

Newsletter

A bi-monthly publication of the American Accordionists' Association

MARCH 2012

Here's What's Happening at AAA in 2012

APRIL 22

Noon to 5:00 pm
Carrozza Scholarship
Four Dinner Choices;
Unlimited Wine and Soda
See enclosed flyer.
Villa Barone Hilltop Manor
Mahopac, New York
Chairman: Joe Ciccone

JULY 11-15

AAA Annual Festival
Sheraton City Center
Baltimore, Maryland
Workshops • Exhibits
Concerts • Competition
Guest Artist:
Stas Venglevski
Coordinators: Frank Busso,
Mary Tokarski
and Linda Reed

JULY 27-29

Master Class and Concert
Series – The Seminars
Redemption: The Radar –
Off the Radar
Tenri Cultural Institute
43A W13th Street, NYC
Moderator/Curator:
Dr. William Schimmel

SEPTEMBER 8

Noon to 5:00 pm
Valtaro Celebration
Wine tasting, dinner
and dancing
Magnanini Farm Winery
172 Strawridge Rd.
Wallkill, NY
Chairman: Mario Tacca

From the Editor

It is my great pleasure to present to you my first edition of the AAA Newsletter as Editor.

This issue covers a sampling of accordion activities from across the USA and abroad. My sincere thanks to those of you who worked so hard to provide information and stories for this issue, in particular my fellow AAA Board Members and Officers Linda Reed (President), Rita Davidson, Dominic Karcic, Peggy Falcetti and Mary Tokarski.

I invite you to submit your news information as soon as possible to ensure we provide details and reviews of as many of your accordion related events as possible. Everyone is involved in such a diverse array of activities, and I thank you in advance for taking the time to prepare the Press information and pictures so that we can share your work with our Membership.

All material for consideration for the May Newsletter can be sent to me at goaccordion@yahoo.com or to aaa1938@aol.com. It would also be helpful to include 'AAA Newsletter' in the subject LINE, so that I don't miss any items that come in. Text should be sent within the e-mail or as a Word .doc attachment. Pictures should be a high quality .jpg file, and the larger the file size the better, as we can always reduce/crop the picture if necessary. However we are unable to increase the quality from smaller pictures. The deadline for the May news will be 15th of April.

Thank you all for your wonderful support and I look forward to hearing from you over the coming weeks with the news of all of your activities.

Sincerely, Kevin

Kevin Friedrich – AAA Newsletter Editor



2012 AAA Festival: Music and Fun in Baltimore

The American Accordionists' Association will present their 2012 AAA Festival from July 11-15, 2012 at the Sheraton City Center Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland.

The AAA is putting final touches on the annual summer Festival, which promises to be an outstanding event! New this year is the Junior Festival Orchestra which will be under the direction of Mary Tokarski. This event is designed for those young people who are not quite ready to participate in the Festival Orchestra, or who have never had the experience of performing with other accordionists. Mary has selected some really fun pieces and rehearsals will be scheduled to avoid competition schedule conflicts.

Another new addition is the "Finale" workshop that will be a hands-on workshop with the basics of learning this music writing program. AAA member, Don Gerundo, will conduct the workshop with support materials supplied by the Finale staff.

Back by popular demand will be the 'Youth Outreach Jazz Ensemble' with select young musicians from the Baltimore school system partnered with ambitious young accordionists. Both the Junior Festival Orchestra and the Youth Outreach Jazz Ensemble will perform at the Awards Concert on Saturday afternoon, July 14th. If you would like to participate in this great (and fun) program, please contact Marilyn O'Neil at: marilyn@ctaccordion.com. All of these events are in-

cluded in the Festival registration.

The Festival will also see the return of the Digital Entertainment category so be sure to visit the website at www.ameracord.com for updated events including .pdf files for downloading all Festival applications.

