Monday, April 20, 2009, 7:30 PM
The William R. and Irene D. Miller Recital Hall

*The International Student Organization and
Manhattan School of Music’s Distance Learning Program*

*present*

The 4th Annual International Student Concert and Webcast

**PROGRAM**

**OPENING REMARKS**
Robert Sirota, *President*
Manhattan School of Music

**YOON PIN LEONG**
(b. 1931)

*Spring Cleaning*

**TRADITIONAL**

*Korean Traditional Song of Kang Ding*
Leslie Tay, *voice* (Singapore)
Kerong Chok, *piano* (Singapore)

**A.H. HAMAM**
(b. 1945)

*Sonata No. 1*  
I. Allegretto  
II. Andante

Yasmin Alami, *piano* (Jordan)

**ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK**
(1841-1904)

*“Dobrá noc, má milá”* from *V národním tónu*, op. 73

Pavlína Horáková, *voice* (Czech Republic)
Abdiel Vazquez, *piano* (Mexico)

**SERGEI RACHMANINOFF**
(1873-1943) (arr. Taddes Korris)

*Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*, op. 43  
Variation No. 18

Taddes Korris, *double bass* (Canada/Lithuania)
Angelo Di Loreto, *piano* (United States)

**HENRI DUPARC**
(1848-1933)

*L’Invitation au Voyage*

**CLAUDE DEBUSSY**
(1862-1918)

*Apparition* from *Quatre Chansons de Jeunesse*

Bridget Best, *voice* (Canada)
Karina Azatyan, *piano* (United States)

**EUGEN SUCHON**
(1908-1993)

*Toccata*

Peter Fancovic, *piano* (Slovakia)

**CLAUDE DEBUSSY**
(1862-1918)

*Apparition* from *Quatre Chansons de Jeunesse*

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**Antonín Dvořák**
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**HENRI DUPARC**
(1848-1933)

*L’Invitation au Voyage*
Spring Cleaning
Du Hong

快把这地球扫一扫
春天已经来到
快把这地球扫一扫
过时的,没必要的
一把火,把它烧掉
肮脏的,腐臭的
一挥帚,把它扫掉
干净的地方
要贴上新的春联
一边写上和平
一边写上欢笑
清新的空气,让大家齐来呼吸
哈哈的笑声代替轰隆的枪炮
春天已经来到!

*Strips of paper with wishes written on them

L’Invitation au Voyage
Invitation to a Voyage

Mon enfant, ma sœur,
Songe à la douceur
D’aller là-bas vivre ensemble,
Aimer à loisir,
Aimer et mourir
Au pays qui te ressemble.

Les soleils mouillés
De ces ciels brouillés
Pour mon esprit ont les charmes
Si mystérieux
De tes traîtres yeux,
Brillant à travers leurs larmes.

Là, tout n’est qu’ordre et beauté,
Luxe, calme et volupté.

Vois sur ces canaux
Dormir ces vaisseaux
Dont l’humeur est vagabonde;
C’est pour assouvir
Ton moindre désir
Qu’ils viennent du bout du monde.

Les soleils couchants
Revêtent les champs,
Les canaux, la ville entière,
D’hyacinthe et d’or;
Le monde s’endort
Dans une chaude lumière!

Là, tout n’est qu’ordre et beauté,
Luxe, calme et volupté.

–Charles Baudelaire
<translations?>

Love Song of Kang Ding
Traditional

康定情歌

跑马溜(溜溜的)的山上一朵(溜溜的)云哟
在康定(溜溜的)的城哟
月亮弯弯康定(溜溜的)的城哟
李家(溜溜的)的大姐人才(溜溜的)好哟
张家(溜溜的)的哥哥看上(溜溜的)她哟
月亮弯弯看上(溜溜的)她哟
一来(溜溜的)看上人才(溜溜的)好哟
二来(溜溜的)看上当(溜溜的)家哟
月亮弯弯当(溜溜的)家哟
世间(溜溜的)女子任我(溜溜的)爱哟
世间(溜溜的)男子任你(溜溜的)求哟
月亮弯弯任你(溜溜的)求哟

Love Song of Kang Ding

On the hill where horses run, a single cloud above,
Shining down over the city of Kang Ding
The moon a crescent, the city of Kang Ding
The maiden from the Li family has many talents
The lad from the Zhang family has fallen in love with her
The moon a crescent, has fallen in love with her
Firstly, he has fallen for her many talents
Secondly, he has fallen for her skills in caring for the home
The moon a crescent, her skills in caring for the home
All the girls of the world are there for me to love
All the boys of the world are there for you to woo
The moon a crescent, are there for you to woo

The westering suns
Clothe the fields,
the canals, and the town
with reddish-orange and gold.
The world falls asleep
bathed in warmth and light!

