

# Harpsichord & *fortepiano*

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Musical Instrument Research Catalog  
(MIRCAt)



photo by Rachel Clements

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

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*Dear Readers,*

This issue we feature interviews with Jory Vinikour and with Jane Clark; an essay on transitional music for harpsichord and fortepiano; an obituary of Kenneth Mobbs, a much loved collector of instruments; and reviews on a variety of early keyboard instruments. We hope next issue to share a feature on an exciting new project in Perth, Australia.

Sincerely, *Micaela Schmitz*

## NEWS

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**The 8th annual Young Performers Festival will be held 23-27 May 2018 during the 2018 Bloomington (IN) Early Music Festival (18-27May 2018).** YPF 2018 will feature a partnership with the IU Jacobs School of Music, the Historical Performance Institute, and the school's Office of Entrepreneurship and Career Development. Student participants will benefit from an interactive programme of professional development opportunities facilitated by special guests from the field. Also new in 2018 is the addition of a separate "Showcase for Emerging Artists and Ensembles" in addition to the collegiate ensemble festival. For more information visit <http://www.blemf.org/>.

**The Friends of Square Pianos**, based in the UK but attracting an online following worldwide, had a meeting in Chelveston, UK featuring spinets. Their website gives information on restoration work, lists parts for sale, current auctions, and more. For more information visit <http://www.friendsofsquarepianos.co.uk>.

**The Seventh Nordic Historical Keyboard Festival** takes place 22-31 May 2018 in Kuopio, Finland. The programme includes performance by Dalyn Cook, Esther Yae Ji Kim, Elina Mustonen, Eija Virtanen, Anna Maria McElwain, Albert Mülhboöck, Joel Speerstra, Miklós Spányi, Jan Weinhold, and Jocelyne Cuiller, with a wide range of clavichord repertory and one harpsichord performance. This cutting edge offering includes pairing with violin, poetry, and liveinstallation. One performance features six of the performers on two clavichords. The festival also features a lecture by Dr. Claus Köppel. Incredibly, admission to all events is free! They have held an International Clavichord Composition Competition with entries due in February 2018; these will be performed at the festival. <http://www.nordicclavichord.org/>

**Harpsichord & fortepiano**

**7-9 June 2018, Orgelpark, Amsterdam Symposium:** Clavichord and Organ, companions for centuries. The anniversaries of Johann Nikolaus Forkel (1549–1818) and Friedrich Wilhelm Marburg (1718–1795) are celebrated. For information visit <https://www.orgelpark.nl>.

**6-8 June 2018 Debussy as Early Music:** The Piano and the Pianist in the Early Twentieth Century. A colloquy led by Nicholas Mathew (UC Berkeley). Mathews notes that "The Bechsteins that Debussy and Ravel loved, with their comparatively downy hammers, were lighter in touch and tone than most modern Steinways. Moreover, the ways in which performers interpreted their scores on such pianos may seem surprising to the present-day listener." Because Debussy made piano-roll recordings, his performance practice can be investigated.

These questions will be the subject of a morning colloquy led by Nicholas Mathew (UC Berkeley) entitled "Debussy as Early Music: The Piano and the Pianist in the Early Twentieth Century," which will feature performers and scholars associated, in evolving ways, with the early music movement, including George Barth (Stanford University) and Desmond Sheehan (UC Berkeley). In the afternoon, Alexei Lubimov will present Debussy's piano music on the beautiful 1913 Bechstein piano owned by Berkeley's venerable Piano Club. Lubimov's career has encompassed harpsichord and modern piano, as well as award-winning performances of Mozart, Schubert, and Brahms on Viennese pianos, Chopin on French pianos, and C. P. E. Bach on the now obscure tangent piano. ECM New Music released his recording of Debussy's Preludes, on a Steinway from 1913, in 2012. For more information visit <http://www.berkeleyfestival.org/westfield>.

**10-12 August 2018 Stiepeler Claviersommer** (weekend clavichord event) run by the Swiss Clavichord Society. It will include concerts on replicas such as PISAURENSIS Leipzig No. 1 (by Volker Platte), J. H. Silbermann (by Matthias Grewisch), FRIDERICI by Martin Kather, a 'Middle-ages' clavisymbalum (by Andreas Hermert), and an Italian Renaissance harpsichord by Platte. For information visit <http://www.clavichordgesellschaft.ch/assets/files/aktuelle%20Infos%20kurzzeitig/Vorschau%20Stiepeler%20Claviersommer.pdf>.

**Musica Antiqua Magnano has its 33rd festival 3 August-1 September 2018** which includes performances by Ensemble Symposium performing Boccherini, Trio Felix Rienth performing music of Handel, and Camerata Kilbegg performing Swedish folksongs and Bach aria, and recitals by Silva Manfre (organ), and Bernard Brauchli (clavichord). For further information visit <http://www.musicaanticamagnano.com/>.

**6-8 September 2018, The Westfield Centre,** Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, I organizing a programme called "The Organ in the Global Baroque". Call for papers were due in April. For more information visit <https://westfield.org/>.

**21 October 2018 Swiss Clavichord Society** event at the Historischen Museums Basel. There will be a talk by curator Isabel Münzner, followed by selected clavichords being introduced by Thomas Steiner, and some demonstration by Jermaine Sprosse, with a full length concert by Sprosse in the concert gallery Pianofort'ino to conclude the day. For further information visit <http://www.clavichordgesellschaft.ch/assets/files/Basel%202018/Clavichord%20Event%20Basel.pdf>.

**10 November 2018, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, UK. François Couperin 350th Anniversary Festival.** This will be a celebration featuring a complete performance of

Couperin's keyboard works in one day, on harpsichord, spinet, clavichord and organ.

This will include the four books of *Pièces de clavecin* (1713, 1717, 1722 and 1730) in order, as well as the two organ masses. The professional performers will include Aline Zylberach, Rebecca Pechefsky, Mark Kroll, Jane Clark, Penelope Cave, Katarzyna Kowalik, Aidan Phillips, Luke Green, Satoko Doi-Luck, Jonathan Hellyer Jones, Leonore Hibou, Mark Purcell, Robin Walker, Francis Knights, Dan Tidhar and others.

For more information visit [couperin2018.webnode.com/](http://couperin2018.webnode.com/).

**9-10 November 2018 Couperin conference, Birmingham Conservatoire, UK**

As part of the inaugural celebrations of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire's new building, the conference is organised by the Conservatoire's Forum for Seventeenth- and... In addition there are concerts throughout the year. Further information in due course will be available at <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire>.

**Iowa City Early Keyboard Society** fosters the appreciation of historical keyboard instruments, primarily the harpsichord, clavichord, and fortepiano, through education and performance. Recent and upcoming recitals (all free) include among others Byron Schenkman, Marcia Hadjimarkos, and Margaret Irwin-Brando.

For more information visit <http://iceks.org/>.

**Western Early Keyboard Association** have recently hosted recitals by Elisabeth Wright, Hannah Brewer, Jillon Stoppels Dupree, and Carol lei Breckenridge; and workshops by Leta Huang. For more information visit <http://www.wekaweb.org/>.

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