

Annual General Meeting

Sidney Concert Society ~ Sidney Classical Orchestra

May 17, 2011

Artistic Director's Report

Last year my Artistic Director's Report contained the following:

Unfortunately, due government's cuts to the Gaming Grants, the seventeenth season of the Sidney Classical Orchestra was suspended. Because of the suspension of the season there is nothing to report from the artistic side. However, we do hope to produce a small season in 2010/11 with at least one orchestral concert and one chamber music concert.

Well, this year, we certainly did better than my prediction in that report. Considering the circumstances, the 18th season of the Sidney Concert Society and Sidney Classical Orchestra has been quite successful.

Our first concert, November 5, 2010, Chopin - Melodic Genius, featured soloist Jamie Syer in Chopin's Piano Concerto in F minor, a concerto grosso by Corelli, and the premiere of my Eulogy for Meghan Reid in the string orchestra and piano version. I am pleased to say, that I received many fine comments on the concert and my new work.

In concert number two, Magic of Strings and Flutes, January 28, 2011, we were quite fortunate to have composer and conductor Edward Marcus join us from St. Paul, Minnesota, to share the conducting duties and to the premiere his work for solo cello (Joyce Ellwood - cello) and orchestra, Winter's End. Also joining us from the USA was my daughter, Alberta Brown, who flew from Chicago to perform J. Quantz's Concerto for Flute in G major.

Our last concert, April 8, 2011, was a partnership with the Victoria Conservatory of Music featuring performers (young professionals) from their Collegium Program in a variety of music.

Overall, we had a good year. The quality of music making was high. However, we do need to build our audience base.

Thank you so much, to the board of directors, and to the volunteers, who gave of their time to bring to Sidney and the Peninsula, fine classical music.

Your sincerely,

Stephen Brown
Artistic Director and Conductor
Sidney Classical Orchestra