Thursday night will feature an Italian Cabaret night. Enjoy a delicious Italian dinner while being entertained by renowned Soprano Joy Bechtler and Tenor Joe McKesson who will delight with duets such as Verdi's Libiamo and Parigi o Cara, as well as arias and duets from La Boheme as they are accompanied by Dr. Robert Young McMahan. In addition, you will enjoy some wonderful accordion music by the Potomac Ensemble conducted by Joan Grauman so

continued on page 2



The United States Army Strolling Strings

AAA Festival, continued from page 1

don't miss this opportunity to enjoy singers and accordionists performing your favorite Italian songs! Friday evening performers include the Busso Trio (comprised of Frank Busso; Frank Busso, Jr.; and Christina Busso) and Tatiana Semichastnaya. The featured act for the Gala Banquet on Saturday night will be none other than the United States Army Strolling Strings featuring accordionist and AAA Board member Manny Bobenrieth.

Virtuoso accordionist Stas Venglevski will be the Guest Artist and Guest Conductor of the Festival Orchestra. He delights all with his friendly and humorous manner, educating and entertaining at the same time. This is truly a unique experience you will want to see and hear.

This year the Festival Orchestra features Mary Tokarski as soloist. Vladimir Mollov and Mary Tokarski will also be featured as "two soloists." Dr. Robert Young McMahan will be joined by

prominent saxophonist Dr. Paul Cohen in a premiere of McMahan's new composition for accordion and saxophone.

Vladimir Mollov, virtuoso accordionist, will perform solos and also duets with his wife, renowned violinist, Annie Mollova. Gabe Hall-Rodrigues and Frank Petrilli will perform solos and duets at concerts during the Festival.

We invite you to plan your summer around the Festival's exciting days of workshops, exhibits, cabaret, luncheon concert, gala concert, and Festival Orchestra. The event will be held at the Sheraton City Center in Baltimore. A central location, the venue is surrounded by shops, restaurants, and within walking distance of the famous Baltimore Inner Harbor, National Aquarium, Maryland Science Center and numerous other attractions.

Please refer to the AAA Website and the USA news for updates on the festival. For further information: aaa1938@aol.com. ■

Valtaro Accordionist**Emilio Chiesa (1919 - 2012) Passes Away**

January 24th, 2012 saw the passing of one of the great Valtaro accordionists, Emilio Chiesa. Emilio was born in New York City in 1919. He began music lessons at the age of eight and after several years he auditioned to play for some radio stations and eventually in 1930-31 appeared several times on WCDA and WOV programs.

After his family returned to Italy, Emilio continued his musical studies in Piacenza where he played accordion with local musicians at various town functions. The family returned once again to the USA where Emilio went on to perform in Manhattan (NY) nightclubs and also played with violinist, composer and conductor, Vincent Sorey.

In 1942 he was drafted into the army and joined the 96th Infantry Division. He was accepted into the division's military band - learning to play the trombone - and also played the accordion with the dance band. Another noted member of the band was concert violinist Dick Kesner who later became a member of the famous Lawrence Welk Orchestra. A few members of the



Emilio Chiesa (center) with accordionist Pete Delgrosso and guitarist Joe Cerina at the Val Taro Cabaret in New York City.

band, formed a small group and called themselves the "GI Gypsies." They played at many USO shows up and down the west coast of the United States.

Back from the war in 1946, Emilio began teaching the accordion and also resumed performing in some of the most prominent Manhattan nightclubs and cabarets, including the Gondolier, the VIP, the Terrace, Valtaro and Cafe Torino. Some of the musicians that he worked with included accordionists Pete Spagnoli, Gelso Pellegrini and Hugo Nati. He eventually became the third partner in the Val Taro Cabaret (1949-1951) joining John (Scudlein) Brugnoli and Pete (Filomena) Delgrosso. He also made many recordings with both of them on the Columbia, Nightingale and about 36 early

Stas Venglevski Performs Sofia Gubaidulina Work in Chicago

Concert bayanist Stas Venglevski performed "In Croce" by Sofia Gubaidulina on February 15th at the Harris Theater in Millennium Park in Chicago presented by the



Stas Venglevski with Sofia Gubaidulina

University of Chicago, as the first concert of 'Contempo', celebrating the work of Sofia Gubaidulina, one of Russia's most esteemed living composers. The program combined the talents of Grammy-winning new music ensembles Eighth Blackbird and Pacifica Quartet in a special event commemorating the composer's 80th birthday. "In Croce" featured Pacifica Quartet cellist Brandon Vamos with Stas Venglevski on bayan.