There, all is harmony and beauty,
luxury, calm and delight.

–Charles Baudelaire <translations?>
**Apparition from Quatre Chansons de Jeunesse**
Stéphane Mallarmé

La lune s’attristait. Des séraphins en pleurs
Rêvant, l’archet aux doigts, dans le calme des fleurs
Vaporeuses, tiraient de mourantes violes
De blancs sanglots glissant sur l’azur des corolles.
- C’était le jour bénii de ton premier baiser;
- Ma songerie aimant à me martyriser
S’envirait savamment du parfum de tristesse
Que même sans regret et sans déboire laisse
La cueillasson d’un Rêve au coeur qui l’a cueilli.
J’errais donc, j’œil rivé sur le pavé vieilli.
Quand avec du soleil aux cheveux, dans la rue
Et dans le soir, tu m’es en riant apparue
Et j’ai cru voir la fée au chapeau de clarté
Qui jadis sur mes beaux sommeils d’enfant gâté
Passait, laissant toujours de ses mains mal fermées
Neiger de blancs bouquets d’étoiles parfumées.

**Apparition from Four Songs of Youth**

The moon was saddened. Seraphims in tears
dreaming, bows at their fingers, in the calm of filmy flowers
Threw dying violas of white sobs
sliding over the blue of corollas.
It was the blessed day of your first kiss;
My reverie, loving to torture me,
wisely imbibed its perfume of sadness
That even without regret and without setback
leaves the gathering of a dream within the heart that gathered it.
I wandered then, my eye riveted on the aged cobblestones.
When, with light in your hair, in the street
and in the evening, you appeared to me smiling
and I thought I had seen the fairy with a hat of light
who passed in my sweet dreams as a spoiled child,
always dropping from her carelessly closed hand
a snow of white bouquets of perfumed stars.

<Verlaine text to come! Ariettes oubliées, L. 60>

**PROGRAM NOTES**

**Yoon Pin Leong**

*Spring Cleaning*

Yoon Pin Leong is one of Singapore’s pioneering composers. He completed his graduate and higher degree studies at the Guildhall School of Music and the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and later studied with Nadia Boulanger in Paris. In 1982, he received Singapore’s highest arts award, the Cultural Medallion, for his contribution to the local cultural and musical scene. Known for his choral and symphonic compositions, he often fuses local culture and twentieth-century compositional techniques. *Spring Cleaning* is one such example.

**Love Song of Kang Ding**

*Traditional*

This traditional Sichuan folksong is probably one of the best-known Chinese folk tunes. Its strophic simplicity and haunting lyricism with the onomatopoeic breeze-like quality of the words “liu liu” has made it one of the most widely recorded and widely arranged folk tunes. The song refers to the tradition of young men taking the chance to court the lovely maidens during the annual horse-racing festival on Pao Ma (Horse-racing) Mountain.

**A.H. Hamam**

*Sonata No. 1*

The Jordanian-Palestinian composer Abdel Hamid Hamam (b. 1945), one of the very few contemporary Jordanian composers, is one of the most respected and well-known composers and pedagogues in the Arab world, whose compositions, publications, and research have made a huge contribution to the development of music in Jordan and the Middle East.

Piano Sonata No. 1, written in the early 1970s, is one of Dr. Hamam’s cross-cultural compositions in which elements of both Eastern and Western music are found. The first movement presents two themes: the first influenced by the folkloric dance *Dabbkah*, and the second influenced by traditional city songs. The second movement is also composed in two sections; the first section is based on a style of Arabic chant, *Mawwad*, that is usually slow and ad-libbed, and the second is based on the popular Middle-Eastern dance. The sonata is in three movements, though only two movements will be performed here.
Antonín Dvořák

“Dobrú noc, má milá” from V národním tónu, op. 73

“Dobrú noc, má milá” (“Good night, my darling”) is from the song cycle V národním tónu (In the folk tone) by Antonín Dvořák, the Czech composer of the Romantic era. Though the songs in the cycle sound like beautiful Czech folksongs, Dvořák used only the lyrics from famous folksongs and set them to original melodies. This is a song about two lovers saying good night yet knowing that they will be dreaming about their love and will see each other again. Dvořák, who came to New York to teach young American composers how to use national music in their own pieces, was for a few years the director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York City. The Conservatory, at 126-128 East 17th Street, had been founded by Jeannette Thurber, a wealthy and philanthropic socialite, but was demolished in 1911 and replaced by what is now a high school.

