



MUSIC LIBRARY
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MLASCC EXECUTIVE BOARD 1986/87

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CONTENTS

Notes From the Chairman.....2
Fall Meeting Report.....3
Kenneth G. Fiske Museum Revisited.....4
Spiritual-Folksong Bibliography - Part 2.....5
Enclosures - MLASCC Ballot
Membership Directory -
 Corrections and Additions

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I want to bring to your attention some of our activities of the MLASCC board. This issue of the MLASCC Newsletter includes the ballot for new MLASCC officers. Please vote and return your ballots by April 30, 1987. This issue is also the final one from Dale Redfield as editor. Thanks go to Dale for producing fine, timely and informative newsletters. Deborah Smith, currently Dale's co-editor, will carry on as Editor with the August issue. The Membership Committee, chaired by Danette Adamson, issued the MLASCC Membership Directory recently. Thanks to the Committee for this splendid work. Val Williams is recovering from surgery and, with motherhood definitely in her future, is back at work.

Mark your calendars for Friday and Saturday, May 22-23, for the joint meeting of the Northern and Southern California MLA chapters. The program will include Carol Teten discussing social dancing throughout history, Paul Hirsch with a lecture/demonstration of Carter's piano sonata, Art Jones on radio programming of classical music, and many other speakers and performers. A performance of John Adams' opera Nixon in China, "a work rich in humor, theatricality and dance", is also scheduled. The meeting will be held at the San Francisco Conservatory and the San Francisco Public Library. You will receive a registration packet for the meeting in late April. Don't miss it!

A steering committee of local ARSC people have planned to initiate a Southern California Chapter of the Association of Recorded Sound Collections. The first meeting will be at UCLA May 9, and includes a paper on the state of the art in recording and playback equipment, plus a panel of experts describing local institutional and private recorded sound collections. A tour of the home and recording facilities of William Malloch is also on the program. Help get the ARSC chapter started by attending this important meeting.

The Fall MLASCC meeting will include a sequel to our May 1985 joint conference on California music as the chapter joins as a participant in the Los Angeles Musical Heritage Conference, sponsored by the NEH and coordinated by Jeannie Pool. The 3-day conference will include more than 20 renowned scholars and a variety of performances of early music of Los Angeles. The conference is scheduled for October 30, 31 and November 1, 1987. Put this on your calendar also.

Steve Fry, UCLA
MLASCC Chairman

FALL MEETING REPORT

On November 14, 1986, the general membership held their meeting at the Hollywood Bowl Museum located at the Bowl. About 35 members were treated to a day of lecture and discussion of California's Musical Heritage: From the Missions to the Hollywood Bowl. Jeannie Pool (CSUN) started the day with an illuminating talk on the role of mission music in California musical history. The unfortunate truth of the frequently miserable and often fatal life of the California Indian in relation to missionary intervention is not a pleasant story. The Indian's missionary musical activities are hardly indigenous to their normal musical contributions but it is a fascinating tale. Jeannie brought some examples of mission music showing the creative notations for performance practice.

Dr. Naima Prevots-Wallen, Director of the Hollywood Bowl Museum, presented a complete musical history of the Bowl and its influence on the music scene of Los Angeles. The Pageantry Movement, popular between 1914 and 1920, was one of the prime reasons for the creation of the Bowl. This was a time of promoting great art for the masses. The first concert was held in 1920. Much of the founding efforts were by volunteer labor and materials, the entire project being considered a community facility for inexpensive but quality cultural events. The Bowl being its summer home since 1922, the Los Angeles Philharmonic has been performing there since the Easter Sunrise service of 1920, a donated performance (!).

Dr. Prevots-Wallen briefly discussed the Museum and its services. The museum is open to the public, displaying changing exhibits of photographs and memorabilia as well as the sound archives. There is a small book shop associated with the Museum.

After a wonderful lunch at the Hollywood Bowl Restaurant, the meeting continued with a slide and musical presentation on Los Angeles' Musical History given by Lance Bowling of Cambria Records.

The day concluded with a self-guided tour of the Hollywood Bowl Museum.

HELP NEEDED

Be sure to contact Gordon Theil (UCLA) (213)825-4882 if you have suggestions for the National MLA meeting in 1988. Also, if you want to participate, let him know.

KENNETH G. FISKE MUSEUM REVISITED

Many members will remember the Spring 1982 meeting of the MLASCC at Claremont College and the visit to the Janssen musical instrument collection. The collection is now known as the Kenneth G. Fiske Museum named in memory of the curator who charmingly guided us that afternoon through the collection. In case you could not make that meeting, here is a brief description of this collection. The museum, which houses one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of rare and unusual instruments (372 Western and 280 ethnic instruments), was started by Curtis W. Janssen during World War I with a German bugle. Janssen was a band musician in the U.S. Navy serving in France at the time of his first acquisition. After the war, he joined John Philip Sousa's band, toured the world, taught and continued his instrument collecting. He joined the faculty of Ohio University at Athens in 1929 and taught there until 1946.

Kenneth Fiske and William Blanchard, professors at Pomona College, and Robert Bernard, one-time director of the Bridges Auditorium, were the reason this fabulous collection of Janssen's and additional instruments came to be permanently housed at The Claremont Colleges. Examples of some of the instruments are: over-the-shoulder horns, Russian bassoons decorated with dragon heads, U.S. Cavalry drums, mute violins, an Indian Sankh constructed of a sea shell, and the world's largest trumpet.

The museum is located on the lower level of Bridges Auditorium, the Center for the Performing Arts at The Claremont Colleges, 4th Street and College Way, Claremont. The hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 2 to 4 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and weekends by appointment. For more information, call the museum at (714)621-8307 or the Office of the Vice President of the Claremont University Center (714)621-8026.

Elizabeth Roleder
Claremont Colleges

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Rachel Anne was born to Bob and Linda Barnhart (UCSD) on October 30, 1986. Rachel joins brother Daniel (2 years old).

SPIRITUALS-FOLKSONGS BIBLIOGRAPHY - PART 2

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