The all Gubaidulina program included the world premiere of "A Pilgrimage of Four," commissioned for Contempo by The Serge Koussevitzky Music Foundation in the Library of Congress and The Koussevitzky Music Foundation, Inc. The performance also featured Gubaidulina's monumental Cantata Perception, which reflects her fascination with ancient mathematical principles of proportion.

Gubaidulina, a highly celebrated figure in contemporary music, has received commissions from major ensembles worldwide, including the New York Philharmonic and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She is perhaps best known for her 1980 violin concerto, the

"Offertorium" and her 2002 "Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ according to St. John." She has also received numerous honors for her work, including Japan's Praemium Imperiale, the Russian State Prize, Sweden's Polar Music Prize, and the Koussevitzky International Recording Award.

Stas Venglevski is a graduate of the Russian Academy of Music in Moscow where he received his Master's degree in Music under the tutelage of the famed Russian bayanist, Friedrich Lips, a close associate of Gubaidulina's. He is a regular participant of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's Arts in Community Education Program (ACE); has done television commercials and performed in theater productions; produced numerous recordings including transcription of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite for bayan, as well as one of original compositions. He has published several books of original compositions.

Stas Venglevski will be featured as a Guest Artist and conduct the 2012 AAA Festival Orchestra in Baltimore from July 11th-15th. For more information, visit www.stasv.com or contact him at stasvenglevski@sbglobal.net. ■

Valtaro label recordings.

Throughout his long career and until his retirement in 1978, Emilio taught the accordion and also wrote more than 40 pieces for the accordion. One of his most noted students is accordionist Frank Toscano (Seafood, NY) who is currently part of "The Amazing Accordion Kings." ■



Ray Oreggia, Emilio Chiesa, Dominic Karcic and Richard Chiesa (May 2008 - Falls Church, Virginia)

New England Music Festival's Golden Anniversary in April

The New England Music Festival, sponsored by the Accordion Teachers Association of Massachusetts, will celebrate their 50th Anniversary at the Boston Newton Marriott from April 13-15, 2012. Established in 1962, the festival has grown and changed over the last 50 years becoming one of the largest competitions of this type in the USA with over 1800 entries each year. Peggy Falcetti and Roger Latulippe are Co-Chairpersons of the festival.

ATAM President Michael Falcetti is pleased to announce a performance by the renowned 22 member Air Force Strolling Strings, who perform for many official and State functions at the White House. They will perform at the Gala Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening, featuring AAA Board member, Frank Busso, Jr. as accordionist.

Numerous cash awards are awarded including prizes such as those for the winner of the "Battle of the Bands" and a \$500 cash scholarship is awarded to a contestant accepted as a music major in college. This year a \$1,000 prize is being offered by Dr. Emilian Badea to the winner of the new Super Championship



Accordion category and \$4,000 will be awarded in scholarships and other cash awards in group and advanced categories.

All first place Champion winners over the last fifty years are invited back to this prestigious event and will be honored at the Gala Awards Ceremony. Many of the members are planning to have reunion bands performing in the Festival Band category to be held on Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

Convention rates are available until March 29, 2012 and reservations can be made on the ATAM website: www.atamnewmusicfestival.com or by contacting the 50th Anniversary Committee Chairman, Sam Falcetti: peggyf1944@gmail.com or call 413-204-5522. ■

10th Annual Carrozza Scholarship Dinner in April

The American Accordionists' Association proudly presents the 10th Annual Afternoon of Music, Food and Fun to benefit the Carmen Carrozza Scholarship Fund for the advancement of promising young accordionists on Sunday, April 22, 2012. The event will be held at a new spectacular location with a diverse menu and unlimited free wine at Villa Barone Hilltop Manor, 466 Rt. 6, Mahopac, New York, phone - 845-628-6600.



Carmen Carrozza

Featured performers include: Mary Tokarski, Dominic Karcic, Mario Tacca and Mary Mancini, Frank Toscano, Frank Carozza, Emilio Magnotta, Beverly Roberts Curnow, Ray Oreggia, Lenny Feldmann, Anita and Bob Siarkowski, the Connecticut Accordion Orchestra and more to be announced.

