

# MUSICIANS OF MA'ALWYCK



Ma'alwyck Quarterly Newsletter 2.5

December 2019

## Artists

Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, Founder & Director, Violinist  
Sten Isachsen, Guitarist  
Norm Thibodeau, Flutist  
Petia Kassarova, Cellist

## Board Members

Michael Barnas, Chair  
Deborah Esrick, Secretary  
Samuel Zimmerman, Treasurer  
George de Piro  
Laura Dike  
Kathleen Quandt

## Staff

Irene DeGraff, Administrative Assistant

## Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.musiciansofmaalwyck.org](http://www.musiciansofmaalwyck.org)

## Follow Us



Dear Friends,

Since our last newsletter which was back in July, we not only kicked off our twentieth anniversary season with two subscription concerts, we also presented a series of concerts at historic Hyde Hall near Cooperstown (August 18<sup>th</sup> Civil War program and October 6<sup>th</sup> Macabre Music with a new piece about the Hall's ghosts by Max Caplan). October and November were packed with performances. Max and I played a series of Beethoven concerts around the area, culminating with a wonderful dinner concert at the superb Horned Dorset restaurant in Leondardsville. We toured our second subscription concert *Eliza* with packed performances at both the Albany Institute of History and Art and the Arkill Museum in Canajoharie, in addition to our performance at the Schuyler Mansion. The more I learn about Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton, the more fascinated I become.

In early December we gave what is likely the American premiere of a wonderful guitar concerto of Peruvian classical composer Pedro Ximenez, as well as providing "back-up" for several choral organizations. As I write this Sten and I are getting ready for MofM's annual Ten Broeck Mansion Holiday concert. While busy, performing all of this wonderful repertory is very satisfying and exciting.

We have a wonderful remainder of our 20<sup>th</sup> season left with two more subscription concerts (January 12<sup>th</sup> *Celebrating Clara* and April 26<sup>th</sup> *Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot*) as well as the incredible Viennese Ball we have set for February 29<sup>th</sup>. I have been wanting for years to hold a Viennese Ball, and our 20<sup>th</sup> season seemed the perfect time. What a night it will be, set up to be just like a night at the Hofburg. And, I am delighted to announce that soprano Emalie Savoy will be joining us for the show with arias from the Merry Widow and more. I am so excited about all of these celebratory concerts that I have devoted a whole page of this newsletter to them. You will also find a detailed schedule with all of our performances listed, which includes appearances at the Schenectady and Bethlehem Public Libraries.

As always thank you for your support. I hope that you will join us for one of our truly special concerts this year.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and all the best for 2020.

Sincerely,

Ann-Marie



***Celebrating Clara***  
**Subscription Concert #3**

**Sunday, January 12, 2020 @ 7pm**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**58 3rd St, Troy**

**Tickets \$30/\$15 students**  
**ESYO students \$5 and CHIME students free**

Our third subscription concert is part of the Albany Symphony's Clara Schumann Festival. The final concert in a several day festival with multiple concerts and other events, MofM will present a program of works by Brahms (Sextet in B-Flat), Bargiel (Octet for strings) and Hermann (Capriccio for three violins). All of these pieces, aside from being stunning works, are connected to Clara Schumann. The concert will be at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (the Tiffany Church), just a block from the Troy Music Hall, at 7pm on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.

We are so pleased to include on this concert not only regular Musicians of Ma'alwyck players but guest artists violinists **Theodore Arm** (Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center) and **Sasha Margolis** (Honolulu Symphony); violist **Andrew Snow** (Blossom Music Festival) and cellist **Andre O'Neil** (Trinity Baroque Orchestra).



We are also thrilled to welcome two outstanding musicians from the Empire State Youth Orchestra: **Georgia Burtt**, violin and **Avi Patel**, viola. They will be playing with us on the Bargiel Octet. We will start rehearsals after Christmas and are so looking forward to sharing this great music with Georgia and Avi. All of us in the ensemble had very meaningful experiences working with professional musicians when we were students, experiences that led us into pursuing musical careers. We hope to offer the same situation. Come hear the wonderful results.



And if you are looking for an incredible dinner beforehand, the Plumb Oyster Bar on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street is offering a 20% discount for Musicians of Ma'alwyck ticket holders. What could be better than an amazing dinner followed by a stunning concert!

**Free Preview *Celebrating Clara*—January 10, 2020 @ 1pm, Union College, Taylor Music Center**

## Upcoming Events!

January 10, 2020 @ 1pm  
Union College, Taylor Music Center  
Preview *Celebrating Clara*

January 12, 2020 @ 7pm  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Troy  
Subscription Concert #3 - *Celebrating Clara*

January 26, 2020 @ 2:30pm  
Schenectady County Public Library  
Beat the Snow Concert Series

February 29, 2020 @ 7pm  
90 State St, Albany  
**Schaltjahr Ball** (Leap Year Ball)

March 8, 2020 @ 2pm  
Bethlehem Public Library

March 12, 2020 @ 5pm  
Union College, Taylor Music Center

April 24, 2020 @ 12 Noon  
SUNY Schenectady  
Preview *Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot*

April 26, 2020 @ 3 & 5pm  
Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site  
Subscription Concert #4 - *Should Auld Acquaintance Be  
Forgot* + Café Capriccio dinner

This season is supported in part by grants from The Community Foundation of the Greater Capital Region and the Schenectady County Legislature through its County Initiative Program.



