

Tune In

Raleigh Area Flute Association

March 2001

Irish Flute Fest

Join Mike Casey and members of Cucanandy for a whirlwind afternoon of music, dance and song from the Celtic lands! Following the performance, flutist Mike Casey will lead a workshop on *The Traditional Irish Style of Flute Playing*. For the workshop, bring your flute (or a penny whistle in the key of D) and a music stand.

Cucanandy is an exciting Celtic-based ensemble from North Carolina that offers a unique blend of traditional percussive dance, songs and tunes that has delighted audiences around the country. Members of Cucanandy are seasoned performers who have traveled the U.S., Canada, and the United Kingdom and have recently appeared at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C., and the Meadowlark Music Camp in Maine.

Flutist, guitarist and dulcimer player **Mike Casey** has performed tradition-based music and stories in concert throughout the country. His latest solo recording, *The Pleasures of Hope*, has been called

“enchanting, ... a melodically and rhythmically rich set of music ... an inspired musical journey.”

Singer/guitarist **Stephanie Johnston**’s voice is “strong and clear ... with a nice edge

... a supple and ethereal sound.” She has also appeared with guitarist William Coulter, Irish singer Mary McLaughlin, and Uilleann piper Todd Denman.

North Carolina native **Jason Cade** has lived in Cork, Dublin, and most recently County Clare, immersing himself in Ireland’s expressive and melodic fiddle traditions.

Percussive dancer **Malke Rosenfeld** appeared in *Riverdance* with the group Footworks during the show’s 1996 London run and has per-

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Visit the groups’ web sites at
www.cucanandy.com
and
home.nc.rr.com/iniscairde

Irish Flute Fest

Sunday, March 25, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

The Fallon Center at
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
2912 Anderson Dr., Raleigh

Featuring **Mike Casey and Cucanandy**
with dancers from the
Inis Cairde School of Irish Dance

*Free for RAFA members,
\$7 general admission*



Cucanandy

Nominating Committee

A nominating committee is currently working on a slate of officers for RAFA’s 2001-2002 season. If you are interested in helping to plan RAFA events, please contact Kim Allemang at 873-0603 by March 25. All terms are for one year, except for member-at-large, which is a rotating three-year term. See the board of directors list on page 5 for possible ways to be involved.

Also needed: assistance with publicity. In addition to keeping the flutists informed of our first-class events, we want to improve our publicity to the community at large. If you are interested in helping us contact radio stations, newspapers, etc. throughout the year, please call Rosene Rohrer at (919) 781-3225.

Tune In Now Online

Tune In is now available on RAFA’s web site, www.RaleighFlutes.org, in Adobe Acrobat format. An online email list utility is in the works so that members can opt to receive an email notice when a new *Tune In* is posted, instead of receiving a printed copy in the mail.

If you would like to help RAFA save on printing and postage, watch the web site for an announcement or send email to Mark Allemang at web@RaleighFlutes.org.

2000 Review and Contest

The 16th Annual Review & Contest was held on Sunday, November 12. This year over 120 participants were registered! The contest winners (right) performed in a recital during the Flute Fair on Saturday, November 18. Congratulations to all who participated!

Irish Fest . . . continued from p. 1

formed solo with musicians such as fiddlers Jerry Holland, Eileen Ivers, and Bruce Molsky.

Dancer **Meighan Carpenter** is founder and director of the Inis Cairde School of Irish Dance in Cary and Raleigh, where she teaches Irish step dancing full-time. One of only four certified Irish dance instructors in North Carolina, she has appeared on stage with Squirrel Nut Zippers, Paddy O'Brien, Mike Dugger, and the Chieftains.



Meighan Carpenter

Volunteer Teaching Opportunity

MTAY (Music Teachers Alliance for Youth) is a non-profit organization that connects economically disadvantaged youth with volunteer music teachers for free weekly lessons. No teaching experience is necessary; materials, training and support are provided. Youth volunteers (must be 14 years or older) are welcome! Minimum commitment is four months of teaching weekly half-hour lessons.

