-year time

Sometimes, failure is not a bad option. Pianist Harold Danko once ran for Pittsford trustee and lost, 181-180. As it is, Danko's plate is full enough without piling on politics like a load of hash browns. "Writing, for me, takes a lot of unstructured time," Danko says. "The older I get, the more structure I get myself involved in." Thankfully for the **Eastman School of Music** professor, he's found the perfect anniversary date on which to celebrate his writing at its own deliberate pace. Danko's Quadrennial Leap Year Event hits the calendar once every four years, Feb. 29.

Fox Business (February 27)

eWorld Companies, Inc. Forms New Subsidiary eWorld Music, Inc. and Names Jim DeCicco as Its President

PRNewswire-FirstCall/ eWorld Companies, Inc. (Pink Sheets: EWRL) announced today that it has formed a new wholly-owned subsidiary, eWorld Music, Inc. and named long-term music veteran Jim DeCicco as President of the subsidiary. eWorld Music is expected to pre-launch operations over the next few weeks and officially open for business with a red carpet premier launch event in early April. In addition to his Awards Shows experience, Mr. DeCicco's resume includes more than 20 years experience in music production, sound, video and concert promotion, and record production. Mr. DeCicco has a B.A. in Electronic Music and Technical Sound Production that was the culmination of study at **Eastman School of Music**, Cornell University and Ithaca College. (Also on Earthtimes - London,UK)

News and Current Events (February 28)

Noted concert pianist Juyeon Kang to perform March 2 at Beach/Schmidt

Concert artist and educator Juyeon Kang (pronounced jew-yon kahng) will perform works by Adler, Bach, Liszt, Debussy and Scriabin in a concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 2, at the Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center on the campus of Fort Hays State University. Kang, described by Natalya Antonova, distinguished professor at the **Eastman School of Music**, as a pianist of "formidable technique and exquisite sound," has performed in countries on four continents, including Canada, Brazil, Spain, Finland, Italy, Japan, China, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Korea as well as throughout the United States. She launched her performance career in 1998 after her debut solo recital in Boston's Jordan Hall after winning two first prizes in 1998: the Heida Hermann Young Artists Competition and the Josef Hofmann Piano Competition. She earned master's and doctoral degrees in piano performance and literature, and a master's degree in pedagogy of music theory, at the **Eastman School of Music** in Rochester, N.Y., where she was also awarded a distinguished performer's certificate.

Sioux City Journal (February 29)

Iowa Piano Competition contestants named

The names of the 12 pianists chosen to compete in the 2008 Iowa Piano Competition include musicians from all over the world. The intensive three-day competition is hosted by the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra March 6-8. The top six prize winners receive cash awards with the winner receiving \$7,500. Among the 12 pianists selected for the 2008 Iowa Piano Competition is: Julia Siciliano -- the only contestant who is a native of the states, Siciliano received her bachelor of music degree at the **Eastman School of Music** where she studied with previous Iowa Piano Competition judge, Nelita True.

(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.)