## Around Town



Hyde Hall Civil War concert  
*Listen to the Mockingbird*



Ghostly Gala with guest Paul Tonko



Eliza at Schuyler Mansion



Macabre Music rehearsal



Hyde Hall dinner

# Musicians of Ma'alwyck Schaltjahr (Leap Year) Ball



Saturday, February, 29, 2020 7-11pm

90 State Street, Albany

Step back to Vienna, Austria, circa 1900 for a true Viennese Ball. With live orchestra, a palatial setting, a great dance floor, dinner performance (featuring Metropolitan Opera Singer Emalie Savoy performing music of Lehar and Strauss), and wonderful food, this evening is not-to-be-missed. Waltz and polka through the night in true old world elegance. Get out your most stunning gowns and tails and celebrate the Leap Year in true style.

Feeling uncertain about your steps? Talk to your dance studio about Viennese Waltz and Polka lessons. Or sign up for one hour classes at the University Club in Albany (518)463-1151 with Ann-Marie and Fred Schwartz on January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7pm and February 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm. Lessons are \$10 per class, advance reservations necessary, class size is limited to 10 couples. Check Musicians of Ma'alwyck website for more info. The Club's bar and restaurant will be open before and after the lesson.

## Dinner Menu

Prosecco Toast  
Cheeses, dips, charcuterie  
Roasted Butternut Squash Bisque  
Choice of Roasted Pork Loin, Salzburg Sole, or Carinthian Mushroom Ravioli  
Chocolate Flourless Torte  
Cash Bar

## Ticket Options

	<b>Johann Strauss Level \$400</b>	<b>Josef Lanner Level \$225</b>	<b>General Admission \$150</b>
Valet parking	X	X	X
Prosecco toast	X	X	X
3+ hrs dancing with live music	X	X	X
Galop lesson	X	X	X
Multi-course gourmet sit-down dinner	X	X	X
Dinner show w/ orchestra, Metropolitan Opera soprano Emalie Savoy, professional ballroom dancers	X	X	X
Priority seating next to dance floor	X	X	
Honorary Committee dances only	X	X	
Commemorative wine glass	X		
Austrian gift	X		
Wine certificates	X		

## Hotels

Hampton Inn & Suites Albany-Downtown  
25 Chapel St  
Albany 12210  
518-518-432-7000

Hilton Albany  
40 Lodge St  
Albany 12207  
518-462-6611

Contact Discover Albany for additional options

**Ball reservations must be made by February 18, 2020**

Visit our website [www.musiciansofmaalwyck.org](http://www.musiciansofmaalwyck.org) or phone 814-441-0852

## Viennese Ball Tradition

Since the Congress of Vienna, the city of waltzes has been famous for its legendary balls. Each year more than 450 balls take place in Vienna. The city celebrates Carnival in January and February with exuberance. The three-four rhythm is also joined by more contemporary sounds, offering enjoyable dancing for every taste.

## Testimonials

For 20 years the Musicians of Ma'alwyck have shared their refreshing approach to chamber music with the Capital Region. Artistic Director Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz expresses her passion for music and history through engaging, informal concerts set in historic buildings such as the Schuyler Mansion and Hyde Hall, bringing to life the musical experiences of those who first lived there. These charming, intimate concerts showcase the considerable talents of the musicians and allow them to share their musical insights and humor, making the audience feel like part of the family.

The core group of instrumentalists includes violin, cello, flute, and guitar, for a variety of timbres not always found in chamber music concerts. They are often joined by vocalists, dancers, and even graphic artists. As the occasion and repertoire demand, the group expands to a larger ensemble or a full chamber orchestra, in some cases taking to the opera stage. Their fully-staged productions range from Arne's *The Poor Soldier* (George Washington's favorite opera) to the contemporary *Aleda* a commissioned work by the talented young composer Max Caplan.

While the Musicians of Ma'alwyck specialize in bringing to light overlooked works from the classical period, they also embrace contemporary composers, commissioning and performing works by Richard Einhorn and Max Caplan.

Although music is the food of love, Ann-Marie also shares her love of food with wine-and-cheese receptions, theme-based dinners and other taste treats accompanying many of each season's concerts. Her creative collaborations have led to special brews and food tours on musical themes. If you are hearing the Musicians of Ma'alwyck for the first time, expect to have a good time!

Sharon Roy

**Check out our latest media coverage on our website under "News"**

**Times Union—"Musicians of Ma'alwyck Event Has Halloween Spin" by Joseph Dalton, October 17, 2019**

**Daily Gazette—"The World on a String" by Geraldine Freedman, Nov 29, 2019**

As an ardent fan of classical music, I have long admired the creativity and extensive knowledge of music that Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz has shown. Over the 40 plus years that I have known her, I have been constantly impressed with the depth of knowledge she has continued to gain and to share with those of us who love classical music. While I have always been delightfully moved by the talent with which she has surrounded herself, I also learn a great deal from her extensive knowledge of musicians and composers. Attending one of her chamber concerts is a treat musically and an educationally enriching experience as well.

