



Movement for Musical Renewal
LYRE ASSOCIATION
of NORTH AMERICA

Lyre
Notes
Winter
2009

Announcements



Järna, Sweden ~ Summer 2009

- ☆ July 28-30: International Lyre Pedagogy Conference
- ☆ July 31-August 3: International Lyre Conference
- ☆ August 4-5: Excursions and free lyre initiatives

Lyre 2009

Now that Lyre 2009 is fewer than five months away, we hope that many of you are making plans to attend. Those of us fortunate to attend previous international lyre conferences have always returned with valuable new perspectives about the lyre, renewed inspiration for our work, greater awareness of the worldwide lyre community, deepened relationships with individual lyrists and builders from around the world, and many, many wonderful memories.

In this issue of the *Lyre Notes* you will find an abundance of information about many aspects of this Fourth International Lyre Conference—

- * **The theme: Creative Improvisation**
- * **Fund raising and financial aid**
- * **The First International Pedagogy Conference**
- * **Youth Program**
- * **What is it like in Järna?**
- * **A brochure with program information & registration form** (as inserts in the *Lyre Notes*, for North American recipients only)
- * **Tips**

Conference Theme: Creative Improvisation



Pär Ahlbom

It is especially appropriate that the conference in Sweden will focus on Creative Improvisation, because Järna is the home of Pär Ahlbom, an innovative teacher and musician who has worked deeply with improvisation. In the conference, he will be sharing his understanding with the large

group and even working with participants in smaller groups.

Perhaps the following description of the theme, written by Kjell Andersson, one of the organizers of Lyre 2009, will pique your interest:

Improvisation is a topic that touches, disturbs and

inspires. It is a balancing act between meaningless chaos and music's deepest internal laws. Improvisation is also one of the most important foundations of all music-making.

Improvising confronts us with ourselves and with what we carry with us, with everything from dull conventionalism to mysterious inner messages waiting to be interpreted. It is a great challenge to our sense of play.

In improvisation we investigate where the boundaries lie between chaos and order. We discover connections, structures and find out how we can be inspired to search for new ways in the interpretation of music and in its creation, composition and in all other work with the lyre. We will stumble over our own prejudices and experience our own and others' groping attempts. Here both courage and humility are needed.



Fund Raising and Financial Aid for Lyre 2009

With the continuing deterioration of our national economies, finding the courage, much less the funds, to make the trip to Sweden for Lyre 2009 this summer presents a special challenge. Can we meet this challenge? Can we use this situation as an opportunity to affirm our valuation of the lyre and the community that surrounds it?

The Board of the Lyre Association believes that we can meet this challenge by helping each other, as we have for past international conferences. If you are able, **please donate money to help those who want to attend but can't afford all the costs.**

We also encourage you and your colleagues to find ways to raise money, either to send to the Lyre Association or to support one or more lyrists in your community directly. Traditionally, a benefit concert has been the favorite way of doing this, and we know of several such concerts that are

already being planned. But there are innumerable other ways, anything from a bake sale to applying for a grant. Use your imagination!

To send your personal donations or forward funds you have raised, please mail checks (payable to "LANA" and designated for the "Lyre 2009 Travel Fund") to LANA c/o Embrey, PO Box 96, Piney River, VA 22964.

Any money given to the Lyre Association will be distributed on the same basis that we have used in the past, that is, on the basis of need. If you want to attend Lyre 2009 but wouldn't be able to without **financial assistance**, please e-mail Samantha Embrey at sembrey@verizon.net or send a letter to us (at the address given above) giving a brief description of your circumstances and specifying how much you need. We will do our best to honor all requests.

The First International Lyre Pedagogy Conference: July 28-30 in Järna

All teachers of the lyre, as well as anyone interested in the development of lyre pedagogy, are invited to attend the International Lyre Pedagogy Conference that will precede the main conference in Järna this summer. The first of its kind, this gathering will bring together teachers of the lyre from all over the globe to share approaches and ideas in order to strengthen the lyre work in the world as we move further into the 21st century.

On July 28, following a 4:00 pm registration, the two-day conference will open that evening and end with lunch on July 30, in time for participants to breathe out before the main conference opens on the morning of July 31. Teachers from countries as diverse as Japan, Brazil, Israel, Germany, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Germany, Holland, the USA and the Czech Republic will offer informative and participatory presentations characterizing the way the lyre is introduced and taught in their various regions. We will close with a group conversation to plan how we will go forward as an international community of teachers to offer support and maintain our connections for the future.