Sergei Rachmaninoff (arr. Taddes Korris)

Variation No. 18 from Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, op. 43

The slow 18th variation from Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, op. 43 for solo piano and orchestra is one of Rachmaninoff’s best-known melodies. It is based on an inversion of the melody from Paganini’s famous 24th violin caprice. The Paganini theme in A minor is basically played ‘upside down’ in D-flat major with some modifications. Rachmaninoff himself recognized the appeal of this variation, saying “This one is for my agent.”

Henri Duparc

L’Invitation au Voyage

In L’Invitation au Voyage, Henri Duparc sets one of Baudelaire’s most beautiful poems in which he describes his vision of a possible future life with his lover as one of order, beauty, calm, and sensuous delight. This is one of Duparc’s best-loved melodies for its vivid imagery and compelling melody.

Claude Debussy

Apparition from Quatre Chansons de Jeunesse

Apparition comes from Debussy’s Quatre Chansons de Jeunesse, written when he was just seventeen years old. Mallarmé’s poem was a wedding present for a friend in which he describes the apparition of a dreamlike female figure, intangible and unidentifiable, appearing out of the night sky.

Eugen Suchon

Toccata

Eugen Suchon, a remarkable Slovak composer, was one of the founders of modern Slovak composition. He was inspired by both classical works and trends of his era. Of course he was greatly inspired by Slovak folk songs. Toccata is a short virtuoso piece for solo piano, composed in 1978. This piece contains a lot of dissonance and is full of rapid temperament and wild energy.

Claude Debussy

Ariettes oubliées, L. 60

Ariettes oubliées is a collection of six songs that marks Debussy’s transition from a traditional French style to a more inventive and individual one. They are based on poems that Paul Verlaine wrote while he was on the road with his young lover, Arthur Rimbaud, for whom he left his wife and family. The texts are full of recurrent themes such as the melding of a perfect intellectual and physical love (in the first song: “This deploring soul is ours, isn’t it? Mine, say it! and yours!), the spleen, a feeling of sadness and melancholy with no understandable reason for it, and the constant fear of abandonment by the loved one, something that finally happened to Verlaine a few years later when Rimbaud left him.

Cyrus von Hochstetter

My Train Ain’t Coming

My Train Ain’t Coming was written after humming the title words over and over again while waiting for the No. 1 train at 168th Street.

Cyrus von Hochstetter

On a Bridge

On a Bridge was composed after walking across the Brooklyn Bridge, where you can see cars, buses, bikes, people, trains, planes, streets, bridges, helicopters, birds, and ships all at the same time.
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Lesley Tay, Voice

Singaporean tenor Leslie Tay’s operatic roles include Don Basilio/Don Curzio with Brooklyn Repertory Opera, Alfred with Opera Manhattan, Monostatos with Bronx Opera, King Kaspar (cover) and Beppe with Eastern Festival Opera, Boy 1 (*Trouble in Tahiti*) and Witch (*Hansel and Gretel*) with Singapore Lyric Opera and Bastien with Artyfakt (Singapore). His interest in contemporary opera has also led to roles in Gregg Wramage’s *Death in Summer*, Tārik O’Regan’s *Heart of Darkness* in a workshop with director Jonathan Miller, and Jack Perla’s *Love/Hate*. Leslie is currently pursuing graduate studies at Manhattan School of Music in the studio of Arthur Levy.

Kerong Chok, Piano

Born and bred in Singapore, Kerong Chok has performed as a jazz pianist and organist at events/venues such as the Esplanade Mosaic Music Festival, the Chijmes Jazz Festival, and local jazz club Jazz@Southbridge. He has also performed with such jazz artists as Eugene Pao and Eli Degibri. A law graduate of the National University of Singapore, Kerong was awarded the Singapore National Arts Council Arts Scholarship (Overseas) in 2008 to pursue a Master’s degree in Jazz at Manhattan School of Music. He currently studies with Phil Markowitz.