This is a great way to share your gift of music with kids who really want to learn! Contact MTAY at (919) 928-0924 or MusicTeachersAllianceForYouth@hotmail.com.

2000 RAFA Contest Winners

<i>Division</i>	<i>Winners</i>
1 Elementary	Julianne Boone
1	Kathryn Daniel
2 Elementary	Alexandra Hammerberg
2	Eryn Dattilo
3	Kathleen McLaughlin Stacey Ludington Nicole Rouse
4	Murphy Chang Tammy VanPala Britt Stevens
5	Mandy Black Lizzy Roush Katie Yang
6	Sara Harvey Heather Bradley
7	Sara Wolfram
7 College	Erin Helwig



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Membership Roster

Please review the enclosed RAFA membership roster and report any corrections or changes to Ann Pearce. Call her at (919) 787-4142 or send email to ann@pearce.net.



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Church Flutist Needed

Windborne United Methodist Church in North Raleigh is seeking an experienced flutist to participate in a team of musicians. The church is noted as a congregation whose worship is vibrant and moving. For more information contact Jon Strother at (919) 786-0503 or at windborne@mindspring.com

2000 Flute Fair Highlights

The Flute Fair was a great success. Just a few of the many events and participants are pictured below.

Masterclass With Guest Artist Alexa Still



(L to R): Alexa Still, Heather Bradley, Mary-Jean O'Doherty, Alyssa Torres, Leslie Marrs

Two Contest Winners



Sara Wolfgram



Erin Helwig

Shakuhachi Workshop



Michael Gould leads the workshop as participants attempt to make a sound on provided shakuhachis

(L to R): Kathy Hancock, Kim Kittner, Kaylie Kittner, Noah Kittner, and Steven Bell



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Brooks de Wetter-Smith to Perform with UNC Orchestra

Brooks de Wetter-Smith, flutist and professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, will perform the Rouse Flute Concerto with the UNC-Chapel Hill Orchestra on May 1. Brooks' two recordings, *Rediscovered Romantic Music*, and *The 20th Century Romantic Spirit* are available from Flute World (www.FluteWorld.com).

Regarding the Rouse Concert, Brooks writes:

It is an incredibly gripping concerto, very moving. It is about 30 minutes long, and beautifully written for flute. The middle movement (there are 5) is dedicated to the memory of two-year old James Bulger, who was kidnapped and murdered in England by two 10 year olds in 1993, the same year Rouse wrote the work. The abduction was captured on video tape. The two boys who murdered him are scheduled for possible parole this month. This entire issue has been in the news frequently the past two months, even covered by NPR. The horror over this crime and the compassion expressed by Rouse permeate the entire piece.

Tuesday, May 1 at 8:00 PM

*Flutist Brooks de Wetter-Smith
and the UNC Orchestra
Featuring the Rouse Concerto*

Hill Hall at UNC-Chapel Hill
No admission charge

For Sale

Yamaha Flute

Model 385; silver head joint, gold lip plate, low B foot, open hole; excellent condition; appraised at \$750. Contact Mary Poole at dulcimernc@aol.com or call (704) 764-7808.

Haynes Flute

Sterling silver, C foot, open hole, perfect condition – recently overhauled. \$3000. Contact Kirby Campbell at (919) 789-0233.

Haynes Piccolo

Sterling silver, very good condition. \$2000. Contact Kirby Campbell at (919) 789-0233.

Jupiter Head Joint

Curved head joint. \$75. Contact Linda Carmel at hcarmel@mindspring.com or call (919) 933-3010.

Pearl Flute

Student model with both curved and straight headjoints. In excellent condition; rarely played. \$450. Contact Kim Allemang at Kim-Allemang@nc.rr.com or call (919) 873-0603.