We will meet in the Örjan Skolan (Orian School) in Ytterjärna, about a mile from the main conference, which will take place at the Solvig School. You can register for the Lyre Pedagogy Conference (and sign up for meals and housing) on the same form as the main conference.

For more information, see the Lyre 2009 website (www.lyre2009.com) or contact Sarah Boyd (44-28 90-425308 / sarahjane_boyd@hotmail.com).

Youth Lyre Program at Lyre 2009

Although it does not appear in the general conference program, plans are underway for a full Youth Lyre Program at Lyre 2009 in Sweden such as we have had in past international lyre gatherings. We hope to have dedicated youth sessions as well as times of joining the general work for some sessions, including the special work with Pär Ahlbom and some afternoon excursions to see the beautiful area surrounding Järna. One lyre teacher from Germany is doing fund raising to bring up to eight adolescent players

along with him, and it would be wonderful if these students could meet and play with some of our young lyrists! We also expect to have a few students from Japan.

If you know of a young lyrist who might consider making the trip to Sweden, please contact Sheila Johns (301-681-6546 / sjohns123@earthlink.net) or Channa Seidenberg (518-672-4389/ channaseidenberg@yahoo.com) as soon as possible!

Tips and Reminders for Lyre 2009

- A **registration form and brochure** have been inserted into these Lyre Notes for those of you living in North America.
- To receive the **early registration discount**, your registration and payment must be faxed or postmarked by **March 31**.
- **Possible ways to pay** the conference fee:
 - Wire money from your bank (usually poor exchange rate plus a substantial fee).
 - Use a service such as XE Trade: www.xetrade.com (good rate, no fee; takes time to set up).
 - Use a credit card (for North American residents only). E-mail sembrey@verizon.net for the required form and information.
- **Registration forms** can be mailed to the address on the form or faxed to 46-8-551-748-68.
- **Arrival times:** For **Lyre 2009**, you should arrive by July 30 because the program begins the morning of July 31. For the **Pedagogy Conference**, you should arrive by the afternoon of July 28 at the latest.
- **For more details, photos and updated information**, see [www. Lyre 2009.com](http://www.Lyre2009.com).

What Is It Like in Järna?

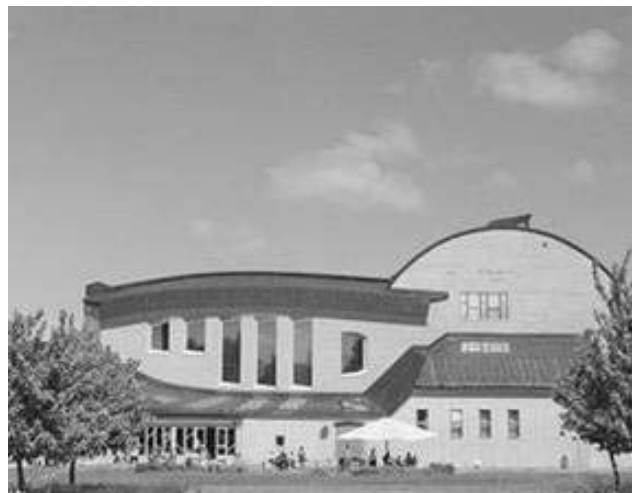


Sarah Boyd and Anna Cooper (organizers of Lyre 2006 in Belfast, Northern Ireland) visited Järna in November and made this report:

As we head back to Northern Ireland after our first experience of Järna, Sweden, we are filled not only with a sense of beauty and space but of an enthusiasm and openness to receiving the world lyre community in 2009. The creative energy of Kjell Anderson, the intense lyre playing of Volker Dillman and the down-to-earth practicality of Sigrid Lusk—all these left us feeling inspired and happy in the knowledge that Lyre 2009 was on its way.

Over the weekend, we had spent hours walking the grounds, visiting classrooms and halls, keeping warm in the sub-zero gusts. However, with some imagination we could picture the summer in July, sitting out on the green grass and wandering in the pine forest.

The main conference will be held in the Solvig School. Shuttle busses will be available, so send your lyres on ahead and enjoy the lovely walk, arriving at the school and its magical mud buildings with the sea in the background.



Also within easy walking distance is the Kulturhuset [pictured immediately above], which includes a theatre, conference rooms and restaurant. This building, which offers a Gotheanum-like space and excellent food, will be used for events during the conference.

