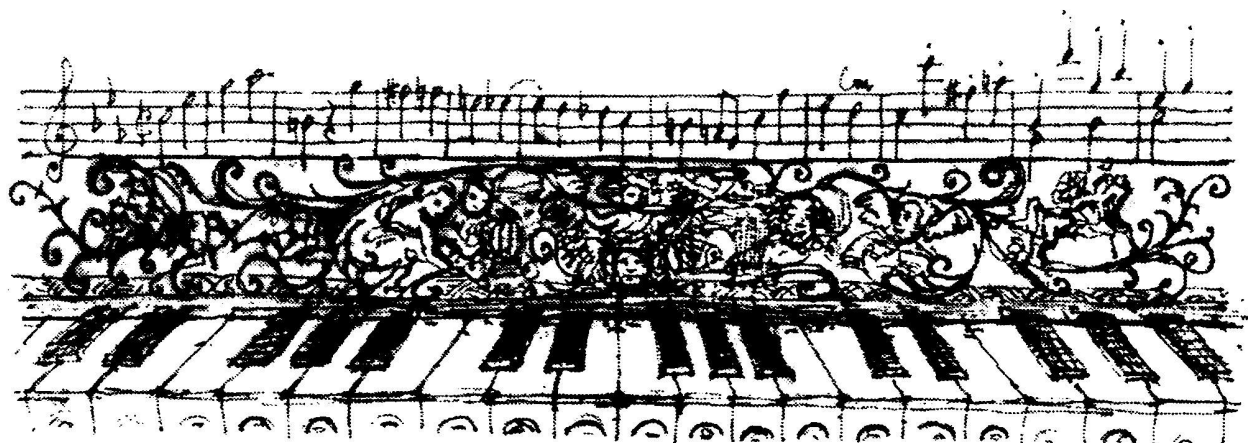


WEKA, the Western Early Keyboard Association

MAY 2002



Letter from the Chair

Greetings everyone!

Many thanks to all of you who renewed your membership so promptly. Our local committee met in April to plan a wonderful one-day WEKA conference in conjunction with the Berkeley Early Music Festival (BEMF). Specific information is included in this newsletter. I am anticipating another delightful day just for us to learn, share ideas, and meet new early keyboard enthusiasts.

We had originally planned to have the conference over one and a half days, the full day being held at the Tilden Room at the UC Berkeley Student Union in conjunction with a one-day keyboard exhibition. However, BEMF is now having an instrument exhibition over several days, so we decided to return to charming Music Sources and enjoy a relaxed fun-filled day in a quiet location. (We were also concerned about competing with the wonderful drummers at Sproul Plaza next to the Student Union!).

So, bring your appetites for good music, discussion, a beautiful garden, and yummy food! I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, June 5th!

Cheers,

Elaine Thornburgh
WEKA Chair

Music Sources is a *noisy* place!

Three people regularly teach harpsichord here. In a typical week, the American Recorder Society had a meeting and program, a presentation was given to keyboard students, followed by a harpsichord lesson, and an ensemble practiced for three hours.

Ensembles from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, American Bach Soloists, and other local professional groups had rehearsals here. The first grade class from a near-by public school came for a presentation. Fortepianists or harpsichordists, in town for performances, were all practicing in different rooms.

Sandy, our administrator, is occupied in the office

plus individual members use the library. And then there is the occasional wedding or engagement party to round things off!

MusicSources has hosted WEKA meetings here since WEKA's inception, and during the biennial Berkeley Festivals has been a venue for many Fringe Concerts. We hope to see many WEKA members here in June.

Music Sources

1000 The Alameda (at Marin)
Berkeley, California 94707

Telephone: (510) 528-1685

See pages 3/4 for directions to Music Sources

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name

Address

Phone

Email Address

Annual Membership Dues (\$30/regular; \$25/senior; \$15/student)

Annual Additional Joint Membership Dues (\$10 each for SEHKS and MEHKS)

Additional Contribution (Because I am so enthusiastic about WEKA):

\$5 Additional for Alienor competition

Lifetime Membership:

\$300

TOTAL ENCLOSED:

Make checks payable to Music Sources, WEKA account. (Music Sources, a separate entity, is the fiscal agent for WEKA). Send to: WEKA, 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley, CA 94707

Credit by Visa or MasterCard:

Card #

Exp. Date

Signature

FIRST JOINT MHKS-SEHK-WEKA SET FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

The first joint meeting of MHKS, SEHKS, and WEKA will be held at **America's Shrine to Music Museum** on the campus of The University of South Dakota in Vermillion, on May 16-19, 2003. The theme of the conference will be *Four Centuries of Great Keyboard Instruments: What they Tell Us* and will include opportunities to hear many of the Museum's keyboard instruments, most of which are played only on special occasions.