Throughout the years Carmen Carrozza has received numerous awards and honors from many different organizations, associations and clubs. On March 17, 2002 Maestro Carrozza was honored by the AAA when he was the first recipient of the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award." It was soon after this gala event that the Carmen Carrozza Scholarship Fund, (a fund for the advancement of promising young accordionists and the commissioning of new works for the accordion) was instituted.

For further information, please visit the AAA website www.ameraccord.com or contact: Chairman, Joe Ciccone, at (914) 238-0041.

(See the flyer enclosed with this newsletter) ■

Benjamin Ickies and Bill Schimmel in "Accordion Night School"

On January 30, Benjamin Ickies and AAA Artist in Residence, Dr. William Schimmel, presented an informative session about their experiences with the accordion at Le Poisson Rouge in New York City. Benjamin Ickies, in the first "Accordion Night School," interviewed Dr. William Schimmel about his education and career with the accordion.

Dr. William Schimmel is well known for playing and touring with Tom Waits during his seminal Frank's Wild Years trilogy and helping create Waits' signature sound. But how did he get that gig? What did he learn that qualified him for the job? What did he have to unlearn? And what training proved irrelevant? These questions were addressed in a detailed yet entertaining way.

Benjamin Ickies performs and produces music for a variety of cabarets, nightclubs and other events, yet had no traditional accordion training besides a series of private teachers later in his career, including Dr. Schimmel.



Dr. Schimmel and Ben Ickies

How can Ben compete with conservatory-trained musicians in the freelance workforce? Schimmel and Ickies discussed their very different educational histories and what contributed to making them the musicians they are today. A Q&A session with the audience was followed by a performance and a meet & greet.

Benjamin Ickies is founder and accordionist for This Ambitious Orchestra, his 20 piece group performs a variety of music ranging from classic French chanson to lively Can Can to Ballads. For further information: benjamin@ickies.com. ■

Long Island Accordion Alliance (LIAA)

The February 7, 2012 session of the Long Island Accordion Alliance (LIAA) ushered in a new and exciting phase in this fledgling organization's tenure when the session featured for the very first time a guest solo artist, Emilio Magnotta (Stamford, Connecticut). By the response of the guests that filled La Villini Restaurant on this Tuesday evening, this experiment was a total success. Emilio flawlessly executed a varied and entertaining program of some of the great classic accordion solos. He had the audience immediately in his corner with the playing of the first selection and his half hour presentation included great renditions of two Pietro Frosini selections and one by Pietro Deiro.



Emilio Magnotta and Dom Karcic

The evenings festivities also included accordionists Joe Campo, Dominic Karcic, Bob La Bua, Ray Oreggia, Phil Prete, Franco Ruggiero and also vocalist Connie Shakalis. Connie accompanied by Dominic Karcic performed "One Kiss," "Oh! Mio Babbino Caro," "Some Enchanted Evening" and a rousing rendition of the "Italian Street Song." It was a great evening of music, song and above all "the accordion."

The Alliance is proud to announce that the following International guest artists:

- March 6th: Paul (Paolo) Belanich
- April 3rd: Mario Tacca (accordion) and Mary Mancini (vocals)
- May 1st: Irish accordionist Paddy Noonan
- June 5th: Mary Tokarski

The Long Island Accordion Alliance (LIAA) meets at 7:00 p.m. at La Villini Restaurant, 288 Larkfield Road, East Northport, NY, phone: 631-261-6344 or visit www.la-villini.com. All are invited to attend. ■

Guy Klucevsek: March Debut of The Hymnopedists

Accordionist Guy Klucevsek is always involved in unique musical projects featuring the accordion. The Hymnopedists, a duo consisting of Guy and toy piano/pianist Isabel Ettenauer will appear in their International Debut on March 2, 2012 at the Vienna International Accordion Festival. The Hymnopedists were born out of an April, 2011 music theatre project called "Industrious Angels," by writer/ac-tress Laurie McCants.