Yasmin Alami, Piano

Jordanian pianist Yasmin Alami recently graduated with a Master’s in Piano Performance from Manhattan School of Music, where she was in the studio of Phillip Kawin. At the Conservatoire National de Région de Tours in France she obtained a Certificat de Perfectionnement for solo piano as a student of Phillepe Lefèvre and a Certificat de fin d’étude in chamber music under the coaching of Xavier Richard. Yasmin also holds a B.A. in Music from the Université Francois Rabelais de Tours. She has performed extensively in Jordan, France, and the United States as a soloist and chamber musician. She was awarded first prize at the annual regional competition held in Orléans for solo piano performance in 2005 and first prize in solo piano and in chamber music from the Conservatoire National de Tours in 2004. In 2006, Yasmin was invited to perform a private recital for Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali and was awarded a full scholarship towards her musical education. In 2008, she was invited to perform with the National Symphony Orchestra in Amman, the first female Jordanian pianist to do so. She is currently the only Jordanian pianist concertizing in North America. In September 2009, she will join the piano faculty of the University of Jordan.

Pavlína Horáková, Voice

Pavlína Horáková is a mezzo-soprano from Prague, Czech Republic. She is currently in her first year of graduate studies at Manhattan School of Music, studying classical voice with Arthur Levy. She first received a Master of Business Administration at the University of Economics in Prague and then graduated from the Prague Conservatory. In addition to classical singing, Pavlína sang for two years with a Czech rock band, Checkpoint, and released a CD, *Razny svety*. She performed as a soloist with the choir Mladi and Musica Economica Pragensis and also with the orchestra of the University of Economics. Pavlína has performed in Germany, Belgium, Slovakia, and the United States and sang at the European project EMSO 2003 with an international orchestra under the direction of Australian conductor Dr. David Banney. She won third prize in the Czech National Vocal Competition. She was recently chosen to participate in the outreach program at Manhattan School of Music, performing for children in New York City public schools.

Abdiel Vazquez, Accompanist

Abdiel Vazquez is regarded as one of the leading musicians of his generation in Mexico, who has enjoyed equal success as a concert pianist, solo recitalist, and vocal accompanist throughout his home country and abroad. He has been soloist with all the major Mexican orchestras and recently toured South America performing Rachmaninoff’s Third Piano Concerto. This year he became the founder and director of the orchestra Symphonic Youth of Monterrey. Besides being the recipient of many awards in national and international piano competitions, he was granted the National Youth Award by President [Fox or Calderón?] of Mexico in 2006.

Taddes Korris, Double Bass

Taddes Korris, an undergraduate student at Manhattan School of Music, currently studies with David Grossman of the New York Philharmonic. At 16, Taddes began to study the double bass with Jan Urke, Principal Bass of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. He also completed a year at McGill University under Brian Robinson, principal bass of the Montreal Symphony, before transferring to Manhattan School of Music. Taddes recently played with a chamber group performing the work *Sweet Talk*, written for Jessye Norman by the distinguished American composer Richard Danielpour. In May 2007, in cooperation with the Lithuanian Society of Edmonton, Taddes recruited 66 young Canadian musicians to record the rare works of Lithuanian composer Mikalojus Ciurlionis. As a result of this project, Taddes was one of the recipients of the Top 20 Under 20 Award and was awarded a mentorship with Order of Canada recipient George Zukerman through the Governor General’s office.
Angelo Di Loreto, *Piano*

Angelo Di Loreto, born in Buffalo, New York, is currently a freshman at Manhattan School of Music and a member of the studio of Ted Rosenthal. He has been studying classical piano since the age of 12 and jazz since the age of 15. Angelo has been active in the orchestral field as well, as he held the title of principal percussion/pianist of the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra from 2004 to 2008. In 2006, the orchestra premiered Angelo’s arrangement for jazz quartet and orchestra entitled *A Music Supreme*, dedicated to the legendary saxophonist John Coltrane. The piece won a *DownBeat* magazine award for best arrangement. In 2008, Angelo was a winner of the orchestra’s senior concerto competition and performed Alan Hovhaness’ *Fantasy on Japanese Woodprints* for marimba and orchestra. Angelo hopes to pursue a multi-faceted career in jazz and classical piano, composition, and whatever else may come.

Bridget Best, *Voice*

Canadian soprano Bridget Best is finishing her first year in the Master’s program at Manhattan School of Music, where she studies with Joan Patenaude-Yarnell. She sang the role of Mimi in *La Bohème* in Positano, Italy and this fall sang the role of Zerlina in *Don Giovanni* in New York City. She has also given recitals in Austria, Canada, Italy, and the United States. Bridget holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Studies from Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario.