Reports

The Treasures in Soundings: A Lyre Review

We want to be sure that everyone who is receiving the Lyre Notes is aware of the riches in our journal, Soundings: A Lyre Review, which is still a relatively new publication of the Lyre Association. Everyone on our mailing list receives our Lyre Notes, containing announcements, reports and useful information, but generally only members receive Soundings, which is published twice a year (summer and winter). **Each issue of Soundings is published in two parts**, one containing **articles** of real substance and permanent value and the other containing a good amount of **music**. They have been repeatedly praised by the members who have been receiving them. Below is a list of the articles in the first three issues. (The third issue will be distributed very soon.) A complete list of the music in the supplements is on our website.

A very special feature in each issue of Soundings is an installment of the long-awaited "**Lyre Tutor**" by **Christof-Andreas Lindenberg**. Another highlight is the publication in the music supplement of two sets of compositions collected under the title "**At the Threshold or Beyond**" by Christof-Andreas, for those who are approaching death or

who have crossed over. We are grateful to Catherine Read and the late Jean Anderberg for their careful and inspired editing, to Richard Carter for his extensive design work, and to Richard Carter and Samantha Embrey for their beautiful musical notation.

Not receiving Soundings? **We warmly invite you to join the Lyre Association of North America** if you are not currently a member. Members not only support the work of the Lyre Association but also receive an annual subscription to Soundings and a discount on our conference fees and music sales. The annual fee is \$50 for supporting members and \$35 for regular members. You'll find a membership form on the last page of these Lyre Notes. **Not sure whether you are (still) a member?** Just check the address label on these Lyre Notes.

Also, **back issues of Soundings can be ordered** by sending your request and a check to LANA c/o Embrey, PO Box 96, Piney River, VA 22964. The cost is \$9.50 per issue, plus shipping costs of \$4.00 for one issue and \$1.00 for each additional copy.

Contents of the first three issues of Soundings:

Volume 1, No. 1

Catherine Read, "Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, A Biography - Part I"
Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, "The Lyre: A Tutor for a New Instrument - Part I"
Sheila Johns and Channa Seidenberg, "Towards a World Lyre Community: The Birth of an Idea Inspired by Lyre 2006"
Music supplement: Michaelmas and Christmas music, Bach and more

Volume 2, No. 1

Catherine Read, "Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, A Biography - Part II"
Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, "The Lyre: A Tutor for a New Instrument - Part II"
Robert Grace, "Therapeutic Lemniscates"
Music supplement: Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, "At the Threshold and Beyond"
(12 compositions, with suggestions and explanations.)

Volume 2, No. 2 (available soon)

Hajime Kira, "Where Do the Sound and the Tone of the Lyre Come From?"
Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, "The Lyre: A Tutor for a New Instrument - Part 3"
Ingeborg Derscheid (trans. Channa A. Seidenberg), "Biography of Heinrich-Michael Derscheid"
Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, "At the Threshold and Beyond"
Music Supplement: At the Threshold and Beyond II – Christof-Andreas Lindenberg (14 compositions)

In Memoriam Leslie Poindexter: December 10, 1936 ~ January 31, 2009



At around 1:30 p.m. on the last day of January, our friend and colleague, Leslie Poindexter, crossed the threshold of death at her home in Ohio, after facing cancer for several years.

Although I had known Leslie since 1993 and been with her on numerous occasions after the therapeutic singing course began in 1999, a great deal of what I know about her was learned when she was approaching death or since her passing, as she was such a private and modest person. I doubt that many of us realized the extent of her musical and other accomplishments.

Her passion for music was initially inspired by a teacher at the Putney School, a private high school where she studied oboe and voice. She went on to earn a master's degree in music education at Columbia University and to teach music in public schools. Her real love was choral directing.

After finding Anthroposophy, she became quite involved in Waldorf education and was instrumental in developing the

Cincinnati Waldorf School, where she taught in the kindergarten. She was a founder of WECAN, the Waldorf Early Childhood Association.

Eventually, she returned to singing, studying with leading Werbeck teachers such as Jürgen Schriefer and Wolfgang Strübing in Europe and completing the Therapeutic Singing Course with Thomas Adam in the United States. She also led a singing group in her community.

She had also taken up the lyre, joining the Lyre Association and attending at least two conferences, the last in 2007. However, it seems that she was never able to feel fully comfortable with and connected to the lyre, although the purchase a couple years ago of a Murray Wright lyre is an obvious indication of her wish to overcome that barrier.

