

**Ohio Valley Chamber Music Presenters' Network**  
**Meeting NOTES**  
**April 24, 2004**

**RADIO**

We began the meeting by reviewing some of the Goals and Objectives of our November meeting. One goal that we explored at that time was syndicated radio broadcasts. We agreed that the following people will look into local stations to explore this possibility.

**Acton**, WUOL of Louisville

**Nancy**, WGUC of Cincinnati

**Jeff**, WOSU of Columbus

**NAME CHANGE**

We then changed our name to **Ohio Valley Chamber Music Presenters** as our members and friends have grown beyond the three states. I would like to add back the "**Network**" after running the name with and without it past a few people for intelligibility, despite the added length. If anyone has a major disagreement with this, please let me know asap. Clearly it is important to get the name right before we incorporate.

**INCORPORATION**

**Jo Anne Warren**, with the help of her able lawyers, will see that we are properly registered as a non-profit 501(c)3. This should help us with grants as well as other business.

**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

We discussed membership levels and fees and decided that annual fees will be \$50.00 for full membership, which will include invitations to meetings, setting agenda items, and determining joint projects, while associate members, who may just want to be on our listserve, should pay \$35.00 annually. Those of you who already paid \$100 are covered for two years. **For those who have not yet paid**, checks should be made out to **Ohio Valley Chamber Music Presenters' Network/Mary White** and sent to:

Mary White

1490 President St.

Yellow Springs, OH 45387

**SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS**

Jo Anne Warren introduced the notion of subscriber benefits, specifically, discounts on tickets with other series. But evidently Marriott would like our business and others may as well. She suggested that some modification of the following statement could be included in our programs:

*NEW! Announcement to our subscribers:*

*Reciprocal arrangements with chamber music presenters in other cities.*

*Chamber Music societies in Cleveland, Columbus, Yellow Springs, Cincinnati,*

*Indianapolis, Notre Dame, Lexington, and Louisville [delete yourself] offer discounts to our subscribers. Marriott Hotels offer discounted lodging, restaurant, parking, shuttle service, driving directions, convenient to concert halls. Call your ticket chair [xxx-xxxx] for particulars.*

*(alternative version) Many chamber music series in the region offer reduced prices on tickets for our subscribers. Marriott Hotels also provide discounted lodging, parking, and other services convenient to our concert halls. Ask our ticket chair for a complete calendar of regional events.*

## **CALENDAR**

Mary will make an integrated calendar of all of the concert seasons of member organizations. I have brochures for next year's season from Columbus, Louisville, and Cincinnati. **Would the rest of you please send me your seasons either in brochure form or by email and I will see that you are included.** We will then print this up for distribution to all series subscribers.

## **COMPETITION WINNERS**

**Ann Divine and Jeff Huntington:** Would each of you please get us the names of your competition winners for the last 5-10 years--post on the listserve. Ann, if you have details about the artists fees and subsidies you might have for presenting your winners we would like to have that information as well. We all agreed that we would like to present competition winners but need more information in order to figure out how.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Ivan** will send us an email with the benefits offered by Chamber Music Columbus, or we can look it up on the CM Columbus website. This should inspire all of us to think about other kinds of member benefits for our subscribers.

Chamber Music America offers various benefits and a copy of their monthly magazine to members. If any of you do not already receive the CMA magazine, please let me know asap and I will see that you are added to their mailing list.

Dick made an eloquent speech encouraging us all to try to have our performances in intimate venues.

CMColumbus has a survey on their website that we find useful if we want to research our subscribers.

Because CMColumbus is hosting our listserve, we might be able to get a website through their website. **Bob Wilhelm—what do you think?** If not, we need to think about how to set one up, and in addition, to get links from each of our series websites to everyone else's.

## **BLOCK BOOKING**

We then spend the rest of the meeting discussing block booking. First we brainstormed a list of groups we think are fabulous and would like to book, as follows:

### **String Quartets:**

Hagen  
Orion  
Belcea  
Guarneri  
Takacs  
Tokyo  
Juilliard  
Mendelssohn  
St Lawrence  
Brentano  
American  
Vega  
Shanghai  
Kuss  
Ying

### **Other**

Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio  
Runger Eckart and Jacques Amman--cello-piano duo  
Innuendo--Keith Lockhart and friends  
Los Angeles Piano Quartet  
Florestan Piano Trio  
Triple Helix (piano trio)  
Tapestry (vocal quartet)  
Debussy Trio (flute, harp, viola)  
American Chamber Players  
Brazilian Guitar Quartet

### **Groups already booked for next season:**

#### ***Louisville:***

Claremont Trio, Oct 23, 2005  
Miami Quartet, Nov. 20, 2005  
Chicago Pro Musica, Feb 5, 2006  
Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet, March 5, 2006  
Emerson String Quartet, April 23, 2006 (tentative)

#### ***Lexington:***

Vega Quartet, Sept, 05, date TBD.

