

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT YALE**  
**November 15, 2006 Council Meeting**

Fenno Heath called the meeting to order at 12:40 P.M. Fenno welcomed the members and guests, and, on a personal note, reported that he and Carol have moved into the Whitney Center in Hamden. The minutes from the May 10 meeting were then approved.

Patrick McCreless reported on activities in the Department of Music for the past six months. The Department will move from its current building on 143 Elm to Stoeckel Hall in January of 2009. Stoeckel will be extended about twenty feet southward, toward the Elizabethan Club, in order to make room for four new music classrooms. The new classroom space will enable the Department to teach most of its undergraduate and graduate courses in its own building, thereby freeing up the rooms that it has used for decades in William L. Harkness Hall. The University needs new classroom space, and one reason for the renovation and move is to make these WLH rooms available to other departments. The Department has also, with the help of Assistant Professor Sarah Weiss and funding from the Council on Southeast Asian Studies, purchased a Javanese gamelan from Indonesia, so we will soon have a new—and surely prominent—East Asian musical group on campus. The Department is strongly committed to teaching and promoting world music, and has just instituted a new course and a degree requirement in that subject. The program in Musical Theatre that Richard Lalli founded last year in the Department, funded by a generous gift from Yale Corporation member Ted Shen, was a huge success (as demonstrated by a wonderful concert in New York in April), and it has been expanded this year. The Department is hoping to continue to strengthen this program and to solidify its (very natural) connection to Broadway. The Collegium, also directed by Richard Lalli, had a splendid year last year, culminating in a concert at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This year violinist Robert Mealy is directing the Collegium, which continues to draw impressive crowds to its concerts. Finally, the Department, in cooperation with the School of Music and the Department of Psychology, has sponsored a series of four lectures on music and emotion by David Huron (Professor of Music, Ohio State University), a leading world authority on music perception and cognition. The lectures attracted students and faculty from the Department, School, and Psychology Department, as well as a substantial number of local residents interested in the subject.

Richard Lalli described the work of the Collegium Musicum in the past year, and noted that Robert Mealy has capably taken over the reins of this ensemble, which has been thriving in the past few years. Early music performance is especially alive and well on the Yale campus, and we are beginning to be recognized nationally for achievements in this area. Richard also reported that he has initiated a collaboration of the Department of Music with the Whitney Humanities Center, and that Tom Duffy has arranged for a Bechstein grand piano to be housed in the Center. Already there is a concert series, involving undergraduate music students, in this space that has rarely been used for music performance.

Tom Masse, Deputy Dean of the School of Music, reported that Robert Blocker has returned as Dean of the School, after a year of serving as Provost of Southern Methodist University in Dallas. Tom offered congratulations and thanks, on the part of the School, to Tom Duffy for his superb job as Acting Dean in the academic year 2005-2006. He noted again the good fortune of the School in receiving the gift of \$100 million, and affirmed that the School is now tuition-free for its students. He announced the appointment of new studio teachers in oboe and violin, and he reported that the Philharmonia orchestra is playing in Carnegie Hall in the fall, and that there will be a special concert in New York in December, honoring composer Martin Bresnick on his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Linette Norbeau reported that gifts to the Friends of Music are only slightly down, and that we still have been able to fund one or two groups more generously, due to readjustments made possible by some groups not needing as much support as they have had before.

Carole Morgan and Mary-Jo Warren reported on the Friends of Music Recital Competition, and noted that this continues to be a rewarding and successful event in every way. The prize money has been substantially increased, and now the Friends are supporting the professional recording of the recital, so that the winning players will have a first-rate CD of their performances.

Mark Dollhopf, long-time Friends member and Founder and Director of the Yale Alumni Chorus, was introduced as the new Executive Director of the Association of Yale Alumni (Congratulations, Mark, on a well-deserved appointment!). Mark has great plans for AYA, including the development of new alumni groups based on shared interests.

Leon Plantinga, Acting Director of the Collection of Musical Instruments, spoke about how the gifts from the Friends have been used recently by the Collection, and he noted that he is planning concerts this year that will involve use of some of the instruments by student performers.

Tom Duffy, who is on leave this year except for directing the Yale Band, noted that the Band has excellent talent this year, and will be undertaking a trip to Brazil. Tom has done significant fundraising, and now has \$1 million in the Band's endowment.

Jeffrey Douma detailed the many activities of the Yale Glee Club this year. The Glee Club will perform the Fauré *Requiem*, Mahler's Third Symphony, and the Britten *War Requiem* in the spring semester. In addition, they are planning a concert in New Orleans, with the concert preceded by a day of work for Habitat for Humanity.

Fenno elaborated on the growth of singing at Yale over the years, and its current state of excellent health. On that upbeat note, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Friends is May 9, 2007.