



Overture

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Digital AM & FM

WRR CLASSICAL 101.1 FM

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS OF WRR

APRIL 2006

Join WRR at DMA's Late Night April 21

Join WRR at the Dallas Museum of Art from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 21.

WRR will be on site as part of the museum's Late Nights and in conjunction with its current exhibit, *Lords of Creation: The Origins of Sacred Maya Kingship*.

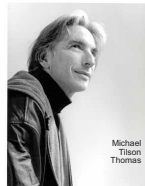
The evening will include WRR giveaways, entertainment and more. The DMA is at 1717 N. Harwood St.

SF Symphony returns to WRR

by Christopher Tucker

"The Sound of Celebration" is what the San Francisco Symphony is calling this year's 26-week broadcast season. Performed in Davies Symphony Hall, the orchestra continues another exciting year of collaboration with its internationally acclaimed director, Michael Tilson Thomas.

The broadcast hosted by KDFC's Rik Malone airs on WRR Tuesdays at 8 p.m. beginning April 4 and running



until the end of September.

The season will feature Maestro Thomas in 11 concerts with a number of classical masterworks like Stravinsky's *Firebird* and *The Rite of Spring*, Richard Strauss' *Don Juan*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9 "Choral"*, Haydn's *"Harmoniemesse" Mass in Bb* and Gustav

Mahler's seventh and ninth symphonies.

Plus tune in on May 9 as Michael Tilson Thomas leads a performance of his own work, "Island Magic."

With or without an HD receiver, WRR is going to sound better than ever



High definition radio is coming to WRR this month. It has been a long, complex process, but the end result will impress all who enjoy listening to classical music.

With the introduction of the new technology, many listeners have had questions about HD radio. Some have even wondered if they would still be able to receive WRR once the station makes the leap to HD.

Not only will you be able to hear WRR, but it will sound better than ever.

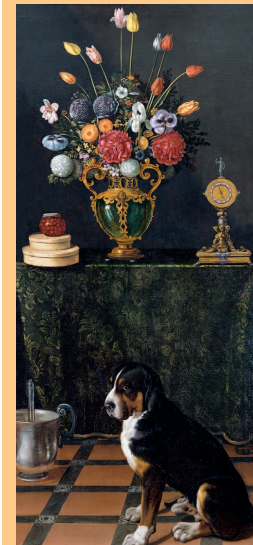
Should you buy a HD radio? Models, such as Boston Acoustics' Receptor Radio, are becoming available to consumers. Prices

start at \$300. As competition and production increase, the cost should decrease. (Remember how much you paid for your first VCR in the early 1980s?)

HD radios let you listen to HD Radio Multicasting and a multiple-line display shows song title, artist, station name, and other broadcasting data. And, of course, there's the brilliant clarity and high-fidelity sound.

Kurt Rongey, WRR's Operations Manager, said even for those who don't buy an HD Radio receiver immediately, listeners should notice significant improvements when the station begins broadcasting in high **Continued On Page Two**

Van Der



The Meadows Museum will be the exclusive U.S. venue for the first monographic exhibition ever held of the work of the Madrilenian painter Juan van der Hamen y León. Van der Hamen (1596-1631) was one of the most famous and prolific Spanish still life painters of the seventeenth century.

While the exhibition will present the very best of Van der Hamen's still lifes borrowed from public and private collections all over the world, its larger aim is to show for the first time the complete Van der Hamen, the painter esteemed above all in his lifetime for his versatility—for his portraits, allegories, landscapes, flower paintings, and large-scale religious works executed for churches and convents in the environs of Madrid and Toledo.

Not only did his oeuvre as a whole encompass this unprecedented range of subject matter, he was, more than any single artist, responsible for introducing many of these new genres to Spain. Although his fame today has been eclipsed by the long career of Velázquez, van der

Continued On Page Three

Sizzling Season: Dallas Summer Musicals

By Christopher Hackett

Sixty-six years ago in sweltering 100 degree heat, the wonderful legacy of summer musical theater began in Dallas. It was called "Opera under the Stars" and its venue was the Fair Park Band Shell. Opening night came on June 12, 1941. On stage at the Band Shell was a production of Sigmund Romberg's "Blossom Time," an operetta based on the life of Franz Schubert.

Flash forward 66 years to the cool comfort of the Music Hall at Fair Park with its state-of-the-art audio system, two fantastic restaurants and unparalleled customer service, and you have exactly what you had over half a century ago — great live entertainment! It's now called the Dallas Summer Musicals and has become a vibrant tradition in the North Texas' entertainment/cultural landscape.