### **Groups that are particularly good for broadening audiences:**

Brazilian Guitar Quartet  
Debussy Trio

Quink (from CMYS's experience years ago)

**Groups that are particularly good at outreach:**

Ying Quartet

Triple Helix

Fry St. Quartet

Innuendo

Eckart-Amman duo

Corky Siegal's Chamber Blues

**BLOCK BOOKING PROJECTS!!!**

We decided to try two projects, in hopes that at least one will work.

**Orion String Quartet** has a Beethoven cycle they would be willing to do for us for a reasonable fee (ca. \$33,000) if we can keep them regionally localized. Our concerts take place on the following weekdays:

Columbus--Saturday

Cincinnati CMS--Tuesday; Linton--Sunday and Monday

Louisville--Sunday

Yellow Springs--Sunday

Lexington--Sunday, occasionally weekdays.

Indianapolis--Wednesday

Cleveland--Tuesday

The idea would be to have as many concerts as possible in as few days as possible, bringing Beethoven to the Ohio Valley in a compressed festival atmosphere in which audiences could travel from city to city to hear more than one concert. Food and partying could go with, as well as perhaps talks with the musicians (and we could hook in with university education programs if we got organized).

**Thus far, we are thinking we could do the following:**

Columbus on Saturday

Yellow Springs on Sunday

Linton (Cinci) on Monday

Cincinnati CMS on Tuesday.

**Pam Steele** in Indianapolis--would you like Wednesday? Anyone else for Friday? or we could try universities in the area: Miami U., Earlham, NKU, Ohio U.

**Next Step: Dick Waller** will contact the quartet and see when they have weekends free between October and March, 2005-2006.

### **Belcea String Quartet:**

Columbus, Cincinnati, and Yellow Springs are interested in this. Columbus has the limiting factor of when their venue will be able to schedule--not until June. Once we have their dates, each presenter will independently contact the Belcea's agent (Bill Capone, of the Arts Management Group, (212-337-0838). **Ed King**--will you keep Tom Osborne (CMYS) and Audrey or Jo Anne (of Cincinnati CMS) posted on your dates please? If others might be interested in this please post to the listserv, [Consortium@CMColumbus.org](mailto:Consortium@CMColumbus.org).

### **GENERAL BLOCK-BOOKING LOGISTICS**

In order to further collaboration on other groups, it would help if you would post the groups you are very interested in or have committed to as soon as you do can. For instance, now we know what Louisville is doing in 2005-6, some of us may wish to work with those groups.

We agreed that we will not try for parity in fee sharing between presenting organizations as our resources vary widely. As a collaborative organization, some of us will invariably pay more for the same group than others. There may be times when we work this out among ourselves, and times when we negotiate individually with agents. I would hope that if one group commits early to a group and another signs on later for the same weekend, that the agent will be willing to reconsider fees--though we can't count on that. But I can't help but think that the more open we are in our communication, the more opportunities we will have.

**NOTE FOR ALL MEMBERS: We need to have the contact information for each of the persons responsible for booking/contracts from each of our respective organizations. Please respond on the listserv or directly to me and I will collate/distribute.**

### **NEXT MEETING**

We are tentatively scheduling our next meeting for Saturday, September 24. That day Emmanuel Ax is playing with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Assuming we continue to meet in Cincinnati, we might plan to socialize after the meeting over dinner and go to the concert together.

At the September meeting we will see where we are with the Orion and Belcea, disclose any other groups we know we are very interested in, and begin to talk about commissioning and /or outreach efforts. There is lots of grant funding out there and we should be attractive, as a group. On that note, there is a very interesting article in the most recent CMA magazine about an inner city string program in Providence—take a look.

We understand that in collaborative efforts, you can't begin to plan too soon. Embarking on anything will likely require individual presenters to think about their coming seasons a bit earlier.

Let me know what I have left out, and thanks again to all of you for your energy and efforts. This was an extremely productive meeting—it far surpassed my expectations.

Mary