

CLASSICAL MANDOLIN SOCIETY OF AMERICA



The Classical Mandolin Society of America (CMSA) is the only organization whose purpose is to promote and support the art of classical mandolin playing in North America.

The CMSA has over 400 members representing most U.S. states and Canadian provinces and several other countries. Our members include mandolinists, classical guitarists, mandola and mandocello players, conductors, teachers and composers. Members have a variety of backgrounds from bluegrass to jazz to classical. Playing ability ranges from beginners to professionals. Membership is open to any interested musician.

www.classicalmandolinsociety.org

AUSTIN MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA



Austin Mandolin Orchestra (AMO) is a community orchestra serving mandolin and guitar enthusiasts in central Texas by providing unique educational opportunities and presenting memorable performances of traditional, classical, and modern repertoire.

AMO was founded in 2001 by Director, musician, and composer **JOEL R. HOBBS**, this year's convention Composer-in-Residence. Joel is a native Texan, an active composer and arranger of plucked string music, and a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.

AMO holds open rehearsals most Wednesday evenings and has seasonal performances four or more times per year. We enjoy developing our unique sound playing an adventurous repertoire that celebrates music from diverse cultures over five centuries.

www.amandolinorchestra.com

Special thanks to emcee **DOTTY COFFEY**, CMSA's Communication Director.



**Cultural Arts
Division**
CITY OF AUSTIN

This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department.

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CLASSICAL MANDOLIN SOCIETY OF AMERICA

PRESENTS

AUSTIN NIGHT



★ Austin Mandolin Orchestra ★
★ Paul Glasse Quartet ★

Thursday, October 15, 2015 ★ 7:30 pm
Holiday Inn Austin Midtown

PAUL GLASSE QUARTET



Permanently rooted in Austin's vibrant musical scene, **PAUL GLASSE's** regular appearances at local performances have become of the many treasures of this town's nightlife. Though Paul has toured with such notables as Lyle Lovett, it's the incubating environment of this musical home base that defines the originality and sensibilities of his music.

Paul furthered his traditional education through his coursework at the University of Texas, where he filled the Big Band guitar slot with his 5-string electric mandolin.

Joining Paul are **MITCH WATKINS** on guitar, **GENE ELDERS** on violin, and **PAT HARRIS** on bass.

AUSTIN MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA

JOEL R. HOBBS, Director

Composer and multi-instrumentalist, Joel writes, arranges, and performs in a variety of styles.



MANDOLIN I ★ Ruhong Cai,
Darlene Gamble, Kevin Knippa, Joane Rylander, Joyce Snodgrass

MANDOLIN II ★ Dale Albright,
Hester Denniston, Elizabeth Hodges, Nancy Lynch, Matthew Lyons,
Stefan Passernig, Lloyd Pond

MANDOLA ★ Alice Derbyshire, Nel Oomen (*guest*), Laurie Turner

MANDOCELLO ★ Thomas Chapmond, Dede Hurson

GUITAR ★ Laura Ancira, Jay Clement, Brian Ellis

DOUBLE BASS ★ Dana Wygmans (*guest*)

AS OUR LANDSCAPE REAWAKENS (FROM ANGELTRUMPETS TO ZEPHYRLILIES). The blossoming of the wildflowers... the peculiar landscape... the promise of Spring... a variety of shades and expectations!

RODRIGO BAGGIO is a guitarist and composer from São Paulo, Brazil. His music has been performed in many cities around the world such as São Paulo (Brazil), Paris (France), Quebec (Canada), Bremen (Germany), London (England), Bucharest (Romania), Vermont, New York and Washington DC (USA). As a performer, he has played concerts in different countries of the globe.

I FOUND MY ROSE IN AUSTIN is a gentle melodic piece designed for a community mandolin orchestra.

BLAIR WHITTINGTON is a Los Angeles based composer who concentrates mainly on chamber and orchestral music. He studied composition with Byong-kon Kim and has worked for 19 years as music librarian at the Brand Library & Art Center in Glendale, California.

WHEN STRING LILY MEETS DEVIL'S SHOESTRING. String Lily and Devil's Shoestring are two kinds of 'stringed' flowers that grow wild in Texas. In this short piece, each kind of flower is related to a specific theme, with both themes sharing the counterpoint of the piece. Let the audience choose which is which!

JEAN-PIERRE VIAL is a French former software designer. At an early age, he learned the piano, the organ, and composed several pieces for both instruments. Over the last two years, various soloists and small ensembles have performed his music in France, Italy, Portugal, the UK and in the US.