The Fuss About Alexa, by Helen Spielman

Editor's note: Helen wrote this article after hosting Alexa Still, guest artist for the RAFA Flute Fair on November 18, 2000

I've been hearing and reading rave reviews about Alexa Still for several years now, and was wondering what all the fuss was about. I'd met Alexa briefly a few times, and certainly found her to be a lovely person, and I'd heard her play at the NFA convention and found her flute playing to be among the best I'd ever heard. Nevertheless, I was curious as to what it might be like to get to know her better and hear more of her playing. I had my chance this past week, when Alexa came to North Carolina to be the guest artist for the RAFA Flute Fair.

Alexa arrived from Colorado on Wednesday at midnight, and was a guest of my husband and myself for the four days she was here. She rehearsed with the pianist, my good friend Greg McCallum, on Thursday and Friday. Their rehearsals ran shorter than expected because they apparently hit it off musically and didn't need to work the pieces to the grindstone. I arranged a dinner on Thursday evening for a few of my students who were not able to participate in the fair. We had a great time talking and telling jokes. The adults actually ate their dinners. The two girls ate two bites of food, pushing the rest around on the plate, saying they were so full they couldn't eat another bite. However, five minutes later they had no trouble scarfing down a huge dessert!

The Flute Fair on Saturday began with a masterclass. Alexa taught four students, from a high school student up through a doctoral candidate. Her style of teaching was patient, positive, kind, and light-hearted. I especially liked what she said to a performer who was nervous. Alexa explained that she understood that it was scary to play in front of flute players, because you might think that they know the music and they'll hear you mess up. Alexa said, "You can turn that around. Flute players will really understand your difficulty and be sympathetic." She suggested that the student think less about herself and more about the music, and that she get her attention away from how she was feeling and more toward what she was doing.

Alexa also gave a breathing workshop in which she shared the theories and practices that she learned from Arnold Jacobs, the famous tuba player. I found this workshop to be fascinating and useful, and wished it had been longer. Another workshop was held on the shakuhachi flute,

(Continued on page 6)

2000 – 2001 RAFA Personnel

Board of Directors

President	<i>Rosene Rohrer</i>
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Silver Fantasy	
Newsletter (<i>Tune In</i>)	
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RAFA is supported by the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, with funds from the Grassroots Arts Program of the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency, Wake County and the United Arts Campaign.

Summer Opportunities

Flute Camp - Cary Academy

June 18-22, 9:00 – 5:00

Directed by Catherine LeGrand and Rosene Rohrer.

For intermediate and advanced flutists, both students and adults.

Email In1breath@aol.com or call (919) 851-9535.

National Flute Association Convention

August 16-19 in Dallas, TX.

Concerts, workshops, exhibits, competitions, and much more!

Visit www.nfaonline.org.

Alexa Still . . . continued from p. 5

which I didn't attend. A contest winners' recital took place which I attended partially, and a few exhibitors had booths at which I bought some new Christmas music and play-tested some student flutes.

The highlight, however, was Alexa's concert. It was glorious. Alexa plays with exceptional elegance, beauty, delicacy, and clarity. One can hear the musical line and the colors and emotions so easily. Everything seems seamless and effortless. The ensemble between her and Greg was fabulous. The program consisted of the Franck Sonata, Bach Sonata in E minor, Hanson Serenade, Liebermann Sonata, and the Grenfell Four Pooh Stories, which I'd never heard before but loved! Alexa looked so glamorous. Her long blond hair was swept up in a bun, she had on a sparkly necklace and earrings, and a simple blue dress with spaghetti straps and a sparkly bodice that looked wonderful on her tall, graceful body.

After the concert, seven of us went out to dinner and had a great time. After we got home, Alexa, my husband and I hung out in our living room. After awhile my husband went to bed, and Alexa and I continued talking for hours. She is full of interesting stories and experiences and I could listen to her for days, but what I appreciated even more is that she also is a good listener who really wants to hear what the other person has to say.

On Sunday she taught a private masterclass for my students. My two little eight year old boys played for her. Alexa got down on her knees to talk to them and show them ways to improve their playing. She supported my teens when they played too fast and missed their notes, and praised my adults while still showing them areas of their playing that need improvement. I learned a lot from her.

