



# AMTA Newsletter

January 2011

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## Save the Date\*

### January 14, 2011

Vladislav Kovalsky Master Class  
Steinway Piano Galleries

### January 27, 2011

Postmark Deadline: MusicFest

### February 12, 2011

Postmark Deadline: Auditions

### February 16, 2011

Discount Registration deadline  
MTNA Conference

### February 28, 2011

MusicFest!  
Agnes Scott

### March 13, 2011

Local Auditions  
Georgia State University

### March 26-30, 2011

MTNA National Conference  
Milwaukee, WI

### April 14, 2011, 10am

Dr. Carol Gingrich  
*Teaching Intermediate Pianists*  
Cooper Music

### April 15-16, 2011

GMTA Auditions  
Kennesaw State University

### May 13, 2011, 10am

Aaron Stampfl presentation  
Cooper Music

\*Visit [www.atlmta.org](http://www.atlmta.org) for a complete list of dates

## Happy New Year!

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year and welcome to the season of exciting musical opportunities!

We have a number of events planned for the next couple of months, beginning with Vladislav Kovalsky's masterclass and recital. Please mark your calendars and join us for a masterclass on Jan. 14, followed by wonderfully programmed recital on Jan. 15 at the Steinway Piano Gallery. Details for the event are attached in the newsletter.

The application deadline for MusicFest is set for January 27, 2011. Registration will be handled by Ms. Mandy Munoz – you can find the registration form under resources on our website: [www.atlmta.org](http://www.atlmta.org). MusicFest will take place on February 27, 2011 and the location for the event is Agnes Scott College.

The Local Spring Auditions of AMTA will take place on March 13, 2011 at Georgia State University. The deadline for entering is Feb. 12, 2011. Registration forms are available on our website on the Resources page. The coordinator for that event is Ms. Anne Sun.

A number of world-renowned pianists will be visiting the Atlanta area in the next couple of months, starting with Yefim Bronfman who will be performing Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2 with the ASO, Jan 6-8. Eugene Skovorodnikov will be performing a recital at the Emory's Schwartz Center on Jan. 30, starting at 4pm and the legendary Abbey Simon will be giving a recital at Shorter University on Monday, Jan. 31, at 7:30 p.m. Please encourage your students to attend!

As always thank you for your contribution to AMTA, I look forward to a great year of good traditions and new beginnings!

Sincerely,

Elena Cholakova, AMTA President

## MusicFest 2011

Registration Deadline  
Postmarked January 27, 2011 to:  
Mandy Munoz  
821 Ralph McGill Blvd #2314  
Atlanta GA 30306

Show your students the way to  
**musicfest**

Please have your application and fees mailed to the above address by January 27. Students' fees should be included in one check made payable to the Atlanta Music Teachers Association. Personal checks from parents cannot be accepted. If your student requires an a.m. or p.m. time in the schedule, please state this on the application. No changes can be made once the schedule is set. Please include a judges' comment sheet for each student. The entry forms for duet and solo categories are both at [www.atlmta.org](http://www.atlmta.org), or you can email or call me: [www.mandypiano.com](http://www.mandypiano.com), or (678) 887-0528

If you're looking for good duet repertoire, I recommend Two at One Piano (Frances Clark Library, in 4 levels). Piano For Two, Published by FJH, is another good series.

There are various levels of judging criteria, so this is a good opportunity for even your youngest student to perform and receive positive feedback.

For a small teacher fee, even those who are not members of AMTA can enroll their students in this event, so please, spread the word!

**Visit [www.atlmta.org](http://www.atlmta.org) to download registration forms.**

## Baroque Atlanta in the Fall

Article submitted by AMTA member Raisa Parmentier Isaacs

EMA (Early Music America) celebrates their 25th anniversary through North America with the special events and concerts. The main purpose is "to raise awareness of vibrant activity in early music in North America" (EMA bulletin). Atlanta seems to be one of the most early music "blooming" cities in US. Besides two orchestras-ABO (Atlanta Baroque Orchestra), New Trinity and Lauda Musicam of Atlanta, individual local performers consistently present recitals with various programs from the Renaissance to the late Baroque at different venues of Atlanta Metro Area. Among them, recitals at OUMA (Oglethorpe University Museum of Arts), where AMTA member Raisa P. Isaacs presented her Chamber Music programs on period instruments with the members of Atlanta Baroque Orchestra.



This fall season Chamber recital, "The Court Music of Louis XIV," was prepared in conjunction with the new museum's exhibition "French Drawings and Sculpture from the Schlossberg Collection."

Louis XIV ("The Sun-King") pursued through his entire life establishing a unique, individual French style in arts and music that would spread influence far beyond France's borders. The group (Nancy Schechter, Ute Marks- Baroque violins, Susan Patterson-violola da gamba, Raisa Isaacs-harpsichord) searched for specific complexities and intricacies of the French musical phrase-motive-rhythm ideas all together

with reflection of the clear pronounced majestic approach of French Court mentality through the court dances was the main aim of the performance. Trio-sonatas of François Couperin “Le Grand,” Elizabeth de la Guerre, J-Ph. Rameau and Sonatas by J-M. Leclair and Marin Marais featured the program.