Guy Klucevsek, commis-sioned to write music for the piece, composed a score for vio-lin, piano/toy piano and accor-dion, in a series of solos, duos, and trios. For the recording of the score for the production, he invited Austrian toy piano spe-cialist and pianist Isabel Ette-nauer to play in the trio. Guy and Isabel enjoyed playing together so much that they decided to form a duo to continue playing Guy's music.

Guy Klucevsek is perhaps best known in Europe through his recordings, tours, and film with his Accordion Tribe project, from 1996-2009, and his leg-endarious Polka From the Fringe project of the early 1990s.

At the same time as he was composing the score for "Indus-trious Angels," Guy was writing



Guy Klucevsek

material for his next recording, "The Multiple Personality Re-union Tour," and one set of pieces on that album is called "Three Hymnopedies," in tribute to one of Guy's favorite com-posers, Erik Satie, composer of "Gymnopédies" (from a Greek word meaning dance). Being an inveterate punster, Guy could not resist this play on words. The title refers to two areas where Klucevsek feels a special kin-ship: song (hymn) and dance (ped, or "foot").

When searching for a name for the duo, Guy landed on "The Hymnopedists," as a tribute to both Satie, and to the old touring song-and-dance teams of vaude-ville. The program consists of duos for accordion and piano/toy piano, as well as solo works for accordion, piano and toy piano. Included will be a suite from "Industrious Angels."

For further information: gklucevsek@si.rr.com. ■

Shopping with iGIVE

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iGive really is as simple as it sounds. iGive members can generate donations by shopping at any of our 900+ stores. There are no costs, obligations, nor any hidden fees.

It's all automatic! You don't need to enter any codes, notify the store, or iGive. When iGive members shop via our special links (starting at the iGive.com web site, the iGive Newsletter, or having installed the iGive Button), tracking en-ables us to identify the pur-chases of each individual iGive member with a member ID number. Causes always re-ceive 100% of the donation

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You can create your own list of favorite stores under My Stores. After being reported to us, your transactions can be re-

Rita Davidson Leads Pleasantdale School International Festival with Accordion

On December 15, 2011, and again as an encore performance on December 23, the Pleasant-dale Fifth Grade, 56 fifth graders from the Pleasantdale School Chorus, presented their Annual Fifth Grade International Festi-val for family, friends, and mem-bers of the West Orange, NJ public school system. Showcas-ing the culture of 25 countries, the experience afforded the op-portunity to learn about the music of different cultures by experiencing song and dance and how it reinforces the com-monalities of all cultures.

A twenty-five year teacher, Rita Davidson accompanied all the songs on accordion and was joined by Deborah Rees (guitar), with the children playing percus-sion instruments, adding to the excitement and liveliness of each song. Rita finds the accordion, part of so many cultures, the per-fect instrument to showcase the flavor of each country, and she included pieces such as "Pat Works on the Railway" (Ire-land); "Feliz Navidad" (Spain), "Waka Waka Dance" (Africa), "Oh Chanukah" (Is-rael) and "God Bless America" (USA).

Rita finds many posi-tive aspects of using the accordion in her teaching, including being able to use it for outdoor programs where the accordion ensures that all will

enjoy singing to a complete ac-companiment. She also finds the visual component extremely powerful and enjoys being able to move around with the instru-ment. Every morning, the Pledge of Allegiance is said in the school office by students and Rita is there with her accordion and enjoys experiencing the posi-tive reactions of the students as they perform various Flag songs, which are broadcast to the entire school.

The musical program was filmed by the audiovisual depart-ment of West Orange High School and broadcast on Com-cast TV Channel 36 and Fios Channel 45 many times during the holiday season. The Pleas-antdale Fifth Grade Chorus will be featured at the Livingston Mall (Livingston, New Jersey) on March 8, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. in conjunction with the Pride In Education Program.

All are invited to attend future performances and for further in-formation please contact Rita Davidson: Ritabelll@aol.com. ■



Rita Davidson, accordion and Deborah Rees, guitar

viewed in your shopping report under Stats. It can take up to 30 days after they've shipped (or travel has commenced) for purchases to get posted to your report, although the average is about 10 days.

Here is just a sampling of sites that are generous donors thru iGive.com:

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Doubleday Book Club
FootSmart
FTD.com
Harry & David

The list goes on and on....

