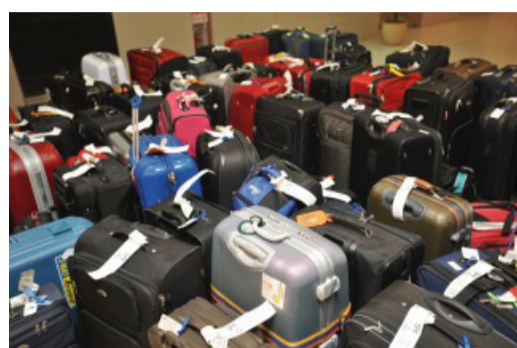


Report from PMF 2008

The 19th Pacific Music Festival was held from July 5th through 31st with 128 PMF Academy members from 18 countries and regions. We have invited Fabio Luisi as Principal Conductor along with two Guest Conductors, Jun Märkl and Tadaaki Otaka. The Composition course members were taught by Composer-in-Residence, Toshio Hosokawa, and the Tokyo String Quartet taught 3 excellent string quartets from the United States, Austria and Japan.



Very first day



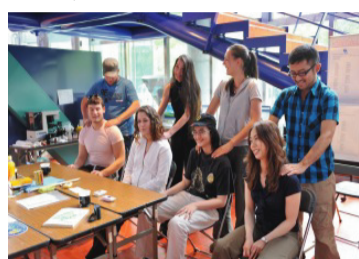
PMF Orchestra Course

As a celebration of Olivier Messiaen's 100th birth anniversary, PMF Orchestra performed *Turangalila-Symphonie* with members of the PMF Vienna under the baton of Maestro Jun Märkl.

Performing this work brought the academy members an interesting experience playing with an early electric musical instrument called Ondes Martenot.

To celebrate the 90th birth anniversary of Leonard Bernstein, the founder of PMF, "Happy Birthday, Bernstein! – Gala Concert for his 90th birthday" was performed with all-Bernstein program conducted by Maestro Tadaaki Otaka, Maestro Luis Biava (PMF Senior Artistic Administrator), and Maestro Kentaro Kawase (Assistant Conductor). The audience enjoyed the cross-over between Classical music and Jazz through the performance of PMF Orchestra and the soloists such as Anne Akiko Meyers (Violin), Peter Schmidl (PMF Artistic Chairman/ Clarinet) and a Jazz pianist Makoto Ozone.

Maestro Fabio Luisi who is extremely passionate about music and education conducted the final program of PMF Orchestra this year. Musicianship between Maestro and academy members created a sound that is powerful yet very beautiful and sensitive. The achievement of PMF Orchestra 2008 was clearly shown in the performance of R. Strauss' *Don Quixote* and Berlioz' *Symphonie Fantastique* under the baton of Maestro Luisi and received the highest acclaim in Sapporo, Osaka and Tokyo.



After a long day

Having fun



Academy with Mayor of Sapporo



After the Concert

PMF Organizing Committee: <http://www.pmf.or.jp>

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Composition Course



Under the guidance of Mr. Toshio Hosokawa, Composer-in-Residence, 4 members, all from different countries, participated in a workshop. They had discussions on variety of matters through talking about their own works, and they presented their favorite music, mostly traditional music from their own countries. They also attended rehearsals of their own works performed by PMF Orchestra members, and the benefit of preparation was presented at the Pacific Soundings Concert.

String Quartet Course

Three groups (Altura Quartet, Danube Quartet Vienna and Jupiter Quartet Japan) were invited to the String Quartet Course and were coached by the Tokyo String Quartet. The performances include the PMF Academy Ensemble Concert which were held at different concert venues around Sapporo area, the PMF Academy String Quartet Course Concert at the Sapporo Concert Hall Kitara Small Hall, the Culture Night 2008 Concert at the Sapporo Clock Tower Hall, and the Picnic Concert in which each group played with the member(s) of the Tokyo String Quartet.



Welcome, Maestro Luisi!!

During PMF 2008, PMF Organizing Committee announced the appointment of Fabio Luisi as a new Artistic Director. Starting with the 21st PMF in 2010, Maestro Luisi will become the Artistic Director for a period of three years. He will be in charge of determining the artistic and educational contents.

Academy Audition

The PMF 2009 Academy Audition is currently going on in 21 cities around the globe. This year we will visit Amsterdam for the first time, and re-visit Paris and Houston after many years since last visit. We might be around in your city!

Dear Alumni of PMF,

As it has been in 2004 and 2008, it will be an even bigger pleasure and honor for me to be PMF Artistic Director from 2010. The spirit of Leonard Bernstein is still in the air. I am happy to be a part of the team to pursue his wish to give talented young musicians an opportunity to come together to experience the discovery of many great symphonic repertoire and to grow up musically. I look forward to meeting many talented musicians through this wonderful festival, and I am sure that our collaboration will bring many people full of joy.

Yours,

Fabio Luisi

PMF Celebrates its 20th Anniversary!! - PMF 2009

For PMF 2009, two of the previous Artistic Directors, Maestro Christoph Eschenbach and Maestro Michael Tilson Thomas will return to PMF along with a young rising-star conductor, Maestro Xian Zhang. To celebrate this special year, the PMF Organizing Committee has already formed the Anniversary Orchestra with alumni who are now in professional orchestras across the world. The Anniversary Orchestra will perform Schumann's Symphony No. 2, the work which PMF founder Leonard Bernstein conducted during the first festival in 1990.

18 years ago, I heard PMF Orchestra performing Schumann's Symphony No.2 under Maestro Bernstein in Sapporo City Concert Hall. Ever since, the energy and expression from the young musicians have been in my heart. I am very happy and honored to be a part of the Pacific Music Festival. Over 2,400 PMF Alumni is spread all over the world now, and I strongly hope that we can keep in touch and exchange thoughts and information in order to make this festival more wonderful!!

Hiroyuki Abe, PMF Executive Director