Peter Fancovic, *Piano*

Peter Fancovic studied at the Bratislava Conservatory with Peter Cerman, has performed with the Bratislava Symphony Orchestra and Bratislava Chamber Orchestra, and won first prize in the National Conservatory competition. After his studies at the Conservatory, he became a student of Marian Lapsansky at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and won first prize in the International Music Competition Beethoven’s Hradec (Czech Republic) for “the best performance of Beethoven’s composition.” Peter has participated in master classes with Matti Raekallio, Willem Brons, Boris Berman, Arie Vardi, Klaus Hellwig, and Jan Marisse Huizing. He was selected for the “New Masters on Tour” recital series in the Netherlands for the 2008-2009 season. A recipient of the Edith Kriss scholarship, Peter is pursuing his Bachelor of Music degree at Manhattan School of Music, studying with Solomon Mikowsky. As the winner of the school’s concerto competition in February 2009, he will perform with the orchestra in the next concert season.

Camille Dereux, *Voice*

Camille Dereux began singing in the children’s choir of the Paris Opera at age 11. After receiving a concert diploma in Switzerland, she came to Manhattan School of Music, where she is pursuing her Master of Music degree, studying with Patricia McCaffrey. She has appeared in master classes with great artists such as Edda Moser, Sherill Milnes, and Catherine Malﬁtano. Last year, she was part of the International Vocal Arts Institute summer program with Joan Dorneman. This summer she will be performing the role of Susanna from Mozart’s *Le nozze di Figaro* in Belgium.

Audrey Abela, *Piano*

In 2005, Audrey Abela graduated from the Conservatory of Boulogne-Billancourt in France, where she studied with Marie-Paule Siruguet. She then pursued post-graduate studies with Hortense Cartier-Bresson before moving to New York in 2007. She is currently a sophomore at Manhattan School of Music, where she is studying with Nina Svetlanova. She has participated in master classes with Alexander Ghindin, Jean-Phillipe Collard, Xavier Gagnepain, Tuja Hakkila, and Denis Pascal. She has attended festivals in France, Spain, and Finland and has performed as a chamber musician and soloist in her home country of France.

Cyrus von Hochstetter, *Voice/Piano*

Cyrus von Hochstetter was born in Zurich, Switzerland and started playing classical piano at the age of six. He discovered jazz as a teenager and was soon playing in several local bands and leading a jazz piano trio. After winning an award at the Young Lions Swiss Jazz Festival, he was able to perform at the world-renowned Montreux Jazz Festival in 2004 and was then asked to play for the Montreux Jazz Chrysler Award the next year. Cyrus moved to New York City in 2004, where he attends Manhattan School of Music and studies jazz piano. He has performed as a featured performer in several venues, such as the Bimhuis in Amsterdam, Moods Jazz Club in Zurich, and the Garage in New York City, where he plays on a regular basis.

Carla Jablonski, *Voice*

Carla Jablonski, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, moved to New York in 2002 to pursue music and theater. She performed at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center and at Carnegie Hall with South African jazz artist Hugh Masekela and Paul Simon. At 16 Carla began to write her own music and taught herself to play the guitar. Carla started performing at smaller venues in Manhattan and began actively pursuing her love of jazz. Currently she is
completing her last year at Manhattan School of Music, where she studies classical voice and opera. Intent on not limiting herself musically, Carla is active in the classical world as well as in jazz and experimental realms and plans to continue to be as long as she can.

Samir Zarif, Saxophone

Samir Zarif is an extraordinary tenor saxophonist hailing originally from Houston, Texas. Samir made his debut as a jazz artist in New Orleans and moved to New York City shortly thereafter. Samir's discography ranges from Jill Scott's *Beautifully Human: Words and Sounds, Vol. 2* to his debut as a Fresh Sounds recording artist on his CD *The Paislies*. He performed and recorded with musicians and groups like Jason Marsalis, Roland Guerin, Nick Payton, the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, Irvin Mayfield, Aaron Neville, Jill Scott, and James Westfall.

Ted Boasso, Guitar

Ted Boasso was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. He began to take a serious interest in jazz guitar while attending the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts. After Hurricane Katrina, Ted relocated to New York City to finish his senior year of high school at LaGuardia Arts and is currently studying jazz guitar at Manhattan School of Music. Ted has performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the Schloss Velden A Capella Hotel in Velden, Austria, and a variety of venues in New York, such as Dizzy's Club *Coca-Cola*, Fat Cat, Fat Baby, and the Zipper Factory.

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