So the next time you want to send a bouquet to your favorite guy or gal, or buy that special article of clothing that is fi-nally on sale, check out iGive.com – it doesn't cost you anything and AAA can reap the benefits. ■



Join for free at:
www.iGive.com/AmerAccord

The Accordion Captures An Editor's Eye

For AAA member Linda Ann Warren, the AAA Festival in Memphis was "A Once in a Lifetime" event! There had never before been an Accordion Festival, Celebration, or Convention in Memphis, Tennessee. Please enjoy Linda Ann's entertaining account of the Festival and how it lead to another exciting opportunity.

I planned to enjoy everything 'accordion' that the AAA had to offer, and did so. There were Concerts, Workshops, Exhibits, Competitions and a fabulous Accordion Orchestra that performed an Elvis tune in Concert at Graceland!

I also made many new friends, who like me, have a "passion" for the Accordion and Accordion Music. "I had the time of my life" with all my new friends!

The day before "The Love Me Tender" Fest, as I affectionately call it, I had scheduled a number of music students for makeup lessons to free myself to participate in the AAA Festival.

Then out of the blue, I received a phone call with an important message from Linda Soley Reed, President of The American Accordionists' Association, who was enroute to Memphis by way of "Pony Express" to request that a Memphis newspaper photographer be

sent to my house, for an AAA publicity "photo shoot". After that call, I understood the meaning of "A New York Minute!" There was little time to cancel students, clean the Music Room, and make myself up, (assembly required) as it takes time for me to be "Camera Ready" at age 60!

Mike Brown, the newspaper photographer, was at my front door in no time flat. He was a natural, both professional and kind. Pictures were taken and Mr. Brown said that he'd never seen anyone hold a smile as long as I. Of course, holding a smile is easy for me to do. I always feel "right at home" with my accordion on, and of course I was "just that" in the comfort

of my home, being photographed with my accordion on. FUN!

AAA's Linda Soley Reed certainly knows how to make things happen! My Picture made the front page of the "M" section of the newspaper on July 16, 2009. I couldn't believe my eyes. I never expected anything quite that exciting to happen to me. And now, that same photograph is newsworthy again.

On February 2011, I received a telephone call from Patricia Lantis, The Executive Director of LANDOV, (5th Ave., New York). She had received permission from *The Memphis Commercial Appeal* to use the photograph in *The Picture Pro-*

fessional, the quarterly magazine of the American Society Of Picture Professionals.

The theme 'Music' covers lots of possibilities. Ms. Lantis said that out of all the photographs viewed, the photo with the accordion made her day. I told Ms. Lantis that her telephone call to me had made mine!

The amazing accordion has been taken out of the shadows and brought into the light as a featured photograph in this professional photography magazine. *The Memphis Commercial Appeal* photographer Mike Brown and *The Picture Professional* magazine have brought the accordion to everyone's attention by making it the full page feature of Issue 1/2011. ■



Linda Warren – The Picture Professional Magazine

Walter Kasprzyk Performs with Charlotte County Symphony in Florida

On February 4, accordionist Walter Kasprzyk performed with the Charlotte County Symphony in Punta Gorda, Florida. The program under the direction of T. Francis Wada included the best of Mantovani. The Mantovani Orchestra's arranger was also an accordionist and so, often included prominent parts for the accordion in his arrangements. Walter has previously performed Dominick Argento's "Valentino Dances" with the Charleston Symphony.

Walter Kasprzyk, one third of the renowned K Trio (with his sisters Mary Tokarski and Julie Cardona) studied at the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Over the years, Walter has been a regular performer for the Florida Accordion Association SMASH, various functions of the Southeast Accordion Association, and at the American Accordionists' Association (AAA) events.

For more information on Walter's career and his two CD recordings, please visit www.accordions.com/walterk. ■



Walt Kasprzyk (center) performing with the Punta Gorda (FL) Symphony

65th Coupe Mondiale in Spoleto, Italy from August 20-26, 2012

If anyone is interested in competing as the United States representative in the 2012 Coupe Mondiale, the following categories are available. Please contact either Linda Reed – aaa1938@aol.com or Mary Tokarski – mary.tokarski@comcast.net for qualifying information.