I loved hearing Alexa practice in my house, especially when she practiced the Hanson Serenade. That's the piece I'm working on now! It was neat to see that even a world class flutist plays the same passages over and over again, just like I do. Of course, Alexa's "worst stumbling," if you could call it that, is a thousand times better than my most brilliant attempt, but the *process* of working on music is the same for all of us.

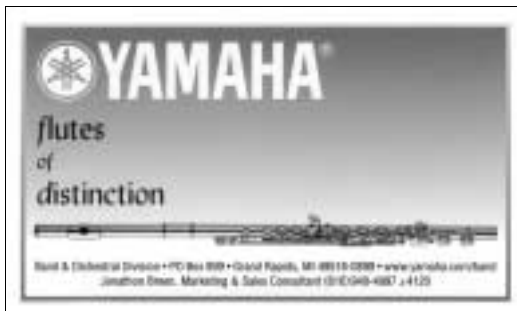
So, now I know what the fuss about Alexa is all about. Not only is she a complete flutist, one who is capable of teaching and performing at

(Continued on page 7)

ECU Flute Symposium Featuring Jeanne Baxtresser

Jeanne Baxtresser, soloist and principal flutist of the New York Philharmonic for 15 years, will be featured in masterclasses and recital at East Carolina University on Saturday, March 24. The day's events include a masterclass on solo literature (11:00 – 1:00), a masterclass on orchestral repertoire (2:30 – 4:30), and an evening gala concert (8:00 p. m.) featuring Baxtresser and other Symposium artists.

All events are free of charge. Registration is requested. Contact the ECU School of Music at (252) 328-4279 or email Christine Gustafson at gustafsonc@mail.ecu.edu.



Alexa Still . . . *continued from p. 6*

the highest level, but she's a truly charming person. She laughs easily, is comfortable and fun to be with, simple and humble, and interested in everyone and everything around her. I feel privileged to have shared this time with her and to have made a new friend. Alexa, thank you for gracing us with your presence and your beautiful music. Please come back soon.

Upcoming Flute Concerts

- Mar. 3**
8:00 p.m. **Carrie Swart, Flute, Graduation Recital**
Carswell Auditorium, Meredith College
No admission charge
- Mar. 24**
8:00 p.m. **Jeanne Baxtresser, Flute**
and other local professional flutists
A.J. Fletcher Center Recital Hall
East Carolina University, Greenville
No admission charge
(see page 6)
- Mar. 25**
4:00 p.m. **Irish Flute Fest**
Mike Casey, flute, with members of Cucanandy and dancers from Inis Cairde School of Irish Dance
(see page 1)
- April 20**
7:30 p.m. **Raleigh Flute Choir**
St. Francis United Methodist Church
2965 Kildaire Farm Rd, Cary
Benefit Concert
- April 21**
8:00 p.m. **Flute Soul-O**
Helen Spielman's 50th birthday gala celebration concert with Helen Spielman, flute, and friends
United Church of Chapel Hill
corner of Airport Rd. and Homestead Rd.
- April 22**
3:30 p.m. **Raleigh Flute Choir**
University United Methodist Church
150 E. Franklin St, Chapel Hill
Donations at door
- April 29**
5:00 p.m. **Alys Hansley, Flute, Graduation Recital**
Carswell Auditorium, Meredith College
No admission charge
- May 3**
7:00 p.m. **Lauren Davis, Flute, Senior Recital**
Person Hall, UNC Campus, Chapel Hill
No admission charge
- May 20**
4:00 p.m. **RAFA Members' Recital**
Solos, small ensembles & flute choirs
Glenaire Retirement Community
4000 Glenaire Circle, Cary
(off Kildaire Farm Rd)
No admission charge

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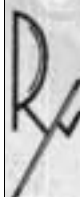


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Tune In

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Be sure to get the latest information on RAFA events and more at the RAFA web site!

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