This season's offerings include the best of London's West End and New York's Broadway. "Phantom of the Opera" gets things underway from March 22 to April 16, then "Little Women" runs from **Continued On Page Two**

Indulge your senses in the luxurious world of the Spanish Hapsburg court, where discriminating tastes, hospitality, and conspicuous consumption reigned.

Sound like someplace you know?

Juan van der Hamen y León & THE COURT OF MADRID

MARCH 16–MAY 28
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www.meadowsmuseumdallas.org



Join Friends of WRR today!

Why Support the Friends? Music enriches all of our lives. We at the Friends of WRR are committed to providing programming that enhances classical music education and benefits the local community, its artists, and arts groups.

Support from individuals and organizations alike enables the Friends to continue responding to artistic needs within the community.

By giving to the Friends, you add your voice to our own and help promote classical music throughout the metroplex and beyond.

Members receive many benefits, including:

- The monthly WRR Program Guide.
- Special discounts for merchandise and special events.

Support the Friends of WRR today, and help to support the education, enjoyment and understanding of classical music in the WRR listening area.

Friends of WRR Membership Levels (please select one)

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Please mail this form and check to: **Friends of WRR**
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Overture

Tom Sime on Dallas Theater

By Tom Sime



As a former theater critic who's now a producer and playwright, I've had the chance to look at the theater scene from several different angles. And despite theater artists' seemingly constant state of self-doubt, I see a healthy, diverse organism determined to succeed. It seems that every time the theater world in Dallas-Fort Worth starts to run out of optimism, a fresh crop of new talent rising from the area's theater schools and young companies revitalizes it again.

I'm working at one of those newer companies now—Contemporary Theatre of Dallas—where I'm managing director. CTD was founded by artistic director Sue Loncar just four years ago—and it's a heady sensation as we continue to discover and grow our audience. People don't know we're here, but once they discover us, they're hooked. It's the big picture in miniature.

As a critic, I was always struck by the sheer excellence and accessibility of Dallas-Fort Worth theater. Even in small-scale, bare-bones productions, talent and conviction were powerful and deep, and my

most memorable theatergoing experiences were as likely to be tiny productions in out-of-the-way places as well as the posh extravaganzas of the Dallas Theater Center or Bass Performance Hall. You can feed a hunger for intimacy or spectacle or veer eagerly from one to another.

Personally I love small spaces where the actors are just a few feet away, like Bath House Cultural Center or Undermain Theatre or the wonderfully tiny Margaret Jonsson Theatre at the University of Dallas. When I'm at UD, I like to pretend I'm in Margo Jones' Fair Park theater in the 1940s, that small space that started the country's regional theater movement. DFW may not be recognized as such my many, but it's a lodestone of American theater, and continues to quietly pump its energy and talent into a thriving network of stages Dallas helped launch.

A...My Name is Alice opens at Contemporary Theatre of Dallas April 14. For tickets, call 214-828-0094 or www.contemporarytheatreofdallas.com. Sime's play *All of the Above* was presented in a staged reading by WingSpan Theatre Company on March 23-24 at the Bath House Cultural Center.

Summer Musicals Continued From Page One

May 23 to June 4. "Bombay Dreams" takes over the Music Hall's stage June 6-18 followed by the classic "Les Miserable" from June 21 through July 2. The worldwide sensation "Mama Mia" based upon the music of ABBA returns to the DSM stage July 4 through the 16, then it's onto to the recent Broadway smash hit "Brklyn" (Brooklyn) for a run from July 25 through August 6.

The season concludes with the State Fair show, the hilarious "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" from October 3 through the 22.

WRR and the Dallas Summer Musicals will team up again this season to present a preview before each show. DSM President and Managing Director Michael Jenkins will give the inside scoop on the upcoming show.

Catch the "Dallas Summer Musicals Preview Show" with Jenkins and WRR's Christopher Hackett, it's your ticket to the hottest shows in the Metroplex! Tune in for more details.

HD Radios

Continued From Page One

definition.

"Due to our new higher-quality antenna situated at a higher elevation, many who have had sporadic reception in the past are likely to hear our signal more clearly and with less noisy interference," he said.

So, whether you rush out and buy the state-of-the-art HD radio, or wait a little while for prices drop, your favorite classical station will sound stellar.



WRR General Manager: Greg Davis
Editor: Victoria Eiker

'Overture' is the official monthly publication of
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Send comments or story ideas to
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High Note



Welcome Back, Koonsman

Former...interim...current...Ann Koonsman has returned as the executive director of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Her previous tenure with the FWSO lasted 23 years.

Dance for the Planet April 29-30

The 10th annual Dance for the Planet will be April 29-30 at Samuel-Grand Park, 6200 East Grand Avenue in Dallas. Admission is free. More than 150 dance groups and 1500 performers are expected. Make plans to attend!

