

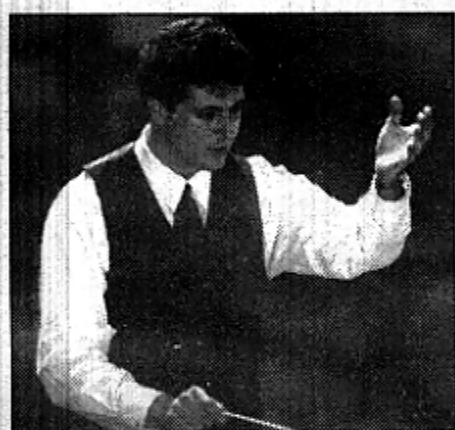
Department of Music

Celebrating Russia in Courses, Concerts

The department of music is offering a Russian music series inspired by the Havighurst Center's St. Petersburg 2003 Festival. Offerings, both at home and abroad, include a new Miami Plan Foundation course, Music 188, *The Music of Russia*, a 90-member touring choir and performances by the Miami University Symphony Orchestra.

Students Prepare for Tour

At the conclusion of spring semester, 90 singers drawn from Miami's four choirs will go on a concert tour of Russia and Eastern Europe. The 14-day tour, led by Ethan Sperry and William Bausano, will take the students to Moscow, Novgorod, and St. Petersburg as well as Tallinn, Estonia; Helsinki, Finland; and Copenhagen, Denmark. The choirs will perform three concerts with professional Russian and Estonian orchestras and four concerts of *a cappella* music. The orchestral repertoire, Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester*



Ethan Sperry

Psalms and Morten Lauridsen's *Mid-Winter Songs*, will be performed here in Oxford by the combined

forces of the Chamber Singers, Collegiate Chorale, Choraliers, Men's Glee Club, and symphony orchestra on Feb. 28 and March 1. Composer Morten Lauridsen, chair of the department of music theory and composition at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, will be on campus for a five-day residency during the week of these concerts. He will help prepare the students for performances of his *Mid-Winter Songs* and also host a high-school choral festival that will bring over 200 high-school singers from Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky to campus for the weekend.

The Russian Tour Choir will present a program titled *Da Svidanya, Oxford* on April 23 in Hall Auditorium. This will include the program that the choirs will take with them including selections by Sergei Rachmaninoff, Pavel Chesnekov, Samuel Barber and Aaron Copland as well as folksongs, spirituals, and gospel selections.

More Collaborations

The music department will also collaborate with the Havighurst Center in several other spring productions. The Miami symphony orchestra, under the direction of Ricardo Averbach, will perform Borodin's Symphony No. 2 on Feb. 28 and March 1 in Hall Auditorium. The orchestra will also perform repertoire by Russian composers on April 25 in Hall, featuring the winners of the

department's annual concerto competition. Students Seth Gangwer, Ellen Nettleton and Vladimir Shubin will be the featured performers.

On March 29, the public is invited to a Russian Chamber Music and Cultural Festival that will involve student performances of vocal and instrumental chamber music from Russia in Souers Recital Hall and Hiestand Hall. A Russian crafts fair will be presented on the CPA plaza.



Ricardo Averbach

More Spring Concerts

Other choral concerts for spring include the Collegiate Chorale and Global Rhythms ensemble under the direction of Ethan Sperry making their first appearance at the Ohio Music Educators State Conference in Cleveland on Jan. 24. The Collegiate Chorale will also perform Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Cincinnati Ballet, April 4, 5, and 6 at



MU Global Rhythms in performance

Cincinnati's Music Hall and April 15 at Hall Auditorium.

The Men's Glee Club will appear on Miami's Performing Arts Series in a joint concert with the professional male chorus, *Cantus*, on April 2, and will give its annual spring concerts on April 4 and 5 featuring selections composed by current members and recent alumni.

For more details about upcoming music events, visit the Miami University Arts & Culture calendar at www.muohio.edu/calendar/. A complete listing of student events is also on the Web site. Or call the department of music, 529-3014, for information.