Available categories include:

- 65th Coupe Mondiale
(current AAA qualifying category: U.S. Virtuoso Solo)
- Masters Coupe Mondiale
- Junior Coupe Mondiale
- Intl. Virtuoso Entertainment
- Junior Intl. Virtuoso Entertainment
- Intl. Competition for Ensemble Music
- Intl. Competition for Digital Accordion (AAA qualifying category:
Digital Entertainment)
- Best New Original Work (Classical)

The following categories will be offered in Baltimore. The following rules are a basic overview of the competition requirements. For exact rules for each category and general competition guidelines, please visit the Coupe Mondiale website at www.coupemondiale.org and select from the various menu choices found on pages relating to the 2012 event in Italy.

65TH COUPE MONDIALE

3 Rounds - up to 32 years of age (born 1980 or later).
Test Round, Complete Original Work, Own Choice Program.

- Round 1* Any Baroque work
2 own choice pieces – 1 slow, lyrical style –
2nd of technical virtuosic style
Individual movements from cyclic works acceptable –
no more than 1 movement of any piece!
Maximum playing time: 20 minutes
- Round 2* Complete Original Work – no minimum or maximum
- Round 3* Three or more pieces, different style and character
Minimum of 2 different composers
Minimum 20 minutes, maximum 30 minutes

MASTERS COUPE MONDIALE

(formerly the International Competition for Piano Accordion)

- 1 Round - Own Choice Program - 3 or more pieces.
1 Baroque – 1 slower, lyrical style, 1 technical
virtuosic style
Must contain at least 1 original work
Transcriptions may be used
Individual movements may be used
Minimum 15 minutes, maximum 20 minutes

JUNIOR COUPE MONDIALE

- 2 Rounds - up to 18 years of age
Program (test) and Own Choice Program.
- Round 1* Any Baroque work
2 own choice pieces – 1 slow, lyrical style –
2nd of technical virtuosic style
Minimum of 2 different composers
Minimum 10 minutes, maximum 15 minutes
Individual movements may be used
- Round 2* 2 pieces of choice – 1 must be original – individual
movements acceptable
Only 1 movement of any work
Minimum 10 minutes, maximum 15 minutes

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR VIRTUOSO ENTERTAINMENT MUSIC

- 2 Rounds (no piece repeated in rounds).
Round 1 Own Choice Program – at least 2 pieces of different
styles and moods
Maximum 9 minutes
- Round 2* Own Choice Program – at least 2 pieces of different
styles and moods
Maximum 9 minutes

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR VIRTUOSO ENTERTAINMENT MUSIC

- 2 Rounds - up to 18 years of age (no piece repeated in rounds).
Round 1 Own Choice Program – at least 2 pieces of different
styles and moods
Maximum 7 minutes
- Round 2* Own Choice Program – at least 2 pieces of different
styles and moods
Maximum 7 minutes

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR DIGITAL ACCORDION

- 1 Round - Own Choice Show/Entertainment Program.
Maximum 15 minutes

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR ENSEMBLE MUSIC

- 1 Round - Own Choice Program.
2-5 musicians – minimum 1 accordion
No electronics (except Bass accordion amplified if
necessary)
Own Choice Program of concert music – at least 2
contrasting pieces
Minimum 15 minutes, maximum 20 minutes

BEST NEW ORIGINAL WORK AWARD (CLASSICAL)

Work must be part of a competitor's program, written within the last two years and performed for the first time at the Coupe Mondiale festival. No time restrictions.



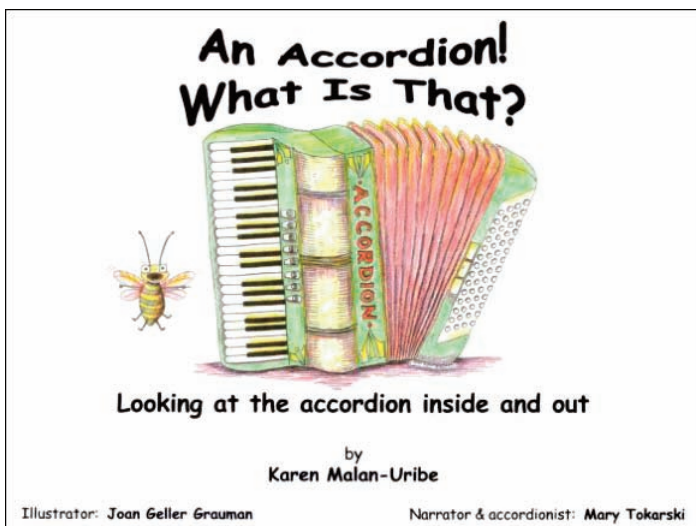
Newly Released Book: An Accordion! *What is That?*

