

# Harpsichord & *fortepiano*

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Musical Instrument Research Catalog  
(MIRCat)

# A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

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photo by Rachel Clements

Dear Readers,

First an apology; I failed to include Grant Colburn's biography in the "About the Contributors" section last time, so I have included it this time.

We have some pieces on the state of pedagogy – one about the state of affairs in France, and another practical article on how to approach the teaching and playing of a new piece.

In addition this issue features an interview about a new Rosenberger inspired piano, and a very thought provoking article about "modern building" by Paul Irvin. Are two 8's better than 4'? Not to sound Orwellian or anything, but I think you'll find this most interesting reading. Also, new to this issue is a pull-out piece you can try for yourself, offered by our Brazilian composer Calimerio Soares. Please let us

know if you'd like more of these scores. Our reviews, similarly, offer some challenges and some new delights.

I guarantee you I will expect some correspondence after this issue; we are being challenged to rethink the way we think, play and make instruments; we are being asked to inject new life into pedagogy. What do our colleagues in other parts of the world feel about the state of teaching early keyboard instruments? Is it going downhill or is it set for a renaissance? How best do we represent early instruments in recorded form.

We continue to welcome ideas and suggestions for articles. For the Autumn 2008 issue, we would like to encourage particularly articles about soundboard and lid decoration. Also, I'd ask you to consider the topic: What are the essential items in a keyboard player's score library? Given \$500/£250/€320 what would you buy first?

Thanks and Best Wishes,

Dr. Micaela Schmitz, Editor