

## PMF 2005



Pacific Music Festival marked its 16th season in 2005 with 127 PMF Academy members from 24 countries and regions and faculty members from the Vienna and Berlin philharmonics, and major orchestras from the USA. The festival attracted audiences totaling 46,874 during its duration. In

total, 44 concerts and performances were held in Sapporo and other cities including ensemble concerts and open rehearsals at EXPO 2005 Aichi Japan, the first global exposition of the 21st Century. These performances reflected the exhibition's theme, "Grand Intercultural Symphony." Principal Conductor Nello Santi featured Italian composers Rossini and Respighi. He instructed the orchestra by singing cheerfully and rhythmically to explain the composers' concepts. Guest Conductor, Jun Märkl led the orchestra in the Japanese premiere of the festival's Composer-in-Residence

Detlev Glanert's symphony, *Katafalk*. This season the new String Quartet Course was established. The Tokyo String Quartet coached young string quartets from the USA, Poland, and Japan. The PMF Alumni who contributed to the success of this season's festival were Daniel Matsukawa (Bassoon Faculty, '92/'93/'94), Shinji Kawamoto (Artistic Administrator, Bassoon '90/'91), Kenny Chen (Orchestra Manager, Horn, '91), Takuya Takashima (Assistant Orchestra Manager, Oboe '03/'04) and Noriko Shibaki (PMF Organizing Committee, Piano '90).

## ALUMNI NEWS

### PMF Alumni Ensemble Concert

Dec. 8, 2004  
Aug. 14, 2005



Yoshiko Murakami (Percussion, '97/'98/'99), Daisuke Shirozu (Trumpet, '99), Mayumi Okamoto (Bassoon, '97) and Takako Umemoto (Clarinet, 2000 Junior Fellow) are the group "Music for Friendship and Peace (MFP)" and organized the annual concerts with the other PMF Alumni members from various years. Until now, their activities have been held mainly in the Kansai area in Japan, but their dream is to return to the place where they met and extend their activities in Sapporo.

### PMF Alumni in Hyogo, Japan

In October 2005, the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra began its inaugural season. Under the leadership of Yutaka Sado, the PMF Orchestra Resident Conductor from 1992 to 1997, the Orchestra offers training for professional-level musicians from around the world. Eleven PMF Alumni are active members of the orchestra.

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

Andrea Vonk (Trumpet, USA) and Simon Menin (Trumpet, Switzerland) met at PMF'03 and were married in June, 2005.



### UPDATES!

Please update your contact information and tell us how you are doing through our website ([www.pmf.jp/E/E\\_alumni5.html](http://www.pmf.jp/E/E_alumni5.html)) or through our e-mail address ([alumni@pmf.jp](mailto:alumni@pmf.jp)). We welcome your updates and suggestions.

### Yoshi's Debut at Carnegie Hall

PMF 2004 Composition Course alumnus Yoshiaki Onishi had his debut at Carnegie Hall when Japanese pianist Yukiko Tanaka performed Yoshi's *Antithèse* (2005) for piano solo at her debut piano recital at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall on December 18, 2005. This piece, written especially for Ms. Tanaka's debut recital, is Yoshi's most recent piece for piano and involves some extended piano techniques. Yoshi will be writing also for Lucerne Festival's 12-person percussion ensemble in which 2004-2005 PMF alumnus David Skidmore will participate. The ensemble will perform his work in Lucerne, Switzerland in early September, 2006.

**The Leonard Bernstein Memorial Stage** was opened in June 2004 at Sapporo Art Park and features more space, upgraded facilities, and improved acoustics than the previous temporary outdoor stage it replaced.



... And I now must make the choice again of how best to serve music, and serve people through it. ... My decision has been, without too much difficulty, to spend most of the remaining energy and time the Lord grants me with education, sharing as much as I can with younger people. ... This Pacific Music Festival is one very large aspect of this commitment, which I hereby make for the rest of my life.

-- Leonard Bernstein, PMF 1990 Opening Ceremony

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PMF 20th Anniversary is coming in 2009!

To celebrate, the PMF Organizing Committee plans to organize events in which Alumni can also participate. In 1999, the PMF International Orchestra was organized with 100 PMF Alumni to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the festival.

### PMF 2006

Highlights of the next season include the return of Valery Gergiev as Principal Conductor. He will share his spirit of music again with young musicians in one of his favorite cities, Sapporo. Yakov Kreizberg, Guest Conductor, will feature Mozart and Shostakovich in a celebration of their birth anniversaries. Sascha Goetzel serving for the second time as the orchestra's Resident Conductor, will lead Takemitsu and Mozart. The Composition Course will be headed by Toshio Hosokawa and the String Quartet Course will be directed by the Tokyo String Quartet.

### Daniel Matsukawa

Bassoon, The Philadelphia Orchestra  
(1992-1994 PMF Academy)  
(2001-2005 PMF Faculty-in-Residence)

It is important for me that I am a PMF alumnus because my roots as a musician are in PMF. When I was here as a student, I didn't think or even dream that I could teach the Academy members. I believe my appearance as a member of the Faculty inspires the Academy members. My role is to help the students to meet and achieve something by themselves. PMF will be a big chance for them to grow dramatically.



## INTERVIEWS

*Editor's note: The PMF Organizing Committee asked alumni what they are doing and to share some memories of their PMF experiences.*

### Katherine Bryan Flute (2001, 2002), U.K.

I am now Principal Flute in the Royal Scottish National Orchestra based in Glasgow, Scotland. I've been here for two and a half years and love it!

I think PMF is a fantastic experience for anyone, especially anyone wanting to have an orchestral career. I learnt so much from participating in the festival, and was also privileged to be able to learn about Japan and all its culture. Working with such great conductors and also meeting fantastic musicians was invaluable.



### Min-Huei Den

Double Bass (1990, 1991, 1999), Taiwan

I have been an orchestra member of the Orchestre de l'Opéra National de Paris for 11 years and also a double bass instructor for Ecole Nationale de Musique de Bobigny.

There was Maestro Bernstein! In the flesh in front of me! He was quite sick at that time, but I always remember how patient and passionate he was during all the rehearsals! PMF represents my "initiation": I met excellent young musicians from all continents, I listened to them, I tried to figure out our differences and resemblance in musical practice, and I realized that although I never left my native town and studied only with local teachers, I was not a bad musician, but I could be even better! PMF was like a barometer. For 15 years I followed the evolution of PMF, and when I think other young people discover themselves through PMF like I did in 1990, I would like to say: "Thank you, PMF!"



### Charles DeRamus

Double Bass (1992, 1999), U.S.A.

Currently I am a member of the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, Sweden. Additionally, I teach at the Sequoia Chamber Music Workshop and the Idyllwild Summer Arts Music Festival.

PMF was a fantastic experience for me in many ways. It was my first trip to Japan, my first time working with a conductor of Michael Tilson Thomas' stature, and my first experience working with musicians from all over the world in one orchestra. Later on I would continue my connection with Michael Tilson Thomas, thanks in large part to PMF, by joining the New World Symphony. Also, the opportunity to return in 1999 with the Alumni orchestra was incredible. What an amazing group of musicians!

### Raymond Riccomini

Trumpet (1993), U.S.A.

I am the second trumpet player with the Metropolitan Opera in New York. I have been there for two and a half years.

I have very fond memories of my time at PMF. I developed some great friendships that continue to this day and enjoyed playing in the orchestra. The one thing that stands out for me is the friends that I made at PMF.



Pacific Music Festival Organizing Committee

<http://www.pmf.or.jp>

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