IN MEMORIAM

68

Class Notes

ROCHESTER

TRIBUTES

Robert Ward ’39E: ‘Gracious Collaborator’

I first met Robert Ward ’39E in the early 1990s, while working on a revision of one of his stage works, Lady Kate. This opera, originally called The Lady from Colorado, was being remounted as part of a festival season of the Ohio Light Opera. Knowing him as the composer of one of the greatest American operas of the 20th century in The Crucible, which won the Pulitzer Prize in Music in 1962, I was interested in seeing the extent of his commitment to a much lighter work.

What I gained from that first collaboration with Robert was first and foremost a great friendship that lasted until his death in April at age 95. His mentorship, advice, and interest in my personal well-being were special to me, but I know that this act of kindness, generosity, and sincerity was repeated countless times with young musicians and artists. With everyone he met in the music profession (and beyond), he made the conversations lasting, personal, and insightful.

This had a direct relationship to his creativity: there was no stone unturned when it came to exploring the choices of every note he composed (from pitch, to rhythm, to sonority). He was relentless in making sure all the possibilities were explored.

Bob was also a strong-minded, but gracious, collaborator. He expected the artistic team producing and executing any of his works to have the same knowledge and understanding of the work that he did when he was creating it.

In early 2000 the Ohio Light Opera premiered another lyric theater work of his, A Friend of Napoleon. The productions of Lady Kate and A Friend of Napoleon, and Bob’s residencies with the Ohio company, changed the lives of many of the 200 artists who worked on both productions. He took every note and word of these comic pieces seriously. We all recognized that this approach would have a lasting effect on our own creativity.

—Steven Daigle

Daigle is chair of the Eastman voice department and director of Eastman Opera Theatre.

John La Montaine ’42E: ‘Full of Invention’

John La Montaine, who died in April at the age of 93, was five years old when he decided he wanted to be a composer. He became a prolific and much-performed one, as well as a member of an exclusive club among American composers: in 1959 he received the Pulitzer Prize in Music for Piano Concerto No. 1, In Time of War, which was premiered by the virtuoso Jorge Bolet.

La Montaine graduated from Eastman in 1942, after study with Howard Hanson and Bernard Rogers, and like many other American composers of the 20th century, with Nadia Boulanger in France. He immediately drew favorable notice for his music; the conductor Dmitri Mitropoulos described his scores as “full of invention, composing talent, and a mature musical mind.”

La Montaine won the Pulitzer Prize in 1959 for Piano Concerto No. 1, In Time of War.

Shortly after receiving the Pulitzer Prize, La Montaine was commissioned to write the first piece of music specifically for a presidential inauguration; his overture From Sea to Shining Sea opened John F. Kennedy’s inauguration in 1961. His Christmas pageant opera The Shepherds Play was televised nationally by ABC on Christmas Eve 1967, and he was commissioned to write an opera, Be Glad Then, America, for the 1976 Bicentennial. Other works were evocative of nature; his Wilderness Journal Symphony (1972) used texts from Thoreau, and The Marshes of Glynn, premiered by the Rochester Chamber Orchestra in 1984, was inspired by tape-recorded sounds from the Georgia marshes.

“I don’t want to be stuck in some hole, expected to do a certain thing,” John La Montaine said in a 2003 interview with the NewMusicBox website. “There is not one of my pieces that is like another piece... I’ve never spent a lot of time on publicity or anything like that. I just want to write my pieces.”

—David Raymond ’81, ’87E (MA)