Her greatest legacy may be Homeadownsong Farm, the 4½-acre educational farm community that she founded in Cincinnati. According to its website, the Farm "is a homestead that actively promotes experiential learning through integration of practical work, artistic experience and celebration of community. We are currently working with Rudolf Steiner's indications for bringing cultural renewal in the areas of land stewardship, animal husbandry, education, and social responsibility." I strongly encourage you to visit this website —www.homeadownsongfarm.com—for a fuller picture of the rich and varied initiatives that have taken root there and will continue without Leslie's physical presence.

Following a vigil at Leslie's home, a Christian Community funeral service was held on February 3, with Michael Brewer officiating. Leslie was survived by two daughters, Maria and Melania Levitsky; a son, Ason Ashiel Ojeda; and a granddaughter, Nikita Lev Emery; as well as her brother, Joe Poindexter, and sister, Christie Dennis.

Nancy Willson, who some of you may remember from a couple of lyre conferences, was Leslie's companion and caregiver during her illness. —*Samantha Embrey, Piney River, VA*

Would you like to save time (ours)
and money (LANA's)
and the planet?
Let us know
(sembrey@verizon.net)
if you are willing
to receive the Lyre Notes
via e-mail! Thanks!

Publication in the Lyre Notes
of announcements or reports
regarding an initiative
or event does not necessarily
constitute an endorsement
of that initiative or event
by the Lyre Association.

Resources

Instruments and Accessories

Solartone Forks & Flutes

Tuning forks tuned to the twelve fifth tones scale can be purchased through Solartone, c/o Kerry Lee, 518 Arch Street, Spring City, PA 19475; 610-948-5026; musiklee@verizon.net. You can purchase a set of 7 forks tuned diatonically or a set of 13 forks tuned chromatically.* In addition, the following can be purchased individually: A 432 Hz, G₂ 362.04 Hz, C 256 Hz and C 128 Hz (the tuning fork that can be used for therapeutic purposes).

Kunath flutes and recorders available include the Sun flute pentatonic, Sun flute diatonic,* Star recorder diatonic, Alto recorder, Tenor recorder,* Bass recorder*

Contact Kerry with questions or orders.

*These items need to be specially ordered and will take a little longer to arrive.

Used Lyres for Sale

Choroi soprano, small model, built 1980s in Holland. \$750. Nicole Furnee, 518-672-4944.

Gärtner small soprano, built in the '80s, excellent condition. \$800.00 plus shipping from Sacramento, CA. Simone Demarzi: sdemarzi@gmail.com or 916-482-2242.

Rose Lyre, early 1990s. \$800. Marcia Becker, 518-325-5204.

Klangharfe (see article in Lyre Newsletter Vol. 47). Paid \$1000. Offers considered. Patricia von Petner, 916-989-6010, pvonpetner@comcast.net.

Gärtner soprano, 1968, beautiful dark wood, good condition (minor imperfections), new strings, lovely tone. \$1,375. Susie McFeeters: 802-985-2384 or susie@mcfeeters.net.

New Lyres for Sale

Currently, most new lyres must be purchased directly from the builders, although we are exploring the possibility of having a US representative for some of the builders. Contact Sheila Johns (301-681-6546/sjohns123@earthlink.net) with questions. Choroi lyres may be purchased through Mercurius (see www.mercurius-usa.com).

Lyre Rentals

The Lyre Association has Choroi and Gärtner lyres of various sizes available for rent. Monthly rent is \$25-35, depending upon the size of the lyre. Contact Debra Barford, dsbarford@yahoo.com / 773-561-7910.

LANA Board Members

Sheila Johns, President

1603 Tilton Dr, Silver Spring, MD 20902
Phone 301-681-6546; Fax 301-681-3266
sjohns123@earthlink.net

Diane Ingraham Barnes, Vice President

321 Rodman Rd, Hillsdale, NY 12529
Phone/Fax 518-325-1113
dingraham1@netzero.net

Catherine Read, Secretary

1112 General St Claire Rd,
Washington Crossing, PA 18977
Phone 215-369-8749; Fax 215-369-3715
ceread@rci.rutgers.edu

Samantha Embrey, Treasurer

PO Box 96, Piney River, VA 22964
Phone 434-277-8180
sembrey@verizon.net

Debbie Barford

934 W. Carmen #2W, Chicago, IL 60640
Phone 773-561-7910; Fax 312-926-9962
dsbarford@yahoo.com

Nancy Carpenter

17155 Sioux, Detroit, MI 48224
Phone 313-886-4863
necarpenter@hotmail.com

Robin Elliott

5580 Lone Pine Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472
Phone/Fax 707-829-2409
songlyre1@aol.com

Margo Ketchum

13 E Morgan St, Phoenixville, PA 19460
Phone 610-608-9281
mketchum@verizon.net

Channa Seidenberg

PO Box 925, Philmont, NY 12565
Phone 518-672-4389; Fax 518-672-5323
channaseidenberg@yahoo.com

