

Allegro moderato, whose right-hand theme begins with the unexpected dark sound of the "Bassoon" register; the beautiful timbral contrasts between the various long, expressive right-hand lines of the Adagio, due to the employment of the luminous "Violin" switch in one passage, and the rich sound of "Bassoon" in the other, with all of these supported by a lovely, translucent, high left-hand register; and the almost whispering use of the "Clarinet" stop at the outset of the Allegro, offset at the end of the movement by the electronic-, sine-tone-like effect of the highest, single-reed switches ("Piccolo" in the right hand) of both manuals propelling a rising sixteenth-note rush into the stratosphere in deliciously dissonant two-part counterpoint. In sum, Krenek's Toccata is one of the finest examples of highly imaginative and organic use of accordion registration in the literature, and accounts for an enormous amount of the work's (and the instrument's) convincing success

In 1976 Krenek wrote yet another solo for accordion, entitled *Acco-Music*, commissioned this time by the Accordion Teachers Guild (A. T. G.). I felt honored that he asked me to be his advisor for this work. This I did via many letters back and forth with him. The correspondence is preserved in his papers at the University of California, San Diego. *Acco-Music* was published the next year by *Ars Nova* and further edited by Californian Donald Balestrieri. Both it and *Toccata* are presently available through Ernest Deffner Music. Joseph Macerollo recorded it several years later (LP; "Interaccordionista"; Melbourne SMLP 4034; a recent CD recording by Alfred Melichar is also available on the Extraplatte label, LC 8202; EX 252 095-2). In the meantime, I urged the maestro to write yet a third piece which would be a chamber work for accordion and other mixed instruments. He was interested in the proposition, but, alas, being extremely busy with long lists of commissions ahead of him, this never came to be.

The Fourth Contemporary Accordion Music Concert

Elebash Recital Hall • The Graduate Center • The City University of New York
at 5th Avenue and 34th Street • New York, NY

Friday, October 10, 2008

7:30 p.m., with Panel Discussion at 6:30 p.m.

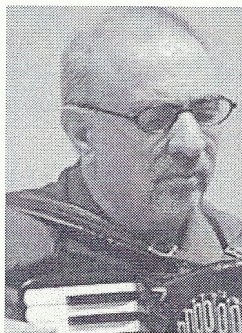
Robert Young McMahan, Producer/Moderator

The program is entitled "*Vintage Classical Accordion: A Sampler of Neo-Romantic and Neoclassical Works for or Including Accordion, with a Few Surprises*" and will explore vintage concert pieces familiar to all accordionists from the Vaudeville days of the Deiros, Frosini, and others (including an infrequently heard work in modern atonal style by Pietro Deiro), both recent and older 20th century "neoclassical" or "neo-romantic" works by Robert Russell Bennett, Samuel Adler, William Grant Still, and Todor Vasilev Gerov (a piece for accordion and piano), and at least two more modern works by William Schimmel (multi media, with dancer), and Robert McMahan (a piece for violin, piano, and accordion).

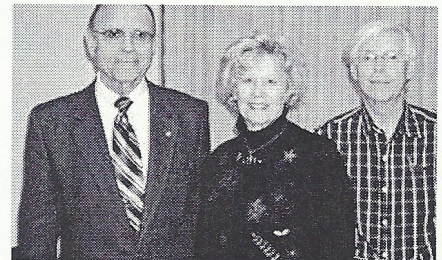
Panel members will include honored guest and world acclaimed composer Dr. Samuel Adler (whose *Canto XVIII*, for accordion, was recently commissioned by the AAA and will receive its free bass version world premiere on the program), Dr. William Schimmel, Dr. McMahan, Mary Tokarski, and Dessie Vassileva Vaughan (pianist and daughter of Gerov).

Participating artists are accordionists Beverly Roberts Curnow, Robert McMahan, William Schimmel, and Mary Tokarski; dancer/choreographer Micki Goodman; violinist Ruotao Mao; and pianists Tomoko Kanamaru and Dessie Vassileva Vaughan.

Information: Baisley Powell Elebash Recital Hall, The Graduate Center, The City University of New York (5th Avenue and 34th Street, across from the Empire State Building). Contact AAA office at 516-746-3100 or 203-335-2045. E-mail: aaa1938@aol.com. Visit our website at www.ameraccord.com for additional information.



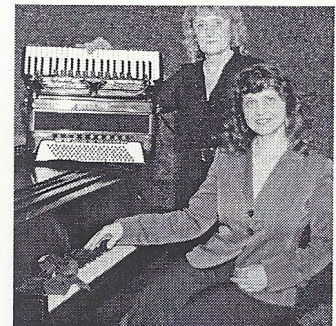
Dr. William Schimmel



Samuel Adler, Beverly Roberts and Dr. Robert Young McMahan



Tomoko Kanamaru, Pianist



Mary Tokarski and Dessie Vaughan