Three fellow accordionists have combined their special talents to create a delightful children's book about their favorite instrument entitled, *An Accordion! What Is That?* Looking at the accordion inside and out'. The book includes a CD with narration and music.

Celebrated artist and AAA Historian Joan Geller Grauman, illustrated the book and created its mascot, an ani-

mated honeybee named "Buzz Treble", while AAA Board of Director Mary Tokarski includes a wonderful narration of the book, as well as beautifully performed music. Karen Malan-Uribe, award-winning author of children's books, is the author.

For more information on the book, and ordering information, please visit: www.accordionbee.com. ■



The Amazing Accordion Kings in Concert

Three renowned accordionists, Angelo DiPippo, AAA Board of Director's member, Frank Toscano and Manny Corallo, each a master musician in his own right, perform together as "The Amazing Accordion Kings," performing beautiful arrangements that cover the spectrum of genres from opera to jazz with amazing dexterity and virtuosity, often moving with flashing, lightning speed solos and blazing phrases played by all, in precise unison.

You are invited to enjoy The

Amazing Accordion Kings in concert when they perform at the Dix Hills Performing Arts Center, 305 North Service Road, Dix Hills, New York on March 4th at 2:00 p.m., and experience the variety of colorful music from around the world, taking you on a Musical Tour of Italy with side trips to Germany, Hungary, Brazil, Spain, Ireland, Poland, Paris, Arabia and American Jazz.

For more information, please visit www.amazingaccordionkings.com. ■



18th AAA Master Class and Concert Series in New York City

"Redemption: The Radar off the Radar" is the title of this year's 18th Annual AAA Master Class and Concert Series under the direction of Moderator and Curator Dr. William Schimmel. The event will be held from July 27-29, 2012 at the Tenri Cultural Institute in New York City.

The distinguished roster of participants will include: Micki Goodman, Dr. Robert Young Mc Mahan, Paul Stein, Dr. Mark Birnbaum, Will Holshouser, Doug Makofka, Mary Tokarski, Rita Davidson, Kathleen Tipton, Rachid Eladlouni, Marni Rice, Dragica Banic-Curcic, Carl Riehl, Bob Goldberg, Benjamin Ickies, Erica Mancini, Suzana Bietes, Ingrid Kvale, Martina Li, Dr. Ronald Sarno, Dave Soldier, John Foti, Mayumi Mihaoka, David First, David Stoler, Peter Gilmore, Linda Reed, Miyoshi Fukui, Mami Okada, Sadahiro

Kakitani, Michael Schimmel, Joe Bertolozzi, Dr. Rocco Jerry, Anthony Grieco, Dr. Hugo Goldenzweig, Ken Laufer, Lee McClure, Art Bailey and Dr. William Schimmel as Moderator/Curator, with others to be announced.

The daily schedule will include a Master Class at 3:00 p.m. and an evening concert at 7:00 p.m.. In addition, you are invited to enjoy a variety of accordion related items for sale in the lobby, including CDs, DVDs and music, or simply enjoying mixing and mingling with your fellow attendees.

The Seminars will be held at the Tenri Cultural Institute at 43A W. 13th Street in New York City. For more information, including a full description of the Seminars and the nightly concert programs, please visit www.ameraccord.com. ■



World Accordion Day - May 6th, 2012

World Accordion Day is held on May 6th to celebrate the day the accordion was first patented in 1829 in Vienna.

Initiated by the Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) in 2009, we invite you to submit your events at

www.accordions.com/cia



AAA FESTIVAL JULY 11-15, 2012
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