Meadows Museum

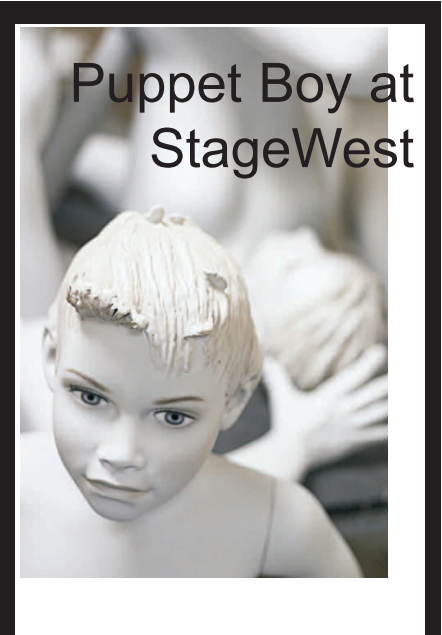
Continued From Page One

Hamen's star was very bright when the young Sevillian was just finding his way at the court of young King Philip IV.

This exhibition, which closes May 28, is the product of 40 years of research of North American art historian William B. Jordan, former director of the Meadows Museum, and will be accompanied by a monograph devoted to every aspect of the painters work.

WRR invites listeners to a special event celebrating this exhibit on Sunday, April 2. From 2-4 p.m., WRR will be broadcasting live from the Meadows Museum on the SMU campus. In addition to free admission during the event, there will be refreshments, musical entertainment, and WRR and Meadows Museum giveaways.

DAYPART	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
A.M.	5:00	MUSIC ALL NIGHT with Peter Van de Graaff						
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A.M.	Midnight							
	1:00							
	2:00							
	3:00							
	4:00							
DAYPART	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	



Puppet Boy at StageWest

Stage West Theatre in Fort Worth currently is presenting the world premiere of a new version of the classic Pinocchio tales. *Puppet Boy* by Lee Trull sets the story in fascist Italy in the 1920's, but retains the spirit and feel of Carlo Collodi's tales of an impish puppet's quest to become a real boy.

Filled with magic, comedy, pathos and adventure, *Puppet Boy* works for all ages. Pinocchio suddenly finds himself in a body he doesn't understand, a wooden boy in a world of fire. Involved in a classic quest story, he's a hero with no special skills and no clear idea what he's supposed to do. So he mostly follows his own whim, which leads to a series of encounters ranging from comical to terrifying as the absurdities of growing up play out against the background of a country losing its soul.

Puppet Boy runs through April 16 in the Sanders Theatre of the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, in the heart of Fort Worth's Cultural District. Performances times are 8pm Friday, 3pm and 8pm Saturday, and 3pm Sunday. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$20, with special family packs available for the matinees and Friday night performances. Tickets and information are available at www.stagewest.org, or by calling 817-784-9378.

Must-hear radio: April WRR highlights

By Kurt Rongey
Operations Manager

The celebration of Mozart's 250th birth anniversary continues the first two Mondays of this month at 8 p.m. Claus Peter Flor and Robert Levin join the Dallas Symphony for Piano Concertos #23 & 24 and Symphonies #40 & 41.



Then on April 24 at 8 p.m., the DSO brings us the Golden Age of Film. You can enjoy music from classic scores such as *Gone With The Wind*, *The Magnificent Seven* and *Lawrence of Arabia*. The program, conducted by Richard Kaufman, also includes a special tribute to Henry Mancini.

April 17, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra salutes Shakespeare with special guest Michael York.

April 14 is Good Friday. That night, we will bring you one of the most spiritually charged works ever written, Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* in its entirety. J.S. Bach set all of his skill and devotion to the purpose of illuminating the life of Christ in this sweeping masterpiece.

One of the most highly anticipated musical visits to the Metroplex this year is Lang Lang. To preview his concert on April 11, we will present a special program exploring his origins and musical philosophy. Join us Friday, April 7, at 8 p.m. for "Lang Lang – Memory – A Musical Conversation."

Upcoming WRR Events

- April 2** Join WRR at the Meadows Museum from 2-4 p.m. for a live broadcast. See the special exhibit, *Juan van der Hamen y Leon & The Court of Madrid*. During the WRR event, enjoy free admission, refreshments, entertainment and great giveaways.
- April 21** Don't miss Late Night at the Dallas Museum of Art. From 6-8 p.m., WRR will be on site with promotional items just for you.
- April 29-30** It's the 10th annual Dance for the Planet. This year it's at Samuell-Grand Park, 6200 East Grand in East Dallas.

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