



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

Dear *Recital and Chamber Music Presenters*,

We would like to invite you to join a major new classical music arts initiative:
Consortium of Southern California Chamber Music Presenters.

The City of Beverly Hills' Sunday **Music In The Mansion** (formerly "Sundays At Two") and Saturday **Previews** in Manhattan Beach, both under the artistic direction of Laura Schmieder since 1994, have selected their artists by holding annual auditions in April. Last season, LACMA's **Sundays Live!** series was added, with its artistic director, Bill Vestal joining the audition committee (in place of the late founding member of the committee, LA Times music critic Daniel Cariaga).

A few years ago, we have received several inquiries from presenters interested in engaging concerts from the audition winners. We therefore decided to hold open auditions and invite all Southland concert presenters as guests.

Over the years, the **Beverly Hills Auditions** have served as career stepping stones for artists and ensembles, including the Southland's much-loved Janaki Trio and the Blue Rose Trio, to name just two of the most recent. Whenever possible, international artists are featured, who, without exception, have gone on to successful concert/professional careers. You can see current season and the selected artists back to the 2001–2002 season here:

WWW.PALOSVERDES.COM/TLCMUSIC/TLCMBS2.HTM

(note: select season dates following "Past Series")

Expanding the auditions through the informal **Consortium of Southern California Chamber Music Presenters** will energize the Southland's music scene by opening additional performance opportunities and visibility for talented young artists and established ensembles here in Southern California, raising the cultural level of the region to new heights, saving time in search for the artists, providing presenting organizations with the opportunity to introduce new talent to their audiences, and offering advantages to its members in pooling media contacts for press releases and mutual promotion opportunities for each others' concerts. We foresee that **The Beverly Hills Auditions** will become even more of a magnet for Southern California's best.

The auditions are held every April in the Beverly Hills Public Library Auditorium, 9 am - 6 pm. Lunch is provided. This year, the auditions will be held on Friday, April 16, 2010.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

Simply respond via e-mail to LS@YoungArtists.org with:

1. Your interest in joining the Consortium and firm commitment to support it.
2. Your series' name / full contact information / name of your representative who will attend.
3. Please indicate which session(s) you will attend:
Morning: 9 am-1 pm, and/or Afternoon: 2-6 pm.

The firm commitment is to embrace a common goal of promoting classical music and mutual support between Southern California recital and chamber music presenters. And of course, the reason we received inquiries from presenters, is the selection of artists through the audition and convenience for all to do it once a year. We hope each presenter will engage one or more from the final selected artists.

At the auditions, all members of the Consortium will be given a roster of the auditioning artists and ensembles, with contact information. Each artist or ensemble will be given 10 minutes to present 2-3 contrasting compositions. The Audition Committee pre-screens applications.

A maximum of ten artists/ensembles will be selected.

Members of the Consortium are encouraged to engage these artists, but are also free to choose any artist(s) from the audition roster. The Audition Committee must be notified of the choice.

If you are unable to attend, but are interested in engaging artists who have been selected by the committee, we will be pleased to provide you with a final list of selected artists.

We will organize the Consortium directory and communicate via email. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any questions you may have:

LS@YoungArtists.org

We look forward to hearing from you and greeting you at **The Beverly Hills Auditions.**

Best regards,

Laura Schmieder

Chair, Beverly Hills Auditions and

Consortium of Southern California Chamber Music Presenters

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