Raymond is editorial director at the Eastman School.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Charles A. Manuele ’35, March 2013
Gustave Strebel ’36, April 2013
Emily Clapp Gillispie ’39, April 2013
Margaret Waderlow Morton ’39E, April 2013
Robert E. Ward ’39E, April 2013
Richard W. Gysel ’40, April 2013
Ann Van Wyen Thomas ’40, March 2013
Phyllis Klakdy Gershkoff ’41E, April 2013
Milton Pearlman ’41, March 2013
Jacob D. Avshalomov ’42E, ’43E (MA)
Elinore Barber ’42E (MA), March 2013
John M. La Montaine ’42E, April 2013
Caroline Wiener Watkins ’42, May 2013
William L. Clark ’44M (MD), July 2011
Evelyn Kneeland Schuyler ’44E, March 2013
Roslyn Greenberg Kaiser ’45, April 2013
Mary Sayles Allison ’46N, May 2013
Marion Kridler Edwards ’46N, December 2011
Paul R. Footo ’46M (Res), April 2013
Arthur J. Gross ’46, ’50M (MD), May 2013
Robert R. Jones ’46, December 2012
Richard G. Dinizier ’47, March 2013
Ruth Eleazer Gwilt ’47N, April 2013
Roger H. Kenyon ’47, November 2012
Iris Bedrick Rogers ’47E, ’48, May 2013
Sylvester J. Sanfilippo ’47, May 2013
Irving Hollander ’48, April 2013
Edward J. Krolic ’48E, ’51E (MM), March 2013
Patricia Perry Mauro ’48, January 2013
Patricia Mensel Perkins ’48M (MD), March 2013
Robert J. Scott ’48, May 2013
Gene L. Young ’48, November 2012

GELFAND-PIPER PHOTOGRAPHY (WARD): UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES/DEPARTMENT OF RARE BOOKS, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, AND PRESERVATION (LA MONTAINE)
TRIBUTE

Donald Smith: ‘Coach for All Seasons’

For more than 40 years, Donald Smith was a coach for all seasons on the River Campus. I first coached with Don in 1956. When I became the athletic director in 1974, Don became a valued senior advisor to me and to the entire department. His loyalty to the University and dedication to its students were unmatched. His uncomplicated and sincere mien nurtured competitive athletes, and affected students in football, basketball, baseball, and golf.

The current golf program at the University, in particular, is the product of Don’s straightforward administration and teaching. Because the River Campus was once a golf course—before George Eastman executed a trade for Pittsford farmland that’s now the world-famous Oak Hill Country Club—it was appropriate that the University have a first-class golf program. It was Don who made it so.

While his earlier years on campus had been devoted to teaching physical education and coaching football, basketball, and baseball, Don spent his next 27 years focused on golf. As associate director of athletics, and as full-time head coach of the Yellowjacket golf team from 1969 to 1995, he developed the program to the point where it became well known nationally in Division III. (It should be mentioned that there were previous part-time coaches of note: Fletcher McCormond, who was the University physician on campus, and Paul Bitgood, who was also a football coach.)

As coach, Don led the team to the NCAA Division III national championships 14 consecutive years. The team also ranked in the top 20 every year, and from 1989 to 1995, finished in the top 10 five times.

Don died in March at the age of 83. The University lost a fine and loyal teacher, and we who knew him well lost a dear friend.

—David Ocorr ’51

Ocorr was director of sports and recreation at Rochester from 1974 to 1981.

William L. Lehn ’58 (PhD), May 2013
James F. McKague ’58, April 2013
Richard C. Agnello ’59, May 2013
Ellwood F. Friedrich ’59, November 2012
Ernest R. Hanna ’59 (PhD), April 2013
Richard M. Murphy ’59, April 2013
Arlon K. Snyder ’59, ’78M (Res), April 2013
Costan W. Berard ’60M (Res), January 2013
Carl G. Ericson ’60, February 2013
Stanley P. Hazen ’60D (MS), ’60D (Pdc), April 2013
Vito S. Lenoci ’61 (MA), March 2013
Paul E. Brown ’62E, ’63E (MM), April 2013

Francis J. Cocuzzi ’62E, May 2013
Alfred P. Kremmer ’62, March 2013
Fredric Lieberman ’62E, May 2013
Peter L. Waaasdorp ’62S, ’69S (MBA), May 2013
Edna Murphy Burke ’63W (Mas), March 2013
Vincent J. Ciulla ’63S, May 2013
Richard W. Cramer ’63, April 2013
Beverly Watson DeWeese ’63W, ’65W (MS), May 2013
John R. Lewis ’63S (MS), November 2012
D. Gordon Hollinger ’64, ’81 (MS), May 2013
Jane Fremouw Colburn ’65, May 2013
George E. Hemming ’65S, April 2013

July–August 2013 ROCHESTER REVIEW 69
Books & Recordings

Books

The Politics of Social Welfare in America
By Glenn Mackin
Cambridge University Press, 2013

Mackin, assistant professor of political science in the humanities department at the Eastman School, explores the ways in which politicians, academics, and citizens talk about welfare and disability. He argues that their perceptions guide policy, while those deemed “needy” have challenged that designation through activism.