Christof-Andreas Lindenberg, Member Emeritus

1784 Fairview Rd, Glenmoore, PA 19343
Phone 610-469-2583; Fax 610-469-9758
information@beaverrun.org

Lyre Instruction

Region	Area	Teacher	Phone	Email
West Coast	Sebastopol, CA	Robin Elliott	707-829-2409	songlyre1@aol.com
	Fair Oaks/Sacramento	Andrea Pronto	530-637-5970	jpronto@hotmail.com
	Portland, OR	Marion Van Namen	503-956-4046	marion@octavemusicherapy.com
Midwest	Detroit/Ann Arbor, MI	Barbara Patterson	248-543-2032	barbarajpat@earthlink.net
		Nancy Carpenter	313-886-4863	necarpenter@hotmail.com
		Mary Lynn Channer	734-856-5380	bdchanner@yahoo.com
Northeast	Temple, NH	Juliane Weeks	603-878-5031	juleweeks1@gmail.com
	Boston, MA	Joanna Carey	617-418-5064	joannapcarey@gmail.com
	Harlemville/Copake, NY	Monica Buchwalder Amstutz	518-329-0249	momusica@gmx.ch
		Diane Ingraham Barnes	518-325-1113	dingraham1@netzero.net
		Channa Seidenberg	518-672-4389	channaseidenberg@yahoo.com
	Chestnut Ridge/Spring Valley, NY	Christiane Landowne	845-425-8589	
Laura Langford-Schnur		845-469-2227	langfordschnur@frontiernet.net	
Midatlantic/ Southeast	Kimberton, PA	Kerry Lee	610-948-5026	musiklee@verizon.net
		Veronika Roemer	610-935-0309	vmroemer@gmail.com
	Washington, DC	Sheila Johns	301-681-6546	sjohns123@earthlink.net
	Central Virginia	Samantha Embrey	434-277-8180	sembrey@verizon.net
	Chapel Hill, NC	Suzanne Mays	919-929-1073	suzannemays@yahoo.com
Canada (East/Central)	Toronto	Veronica Jackson		veronica@biz-zone.com

Miscellanea

We'd love to hear from you!!

For the Spring 2009 issue of the Lyre Notes, send news, announcements and reports to Samantha Embrey (sembrey@verizon.net; PO Box 96, Piney River, VA 22964; 434-277-8180) **by May 1.**

For the future issues of **Soundings: A Lyre Review**, submit articles or music to Catherine Read (1112 General St. Claire Rd, Washington Crossing, PA 18977; 215-369-8749; ceread@rci.rutgers.edu).

Letters to the Editor are welcome for both publications!

The Winter 2009 Lyre Notes were edited by Samantha Embrey, with assistance from Margo Ketchum.

If you want to be removed from our mailing list for these Lyre Notes and other announcements or if you would be willing to receive these Lyre Notes as an e-mail attachment, please notify Samantha Embrey (sembrey@verizon.net).

Upcoming Events

Summer 2009 in Järna, Sweden

July 28 -30: First International Lyre Pedagogy Conference

July 31-August 3: Fourth International Lyre Conference

August 4-5 Excursions and Free Lyre Initiatives

Lyre Association Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

____ Regular membership, \$35

Yes, I am willing to receive the Lyre Notes by e-mail!

____ Supporting membership, \$50

____ Additional contribution: ⇒⇒⇒

____ Financial aid

____ Lyre Builders Fund

____ Total enclosed

____ Whatever is needed

*Please make check payable to "LANA" and send with form to
LANA, c/o Embrey, PO Box 96, Piney River, VA 22964.*

Members receive a subscription to Soundings: A Lyre Review (containing substantive articles and a music supplement) and a discount on fees for all conferences and workshops sponsored by LANA as well as on music bought through our service. Membership runs for one year from the time dues are received or one year from the expiration of current membership, whichever is a later expiration date.

Lyre Association of North America
c/o Embrey, PO Box 96
Piney River, VA 22964
USA