Susan Thompson

I have been associated with Musicians of Ma'alwyck for more than 15 years, serving 12 of them on the board. My earliest impression of the organization is its focus on colonial era American musical life. Ann-Marie applied her diligent study of this to the selection of concert material, and the result was, and continues to be, a unique approach and thoroughly enjoyable repertoire. Expansion of concentration into American musical compositions brought about performance of American composers, several pieces of which were by Samuel Gardner, my maternal grandfather. I greatly appreciate the organization's having carried them into the 21<sup>st</sup> century's cognizance.

Eric Wiener

# Musicians of Ma'alwyck Creative Art Sale 2019

Purchase on our website or by emailing [irene@musiciansofmaalwyck.org](mailto:irene@musiciansofmaalwyck.org). Delivery can be made within the Capital Region or by mail. First come, first serve, no competitive bidding.

## #1—"Stock the Bar" Basket

This "Stock the Bar" basket includes: Albany Distilling Company Vodka, Keuka Lake Vineyards Dry Riesling, Robert Mondavi Red Blend, Crowley Pinot Noir, and Breathless Brut Rosé, in a lovely wicker basket. Price: \$ 90

## #2—Beer Pairing Dinner at Druthers

Brewmaster and chef's beer dinner for four: a special meal with each course paired with a Druthers beer. Good at any Druthers Brewing Company Location, Sunday-Thursday, one week's notice required. Price: \$225

## #5—Central Troy Historic District Food Tour

This item includes one ticket to a Saturday Central Troy Historic District Food Tour for any public date with availability from May-October, 2020 (pre-booking is required). Price: \$45

## #8—Two-Month Membership to The University Club of Albany

Steeped in tradition, the University Club of Albany has been a popular haven for leaders of Capital Region businesses and other prominent individuals who meet at the club to dine, socialize and renew friendships in elegant and private surroundings. This item includes a two-month membership to the club along with a \$100 dining credit. Price: \$150

## #11—Tickets to a Performance at Proctors

Gift certificate for two tickets to a show (or a movie package) at Proctors Theatre to your choice of the following shows: North-east Ballet's: The Nutcracker, Kris Kringle the Musical: The Storybook Version, We Shall Overcome, NatGeo LIVE! Doubilet, Step Africa, Gospel Jubilee, NatGeo LIVE!, and Kevin Hand or, 4 Movie Passports (5 movies each passport). Price: \$75

## #13—PBS DVD Collection

Includes: *The Vietnam War*: A Film by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick 10-DVD Set, Aidan Turner's *Poldark* Seasons 1-3 - three DVD Set, *First You Dream*: The Music of Kander & Ebb, *Albert Cummings: Live at the '62 Center* Price: \$85

## #18—Tickets to *Norma* at the Boston Lyric Opera

This item includes a gift certificate for two tickets to a performance of Bellini's *Norma* at the Boston Lyric Opera, in March of 2020. Price: \$380

## #20—An Original Acrylic Painting by Helga Prichard, 14x16"

"Centerfield" by Helga Prichard is an original acrylic painting and has been matted and framed. Helga Prichard studied art and modern dance for pleasure while earning a bachelor's degree in Natural Science from Russell Sage College in Troy, NY Price: \$135

## #21—An Original Matted & Framed "Lisbon" Print by Dick Bennett, 19x25"

Dick Bennett: "I have always been enthralled with the power of an image to teach, to challenge, to capture an experience, to focus attention or to tell a story. When I photograph a scene or a person, I am sharing my interpretation with the viewer." Dick Bennett Photography, Rochester, NY Price: \$225

## #22—Original Framed Print By Eric M Berlin, 20x16"

Albany Symphony Orchestra rehearsal with Petia Kassarova, cellist. Eric Berlin is principal trumpet for ASO. His images have been collected into a new book, "Music for the Eyes: Albany Symphony Musicians at Work," Price: \$75

## #25—Goddess of Mercy Buddha Statue

Top Collection H 7.25" W 6.5" Water & Moon Quan Yin in Royal Ease Pose Statue in Cold Cast Bronze. Premium sculpted cold cast bronze - real bronze powder mixed with resin. Hand-painted in bronze finish to give a high-quality antique look without sacrificing the details. Donated by Segel Violins. Price: \$45



## Musicians of Ma'alwyck

511 Mohawk Ave  
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### Campaign \$20K

Our unique and celebratory 20th anniversary season programming requires your support; tickets sales only cover a small percentage. The generosity of our friends allows us to continue to perform in historic venues throughout the Capital Region. Your donation is fully tax deductible and acknowledged in our subscription concert programs. Won't you be a special part of our landmark season by helping us reach our goal. You may donate on our website under "Support" or mail a check to the return address above. And thank you to those that have already contributed toward our goal!