THE SPANISH DAGGER is a yucca plant with a distinctive bloom and stiff, pointy dagger-like leaves. The leaves are sharp enough to pierce the skin if you're not careful. My composition is an attempt to fuse a musical impression of this impressive plant's dangerous attitude with distinctly Spanish motifs.

PHILIP DEWALT is a composer, pianist and mandolinist from Kansas City, Missouri. Among his compositions are numerous works for piano, mandolin solo/orchestra, chamber ensemble, string quartet, orchestra, chorus and electronics. He's a former orchestra teacher and is currently finishing his composition DMA at the University of Missouri Kansas City.

FOUR WORLD PREMIERES

For the second half of our program, Austin Mandolin Orchestra is proud to present four world premieres. We thank composers Evelyn, James, John, and Phil for providing us with extraordinary pieces for this performance and for sharing this evening with us.

AUSTIN MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA

FANTASIA ON “YELLOW ROSE”. Upon seeing the call for scores a week before deadline, I thought, "What could I do, not having composed for mandolins before?" Then, as a former Texas resident, "Yellow Rose of Texas" started whirling in my head, and here is the resultant score.

JOHN R. AKINS holds BM and MM degrees in theory/composition from Southern Methodist University and a DMA in composition from the University of Texas, Austin. He has taught at Texas Lutheran College, at the University of Maine at Machias, and at Evangel University, Springfield, MO. He has membership in SCI, SEAMUS, and CFAMC.

My composition is about **HARP DANDELION**, which grows in Armenia too and is one of my favorite flowers. The Armenian name is Khatutik. That's why I titled my composition Harp Dandelion-Khatutik...but I would call it "Hippopotamus running behind of the dandelion seed."

ARAM PETROSYAN is a composer, poet, translator, specialist of ancient folk and church music, narekatsiaget, sharakanaget, and music editor.

The **TEXAS THREE STEP** (Yellow Eyed Grass) grows in the Texas Coastal Plain region. Having played Texas two-steps and waltzes for dancers all over Texas, its 3-petal yellow flowers inspired me to write a waltz in 6/8. Bluebonnets come to mind when Texas flowers are mentioned, but only a Texan will know about the Yellow Eyed Grass, and its beautiful little flower.

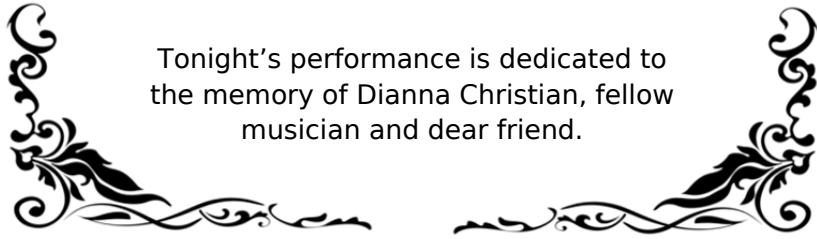
JOHN EGENES is a multi-instrumentalist and composer/songwriter from Santa Fe, now living in New Zealand. Recording credits include performances on all mandolin family instruments, as well as acoustic and electric guitars, Dobro, pedal steel, banjo, accordion, and musical saw. He has a soft spot in his heart for mandolin orchestras.

SPOTFLOWER (ACMELLA OPPOSITIFOLIA). The spot flower is part of a family of flowers that can sometimes be hard to differentiate. I'm told that some have a more colorful name for this particular family.

DAVID BOHN received degrees in composition from the University of Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, and the University of Illinois. He currently is the music director at St. John's Lutheran Church in West Milwaukee. He is the President of the Wisconsin Alliance for Composers.

Fifteen Minutes of Fame

Wild Onion Rag	<i>Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni</i>
Persephonia I	<i>Dr. James Kellaris</i>
Canción de la Chamiza	<i>Erik Branch</i>
Texas Paintbrush	<i>Johanna Asher</i>
Palo Duro Blossoms	<i>Barry Trott</i>
Gaillardia Pulchella	<i>Daniel Grantham</i>
History of a Texas Wildflower	<i>Owen Hartford</i>
Fantasia on “Yellow Rose”	<i>John R. Akins</i>
Harp Dandelion-Khatutik	<i>Aram Petrosyan</i>
Texas Three Step (Yellow Eyed Grass)	<i>John Egenes</i>
Spotflower (Acmella Oppositifolia)	<i>David Bohn</i>
As Our Landscape Reawakens	<i>Rodrigo Baggio</i>
I Found My Rose in Austin	<i>Blair Whittington</i>
When String Lily Meets Devil’s Shoestring	<i>Jean-Pierre Vial</i>
Spanish Dagger	<i>Philip DeWalt</i>
Carousel	<i>Evelyn Tiffany-Castiglioni</i>
Western Home Polka	<i>John Goodin</i>
The Catch-up Game	<i>Philip DeWalt</i>
Persephonia II	<i>Dr. James Kellaris</i>
The City of the Violet Crown	<i>Joel R. Hobbs</i>



Tonight's performance is dedicated to the memory of Dianna Christian, fellow musician and dear friend.

FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME

VOX NOVUS is a collective of composers, musicians, and music enthusiasts collaborating together to create, produce, promote, and enjoy the new music of today. For more information about concerts and composer opportunities, visit www.voxnovus.com.

WILD ONION RAG is a down-home Texas tribute to the wildflowers that spring up in cooler weather in our landscapes. Wild onions have long, thin leaves and clusters of small, white blossoms. Wild turkeys dine on them, and the bruised bulbs can be used to treat wasp stings (good thing).

EVELYN TIFFANY-CASTIGLIONI is a composer, accordionist, and harpist with the Celtic and traditional band *Jalapeño Honey* in College Station, Texas. Her setting of three tunes by the 18th century Scottish composer James Oswald has been recorded by Marilyn Mair's mandolin and guitar ensemble *Enigmatica*.

PERSEPHONIA. The earth trembles as the captive Persephone is released to dance once again in the sunlight of the meadows. Wildflowers spring forth in her footprints, each bearing joyful witness to spring's return. Hades is vexed. The flowers join together to sing Persephonia—a universal song of light's triumph over darkness.

DR. JAMES KELLARIS began playing his grandfather's mandolin at age five and continued to play plucked strings for five decades. A focal dystonia in his left hand ("musician's cramp") recently forced James into early retirement as a performer. Lemons to lemonade, he started composing for the instruments he loves.

CANCIÓN DE LA CHAMIZA. A wagon train crossing the vast, windswept desert, stopping at a spring, is greeted by the Chamiza (chamiso, "four-wing saltbush"), whose thatch of green shrub and greyish-white leaves catch the traveler's eye. Had they had mandolins and guitars with them, they, too, might have sung the *Canción de la Chamiza*.

ERIK BRANCH is a native of NYC, and received a BA and MA in Music (Composition) from Hunter College. He lives near Orlando, Florida, where he is active as a pianist, musical director, composer/arranger, operatic tenor, and actor on stage and screen.

TEXAS PAINTBRUSH. Sometimes you need to stop and smell the flowers... the wildflowers. Enjoy a romp through the meadow with melodies that will take you to a field of red Texas Paintbrush in May just for a moment.

JOHANNA ASHER is a guitarist new to composing with roots in the Atlanta, Georgia music scene. Having composed for the Walden School Creative Musicians program, she loves applying her study of theory to creating new pieces with accessible melodies. Grounded in folk music, Johanna has studied with many local musicians.

PALO DURO BLOSSOMS. I have been fortunate enough to spend some time in the Palo Duro Canyon area of Texas. The inspiration for this piece drew on my recollection of the blossoming flowers emerging from the dark as the sun rose. The colors of the earth and the flowers are a potent memory.

BARRY TROTT has performed on early mandolin for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation since 1984. He was a founding member of the *Hampton Roads Mandolin Ensemble* and has written about early mandolin for *Mandolin Quarterly*. In addition to playing 18th century music, he performs old-time music with the *Runaway String Band*.

Every spring, a field of **GAILLARDIA PULCHELLA** near my parents' house in Austin blooms starting from single, distinct flowers until it reaches a density where the individual blossoms are lost, only to reverse the process as summer progresses. Gaillardia pulchella is combined with *galliard*, a six beat Renaissance dance.

DANIEL GRANTHAM, originally from Austin, currently lives in Denton, Texas and is working towards a Master's of Music degree from the University of North Texas. His field of study focuses on the early music of György Ligeti. Recently, he has had premieres in Texas, Michigan, and Italy.

HISTORY OF A TEXAS WILDFLOWER is intended to give an impression of the evolution of a small plant into its final expression as a flower. There are places of calm as well as difficulty and with roots and stems growing in different directions.

OWEN HARTFORD is a member of the Providence Mandolin Orchestra and has composed many pieces for mandolin orchestra that have been performed throughout Europe and America. He was awarded 2nd prize in the José Fernández Rojas 2012 competition. His children's opera has been performed both in the United States and in Australia.