PRESENTS

PianoPalooza V:
Superheroes of Romanticism

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:

PAUL ALEXANDER
Offensive Line Coach of the Cincinnati Bengals

RICHARD EISWERTH,
General Manager WGUX/WVXU/WMUB

JACKATHERON
Master of Ceremonies

Location: Corbett Auditorium
Tickets: $10 general admission, $5 non-UC students,
UC students FREE with ID.

Tuesday, April 27, 8:00 p.m.
Guest Artist Series
Patricia Racette, soprano
Craig Terry, piano
Metropolitan Opera soprano Patricia Racette performs works by Puccini, Rossini, Tosti, and Poulenc as well as cabaret songs.

Location: Corbett Auditorium
Tickets: $15 general admission, $10 non-UC students,
UC students FREE with ID.

The Steinway/CCM Recital Series was launched in the 2009-2010 season at Steinway Hall in New York, NY.

CCM Faculty Artists who gave recitals:
Awadagin Pratt, James Tocco and Michael Chertock.

CCM Young Artists who gave recitals:
Baris Büyükyıldırım, Assaf Sommer and Polina Bespalko.

Stay tuned for information about the 2010-2011 season.

Sandra Rivers, artistic coordinator

We give our heartfelt thanks to the College-Conservatory of Music Head Piano Technician, Eric Wolfley, for all of his work in preparing our Steinways for this evening’s concert!
ABOUT

The first PianoPalooza was presented at CCM in April of 2006 to a capacity crowd in Corbett Auditorium. PianoPalooza marked the first time all six applied piano faculty performed on the same stage, in the same program, on the same instrument. The success of “PianoPalooza II: Faster, Louder and More Foolish,” established a yearly tradition. In subsequent years, additional performers were added, including Sandra Rivers, Professor of Accompanying and Steinway Artist.

The conversion of CCM to an all-Steinway institution lent a national flavor to “PianoPalooza IV: Doing it the Steinway!” A camera crew from CBS Sunday Morning came to Cincinnati to cover developments at CCM and the concert itself which featured the CCM Philharmonia under the direction of Mark Gibson in a massive finale: George Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue with six soloists followed by a Stars and Stripes with a whole gang of student pianists! The cameras also followed Elisabeth and Eugene Pridonoff through the intense and delightful process of choosing instruments at the New York factory. This year sees the addition of three performers: John Steele Ritter, Vesting Adjunct Professor of Piano and Paul Alexander, Offensive Line Coach of the Cincinnati Bengals, along with his teacher DMA candidate Albert Mühlböck.

The goals of PianoPalooza have always been the following:

1) to engage and inspire young pianists to aspire to excellence in their studies
2) to give support and encouragement to the many wonderful piano teachers in the tri-state region
3) to recapture the excitement and drama of piano recitals of the past
4) to raise funds for the engagement of guest artists and teachers whose visits to CCM are open to the music loving community as well as to CCM students!

Additional CCM piano initiatives of the past year have included:

• Recital Series in Steinway Hall, Sandra Rivers, Artistic Coordinator
• Bearcat Piano Festival: Featuring Ian Hobson, Dr. Nelita True and Dr. Robert Weirich in master class and recital along with marathon student performances of the works of Robert Schumann. Awadagin Pratt, Artistic Coordinator
• Recital Exchange with the University of Michigan in 2010 featuring the following students of Eugene and Elisabeth Pridonoff: Yin-Ju Chang, Zachary Lopes, Xiao Wang and Timothy Ledger
• CCM graduate pianists in residence at Ohio Northern University in 2010: Assaf Sommer, Polina Bespalko, and Benjamin Downs

We are excited to announce that Awadagin Pratt performed a recital at the Obama White House this academic year. It must also be pointed out that long-time piano faculty member, Frank Weinstock, who was appointed Associate Dean in 2008 and Interim Dean of CCM in 2010, will bow out of this year’s palooza. We will miss him very much onstage!

For questions about piano study at CCM, PianoPalooza or anything with 88 keys, please contact Michael Chertock, Chair of the CCM Piano Department at chertoms@uc.edu.

I hope that you enjoy “PianoPalooza V: Superheroes of Romanticism” in this bicentennial year of the birth of Frédéric Chopin….and lest we forget: Robert Schumann!

Michael Chertock