

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

CLASSICAL MUSIC

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CONCERTS IN TOWN

NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

In two programs at Carnegie Hall, the orchestra goes “pops” like never before. Sept. 9 and Sept. 11 at 8: Andrea Bocelli, the superstar crossover tenor, joins the Philharmonic in two concerts that will offer vocal and instrumental music by Bach (including “Sheep May Safely Graze”), Bellini, Verdi, and Puccini, along with a trio of “Ave Maria” settings (by Caccini, Schubert, and Gounod); Asher Fisch conducts. | Sept. 12 at 8: Bocelli, a pop tenor who reveres the classical tradition, is one thing; Trey Anastasio, the guitarist and founder of the jam band Phish, is something else. With Don Hart, he has created “Time Turns Elastic,” a florid concerto for electric guitar and orchestra. He gets out front with the Philharmonic to perform the New York premiere of the piece, along with more of his music; Fisch, again, conducts. (212-247-7800.)

MILLER THEATRE: “WORDLESS MUSIC MEETS MILLER FESTIVAL”

At last, the two youthful, cutting-edge promoters of new music meet up. Melissa Smey’s series at the Columbia University space gives Ronen Givony’s upstart series room to roam, presenting a variety of groups that bring indie rock, electronica, and modern classical together; the mix includes concerts by the 802 Tour (featuring Nico Muhly), Do Make Say Think, and the JACK Quartet. (Broadway at 116th St. 212-854-7799. Sept. 9-12 at 8. For details, see www.millertheatre.com.)

MUSICIANS FOR HARMONY

The group’s annual Concert for Peace—an event that began in the wake of 9/11—is more eclectic than ever: the program includes performances by the Shanghai Quartet (in Debussy’s String Quartet in G Minor), the Pakistani singer Nauman Khan Lasharie, the Eastern European-inspired fare of the avant-folk group Ljova and the Kontraband, and a set from the Supremes legend Mary Wilson. (Merkin Concert Hall, 129 W. 67th St. 212-501-3330. Sept. 10 at 7:30.)

DICAPO OPERA: “EMMELINE”

This was the first of Tobias Picker’s several operas, premièred by the Santa Fe Opera in 1996 and staged at New York City Opera two years later; based on a Judith Rossner novel, it transfers the Oedipus myth to nineteenth-century New England. Kristin Sampson takes the title role in a production directed by Robert Alföldi, the head of Hungary’s National Theatre; Samuel Bill conducts. (Dicapo Opera Theatre, 184 E. 76th St. 212-868-4444. Sept. 10 at 7:30, Sept. 11-12 at 8, and Sept. 13 at 4.)

BARGEMUSIC

After spending a week splashing about in the ocean of new music, the floating chamber-music series docked at Brooklyn’s Fulton Ferry Landing returns decisively to the classics. Sept. 11 at 8: The barge’s annual concert held in commemoration of the 9/11 disaster offers music by Beethoven, Chopin, Schumann, and Rachmaninoff. Admission is free. | Sept. 12 at 8: Michael Bulychev-Okser begins a fall series devoted to the Beethoven piano sonatas with performances of the Sonatas No. 1 in F Minor, No. 9 in E Major, No. 25 in G Major, and No. 17 in D Minor (the “Tempest”). | Sept. 13 at 3: Glenn Dicterow, the concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic, teams up with his friends in the Amerigo Trio—the violist Karen Dreyfus and the cellist Inbal Segev—in string trios by Kodály, Leó Weiner, Gideon Klein, and Beethoven (in C Minor, Op. 9, No. 3). (718-624-2083.)