Two presentations were circling around the French music theme: at RWA and NDMTA. Rivermont Women Association in John’s Creek is well known as a great group with strong interest and appreciation of the music and arts in Atlanta. Titled, “Let’s Be Princesses Again!” the presentation emphasized the history and significance of the role of the music at the courts of the most famous rulers --Maximilian II, Elizabeth I, and specifically Louise XIV, as his way to centralize the power and promote absolutists’ ideas in the feudally dissected and vulnerable to the wars in Europe during that time. Presentations were accompanied by videos of the Court dances in performance of the early dance European groups and excerpts from exceptional movie by Gerard Corbiau, “Le Roi Danse” (“the King is Dancing”).

The most pleasant moment for the audience came when everyone was invited to learn the most popular court dance, Minuet, with the member of the Royal Academy of Dance in London, former soloist in the South Africa and Europe and currently Director of the Dance Academy in Pharettia ballet dancer Brenda Jericevich-Roger.



The presentation, “French Influence in J.S.Bach’s Music”at NDMTA (North DeKalb Music Teachers Association) was more scholarly oriented. It has become a well-known fact, that Bach was exposed to French culture in Luneburg when he studied at the conservative Michaelisschule, but shared the board with the aristocratic young men from Riterakademie, the city center of the French culture. He later encountered the French music and ballet in Dresden opera and other German towns music events. German dance teachers studied with the French masters and implemented through dance French Etiquette as well. (M.Little & N.Jene.”Dance and the Music of J.S.Bach”). Besides “French Suites,” trained ears can disclose the French roots in Bach’s music with titled and untitled dances and dance-like pieces in the various non-suite compositions.

After a brief introduction covering the most important fundamentals of Baroque Practice Performance (phrasing, articulation, fingering, and ornamentation, etc.), French Suite dances rhythm and articulation patterns were analyzed in the context of their evolution from Early Baroque up to the Pre-Classical period. Lyrics-dance motions relationships and establishment of the mature dance patterns were discussed and accompanied by comparable performances on piano, v.v. harpsichord, and videos of the main suite dances: Allemanda, Sarabanda, Franco-Italian types of Courante-Corrente, and Giges. Written text with the actual performance realization were offered for teachers’ consideration. For example:

SARABANDE	COURANTE
<i>realization</i>	<i>realization (real performance)</i>

In conclusion, visual information was reinforced by live performance of the Baroque group (Nancy Schechter-Ute Marks-Susan Patterson-Raisa Isaacs). Dances from Couperin’s “Les Nations” and Sonata by J-M. Leclair seems have revealed more layers and subtleties of French music for the listeners after the presentation.

# PIANO RECITAL



## STEINWAY PIANIST VLADISLAV KOVALSKY

Steinway Piano Galleries  
5950 North Point Parkway  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
770 777-1300

***January 15, 2011, Saturday, at 7:30 pm***

"Vladislav Kovalsky is a concert pianist of prodigious musicianship and superb technique. His wide repertoire spans Schubert to Rachmaninoff, from Bach to the moderns. His performance experience includes tours of the USA, Russia, Canada, Korea, Japan and all of the European countries. A Steinway Artist, he has won many international awards. Now a resident of the USA, this outstanding pianist is now performing for special events, organizations and music lovers across the country.

### ***Program***

**James Hartway. "Basho", 8 haiku for Prepared Piano**  
**F. Chopin. Andante Spianato and Grand Polonaise, in E Flat Major, op.22**  
**F. Liszt. Mephisto-Waltz.**

### ***Intermission***

**M. Mussorgsky. "Pictures from an Exhibition"**

**Free to AMTA, NDMTA and NFMTA**  
**General Admission -- \$15**

AMTA, NDMTA, and NFMTA  
Present

## Vladislav Kovalsky

**January 14, 2011 Friday**  
**Steinway Piano Galleries**  
5950 North Point Parkway  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
770 777-1300

### **Presentation**

**10:00 am**

#### **The SOUND.**

*Ideal Sound Image as a prerequisite of working on piano touch.  
Historical connections between ideas of the sound from Baroque to Modern  
periods and perspectives of the Sound in the future.  
Russian schools of the weighted touch and wide range of possibilities in  
dynamics and sonorities.*

### **Master class**

**10:45 am-1:00 pm**

*Upper Intermediate to Advanced Level students of AMTA, NDMTA and  
NFMTA chapters of Atlanta and Atlanta Metro Area.*

#### **Lunch 1:30pm at "5 Seasons"**

**North**  
3655 Old Milton Parkway  
Alpharetta, GA 30005  
770-521-5551

*RSRV to Rwei Hao*  
rhao@bellsouth.net