Reminiscences: A Journey through Particle Physics
By Adrian Melissinos
World Scientific Press, 2012

Melissinos, a professor of physics at Rochester who has conducted research in particle physics for more than 50 years, recounts the evolution of the field from the late 1950s until the present.

Anxious Wealth: Money and Morality among China’s New Rich
By John Osburg
Stanford University Press, 2013

Based on three years of field research in Chengdu, a commercial center and capital of China’s Sichuan province, Osburg, assistant professor of anthropology at Rochester, offers insight into the private and professional lives of a segment of China’s new business class.

The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Cultural and Intellectual History
Edited by Joan Shelley Rubin and Scott Casper
Oxford University Press, 2013

Rubin, professor of history at Rochester, coedits the two-volume encyclopedia of the American “values, aspirations, anxieties, and beliefs” as expressed in popular culture as well as formal thought. Among the topics included are minstrel shows, video games, book clubs, and the pursuit of “wellness,” as well as the works of prominent artists, writers, and theologians.

The Wave Function: Essays on the Metaphysics of Quantum Mechanics
Edited by Alyssa Ney and David Albert
Oxford University Press, 2013

Ney, associate professor of philosophy at Rochester, coedits the volume of essays on the metaphysics of quantum mechanics and contributes the essay “Ontological Reduction and the Wave Function Ontology.” The volume includes an overview of the history of quantum mechanics and its place in metaphysics among realist alternatives.

Defiant Daughters: 21 Women on Art, Activism, Animals, and the Sexual Politics of Meat
Edited by Carol Adams ’72
Lantern Books, 2013

Adams collects 21 personal stories from young writers about the impact on their lives of Adams’s 1990 book The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory, in which Adams explored the connections between meat-eating and virility across cultures. Among the contributors is Lagusta Yearwood ’00.

Pay It Forward: Mentoring New Information Professionals
By Mary Ann Mavrinac and Kim Stymest
American Library Association, 2013

Mavrinac, vice provost and Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly Dean of River Campus Libraries, coauthors a guide to mentoring. The authors offer tips to new information science professionals seeking a mentor, while arguing that mentoring is a partnership in which benefits extend to both parties.

Mercy! A Celebration of Fenway Park’s Centennial Told through Red Sox Radio and TV
By Curt Smith
Potomac Books, 2012

Smith, an author, political speechwriter, and senior lecturer in the English department at Rochester, presents the 100-year history of Fenway Park, the home of the Boston Red Sox baseball team, through accounts from Red Sox radio and television broadcasters.

Mastering the Bow
By Gaelen McCormick ’92E
Carl Fischer, 2013

McCormick, a bassist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and a faculty member at the Eastman Community Music School, provides a guide to bow technique, based on Franz Wohlfahrt’s Studies for Violin, for beginning and intermediate students.

The ’90s: Diary of a Mess
By Alessandra Sukhoy ’03S (MBA)
CreateSpace, 2013

Sukhoy, a Cleveland-area career coach and blogger, presents a collection of poetry, photography, and musings she created during and about the 1990s. The book features a foreword by artist Jacob Livshultz and afterword by comedian Deena Nyer Mendelowitz.

All I Want for Christmas
By Michael Bresner ’65
iUniverse, 2013

Bresner tells a story of murder and mayhem among Santa’s elves, and the efforts of Santa and his nemesis, the elf leader, to solve the mystery. The book is the first in a series of revisionist novels based on myths, legends, and fairy tales.