The Museum's broad-based collections include more than 10,000 musical instruments, ranging in date from the 16th century to the present. The Museum is the only place in the world where one can find two 18th-century grand pianos with the type of action conceived by the piano's inventor, Bartolomeo Cristofori. One, built in 1767 by Manuel Antunes of Lisbon, is the earliest signed and dated piano by a Portuguese maker; the other, built by Louis Bas in Ville-neuve les Avignon in 1781, is the earliest extant French grand piano.

Other extraordinary keyboards include a Neopolitan virginal, ca. 1520-40, three 17th-century Flemish harpsichords (two by Andreas Ruckers, one of them, the earliest dated, 1607), 17th and 18th century French and Italian harpsichords; 18th century English, German, Portuguese, and Swedish clavichords, harpsichords, and pianos; early 19th century American and European pianos; important organs; a tangente-flügel, and much more.

The keyboard instruments are exhibited amidst equally important collections of great brass, percussion, stringed, and woodwind instruments, placing them within the musical context of which they once were a part. For further information about the collections, visit the Museum's website (www.usd.edu/smm) which includes a complete checklist of the keyboard instruments or talk to colleagues who attended the

international conference, *The Pre-Classical Piano: Expressive Claviers and Their Repertoire in the 18th Century* that the Museum hosted in May, 2000.

As it did then, the Museum plans to underwrite a number of unique opportunities for MHKS-SEHKS-WEKA members to interact with European colleagues. John Koster and Susanne Skyrn are co-chairing the program committee. Museum staff will handle local arrangements.

Vermillion is a quiet university town, located on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River, near where Lewis and Clark camped in 1804 on the expedition to the Pacific Northwest. The weather in May is usually very nice. It will be an economical meeting, with relatively low costs for meals and lodging. Airline fares into nearby Sioux City and/or Sioux Falls are traditionally very competitive. Complete details will be sent in due course.

Proposals for papers should be sent to America's Shrine to Music Museum, Attention: MHKS-SEHKS-WEKA meeting, 414 E. Clark Street, Vermillion, SD, 57069. Proposals should include a one-page abstract, a short biography of 200 words or so, and a list of required audio-visual equipment. Presentations should be no longer than 20 minutes. The deadline for proposals is October 1, 2002. Questions in the meantime can be addressed to aplarson@usd.edu or write to the address above.

DRIVING TO MUSIC SOURCES

From I-80 take the Gilman Street exit. Follow Gilman Street until it ends at Hopkins Street. Turn left on Hopkins and follow to The Alameda. Turn left on The Alameda until just after it crosses Monterey.

Music Sources is on the left, after crossing Monterey, on the corner of Marin.

From downtown Berkeley, follow Martin Luther King, which becomes The Alameda. Music Sources on left.

Parking at Music Sources is on the streets.

(Continued on page 4)

WEKA, the Western Early Keyboard Association
Music Sources
1000 The Alameda, Berkeley, CA 94707-2510

STAMP

(Continued from page 3) Music Sources

BART: Music Sources is closest to the North Berkeley station, but not walking distance. Take a cab to 1000 The Alameda.

PLACES TO STAY: see the Early Music America website, www.earlymusic.org

DO YOU HAVE A 25-30 MINUTE RECITAL OR PAPER PRESENTATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT ON JUNE 5 AT THE WEKA MEETING?

Send proposals ASAP to:
Nancy Metzger
Nmetzger@rcip.com
or 6827 Coachlight Way
Sacramento, CA 95831

THE WEKA BOARD

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WEKA is an affiliate of the
Center for Historically Informed Performances, Inc.

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