“MOVING SOUNDS 2009” FESTIVAL

This is a big week at (Le) Poisson Rouge. In collaboration with the Austrian Cultural Forum, it hosts a series of concerts that maintain a “dialogue about sound” that spans classical, experimental, and popular styles and includes works by a range of Austrian and American composers. Sept. 12 at 7:30: The Argento Chamber Ensemble—whose director, Michel Galante, is a prime mover of the festival—performs the U.S. and world premières, respectively, of works by two important Austrian composers, Bernhard Lang and Beat Furrer (“Xenos II”); the concert closes with an appearance by Mantra Percussion, playing Steve Reich’s “Music for 18 Musicians.” | Sept. 13 at 8: The world première of Lang’s “Monadologie IV” (for three drummers) is featured in a concert by TimeTable Percussion and the d.j. Christopher Just that includes new works by Sam Pluta, Elizabeth Hoffman, and Furrer. | Sept. 14 at 9:30: The festival’s closing night features performances of string quartets by Furrer and Aaron Cassidy, offered by the daring JACK Quartet, with a party to follow. (158 Bleecker St. www.lprnyc.com. For full details, and for a schedule of concerts and events at the Austrian Cultural Forum, see www.argentomusic.org.)

POLKA STRA: “APOLKALYPSE NOW”

(Le) Poisson Rouge goes down-home with a performance by the irrepressible violinist Lara St. John’s avant-polka band, which offers a mix of folk standards and its own unique creations. (158 Bleecker St. www.lprnyc.com. Sept. 14 at 7.)

JUPITER SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS

The eccentric but valuable Jens Nygaard tribute ensemble hosts an eminence of the viola, the former New York Philharmonic principal Paul Neubauer, who joins the violinist Stefan Milenkovich and several Jupiter musicians in works by Beethoven, Johann Georg Distler, Mozart (the Quintet in E-Flat Major

for Horn and Strings), and Mendelssohn (the fleet and affecting String Quintet No. 1 in A Major). (Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, 152 W. 66th St. 212-799-1259. Sept. 14 at 2 and 7:30.)

PAUL JACOBS

Jacobs, a Juilliard School faculty member and the leading light of young American organists, opens the conservatory's performance season by playing the six trio sonatas of J. S. Bach at Paul Hall. (Juilliard School, Lincoln Center. Sept. 15 at 8. For information about free tickets, which are required, call 212-769-7406.)

OUT OF TOWN

"COPLAND HOUSE AT MERESTEAD"

The Westchester organization that maintains Aaron Copland's Cortlandt Manor house as an intimate composer retreat has moved boldly to expand its activities (with the help of Westchester County) by establishing a center for musical creation and performance at Merestead, a grand country estate with more than a hundred acres of land. The opening weekend offers two concerts (as well as a family program). Sept. 11 at 7:30: In "A New World Salon," the Music from Copland House ensemble (including the pianist Michael Boriskin) performs works by Copland and a distinguished former protégé, John Corigliano. | Sept. 13 at 3: The ensemble returns to offer "From the Salon to the Concert Hall to the Cabaret," a century-spanning survey of works by Copland, Amy Beach, and Paul Schoenfield. (Mount Kisco, N.Y. 914-788-4659.)

"PEAK PERFORMANCES@MONTCLAIR": SHANGHAI QUARTET

Montclair State University's just-out-of-town series, held in the impressive Alexander Kasser Theatre, begins its season with a concert by its energetic ensemble-in-residence, which performs string quartets by Beethoven (the "Serioso," Op. 95) and Dvorák, as well as Brahms's String Sextet No. 2 (assisted by members of the Tokyo String Quartet). (Montclair, N.J. 973-655-5112. Sept. 12 at 8.)

TANNERY POND CONCERTS

Christian Steiner's elegant little festival, nestled in a barn in a former Shaker village, presents a concert offered by the clarinetist Todd Palmer, in which he joins a group of friends (including the harpist Bridget Kibbey and the cellist Edward Arron) to perform a program of music by Debussy (the "Première Rhapsodie" and the Sonata for Flute, Viola, and Harp), Tchaikovsky, Britten, and Messager. (New Lebanon, N.Y. 888-820-1696. Sept. 12 at 8.)

SOUTH MOUNTAIN CONCERTS

September brings the return of this longtime series, which snags a collection of upper-crust performers who have just finished their rounds at the big summer festivals. This week's concert is offered by the pianist Wu Han and the cellist David Finckel, along with the violinist Philip Setzer, Finckel's colleague from the Emerson String Quartet, who will perform the two piano trios by Franz Schubert. (Pittsfield, Mass. 413-442-2106. Sept. 13 at 3.)

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