



THE HARLEM CHAMBER PLAYERS

AUGUST 2013 NEWSLETTER



2013 – 2014 SEASON PREVIEW

The Harlem Chamber Players are back and will bring more of the most beautiful classics in chamber music literature as well as wonderful music rarely or never before performed in public. The Harlem Chamber Players will kick off the new season with special guest artist, virtuoso bassoonist Monica Ellis, from the Grammy-nominated group Imani Winds. This season violinists Joyce Hammann and Ashley Horne, flutist Tia Roper, violist Amadi Azikie, oboist Gerard Reuter, and many other fine musicians return.



Special guest artist,
bassoonist Monica Ellis



Violinists Joyce Hammann and Ashley Horne, flutist Tia Roper

The Season Opening Concert will begin with the Mozart *Bassoon Quartet* (arranged from the *Oboe Quartet in F Major*), the New York premiere of James Cohn's *A Grecian Festival* and the formidable Mendelssohn *Octet* at the historic St. Mary's Episcopal Church in West Harlem.

In October you will also find The Harlem Chamber Players back at Goddard Riverside Community Center in the Upper West Side and later at Columbia University, performing the works of African-American composer Ulysses Kay. November is dedicated to the Harlem Bach Project, and this season The Harlem Chamber Players will present an Afternoon of Bach Concertos featuring J.S. Bach's *Violin and Oboe Concerto in C Minor*, Bach's *Harpichord Concerto in D Minor* and more. Sign up for our email list to get updates as the season unfolds.

MENDELSSOHN OCTET
THE HARLEM BACH PROJECT
MOZART CLARINET QUINTET RAVEL QUARTET
JAMES COHN NEW YORK PREMIERE
"A GRECIAN FESTIVAL" **ULYSSES KAY**
COLERIDGE-TAYLOR PERKINSON
MOZART REQUIEM MASS IN D MINOR

CONCERT SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2013 AT 3 PM*

Season Opening Concert

OCTOBER 13, 2013 AT 3 PM

Mozart and Mendelssohn Masterpieces
Goddard Riverside Community Center
91st and Columbus

OCTOBER 22, 2013 AT 6 PM

The Ulysses Kay Project
St. Paul's Chapel at Columbia University
117th and Amsterdam

NOVEMBER 17, 2013 AT 3 PM*

An Afternoon of Bach Concertos

FEBRUARY 9, 2014 AT 3 PM*

6th Annual Black History Month Celebration

SPRING 2014

Mozart Requiem with Opera Ebony
Time and Location TBA

APRIL 1, 2014 AT 8 PM

Janet Wolfe's 100th Birthday Celebration
at Weill Recital at Carnegie Hall

MAY 4, 2014 AT 3 PM*

Spring Finale Concert

*Concerts denoted with an asterisk take place at St. Mary's Episcopal Church at 521 West 126th Street, between Broadway and Amsterdam. Tickets for these concerts are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for seniors/students. A Meet-the-Artists Wine and Cheese reception follows each "Music at St. Mary's" concert.

Get a season subscription online for only \$50! Visit www.harlemchamberplayers.org for tickets and more info.

2012 – 2013 YEAR IN REVIEW



Last year was yet again the most exciting season to date for The Harlem Chamber Players, beginning with a packed house on our September 23, 2012 Season Opening Concert. November 2012 marked the launch of **The Harlem Bach Project** with an afternoon of beautiful Bach arias and a surprise visit and blessing of this latest initiative from the celebrated diva Kathleen Battle, who was accompanied by the Tony-award winning choreographer George Faison.



Left to right are Liz Player, Amy Fraser, Melvin Greenwich, Ashley Horne, Janet Wolfe, Alicia Hall Moran, Steven E. Herring.

In February 2013 The Harlem Chamber Players joined the NYC Housing Symphony Orchestra again, this time in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, where the long-time patron of minority musicians and founder of the NYC Housing Symphony Orchestra (a.k.a. the NYC Housing Authority Symphony Orchestra), Janet Wolfe, announced she would be handing over the directorship of the orchestra to The Harlem Chamber Players' founder Liz Player. Alicia Hall Moran joined in a festive 5th Annual Black History Month Celebration with a set of Soul-infused Classical Works for Mezzo-Soprano and Guitar/Theorbo. Other special guest artists included the prodigy cellist Sujari Britt, violinist-composer Daniel Bernard Roumain and the award-winning spoken word theater ensemble, the Harlem KW Project.

Members of The Harlem Chamber Players went on tour earlier in the month with Daniel Roumain and in June made an appearance with Mr. Roumain at the world-famous Apollo Theater, which was packed for the Harlem premiere of the PBS documentary "Homegoings." Also in June Members of The Harlem Chamber Players joined On



Left to right are Adam Hill, Lawrence Zoernig, Daniel Roumain, Monica Davis, Ashley Horne, Yayoi Ikawa. Photo by Curtis Baker.

Site Opera and Harlem Opera Theater at the historic Cotton Club for three sold-out performances of George Gershwin's rarely performed one-act opera *Blue Monday*.

Other season highlights included an appearance in Symphony Space's Wall to Wall Harlem Resonance, a joint concert with the venerable Opera Ebony, featuring The Harlem Chamber Players' chamber orchestra, a debut at Goddard Riverside Community Center's newly built Bernie Wohl Auditorium in a standing-room-only concert of Mozart and Beethoven wind serenades, and a continued partnership with Roberta Guaspari and the brilliant young violinists of Opus 118 Harlem School of Music. Stay tuned for more educational and community outreach programs and how you can help.



For details on past events, visit the Performances page or the News and Reviews page at www.harlemchamberplayers.org.

DID YOU KNOW?



Joseph Douglass (1871 – 1935), grandson of Frederick Douglass, was the very first African American to experience a successful career as an international concert violinist.

The African American composer Ulysses Kay (1917 – 1995) studied at Columbia University.

Janet Wolfe is the inspiration behind the creation of The Harlem Chamber Players. She will be 100 years old on April 8, 2014.

Find out more at facebook.com/TheHarlemChamberPlayers.