Beyond the Practice Room: Ripley Lucas-Tagliani and Women in Music

"I wanted to have an event to shed light on the wonderful women trailblazers throughout history in music. The program is all women composers performed solely by women."

-Ripley Lucas-Tagliani BM '20

UPCOMING CONCERT!

WOMEN Concert
October 25, 2019 at 7:30 pm
Greenfield Hall

Check Out What’s New!

Get Involved at MSM

Recipe Corner

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” spread on pages 8-9 contains information about domestic violence and sexual assault, which may be triggering for some people.

THIS ISSUE

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Beyond the Practice Room: Ripley Lucas-Tagliani and Women in Music

This interview was conducted by Lilly Cadow
For more student stories, visit msmnyc.edu/MSMspotlight

What was the impetus behind this project and what are your goals for the project?

The impetus behind this project is to celebrate women. I wanted to have an event to shed light on the wonderful women trailblazers throughout history in music. The program is all women composers performed solely by women. I felt that there needed to be a way to showcase some of these lesser-performed works. My goal is to show the plethora of amazing music out there and this program is a mix of both vocal and chamber instrumental works. MSM is filled with an extraordinary amount of talent and it is because of these strong women that we are able to thrive at conservatories such as MSM today.

What are you most looking forward to about this project?

I am looking forward to sharing these beautiful pieces and seeing how it all comes together. I have never worked with such a wonderful group of people who are so dedicated to giving justice to the music. This project is not mandatory or required so when I reached out to people it was all based on volunteering. It is thanks to these performers that my idea for WOMEN can come alive. I am very excited to see it take to stage!

Why is it important that MSM allow students the opportunity to create student projects such as this one?

It is so important to have student projects because they allow for us to really dig into our own curiosity and creativity. When I was flipping through my binder, I had only one song by a woman composer, the rest were all men. It didn’t seem like a good ratio. So I started doing research on women composers and I kept asking myself, why haven’t I heard this before? It’s such a magnificent piece! Sitting in the library with that idea was how WOMEN was born. Sometimes you hear about a composer or song in passing that really strikes you and you have to know more. Unfortunately, not every class has the time or syllabus flexibility to go into that great detail. That’s why if you have a real passion for something and want to share it student projects are a great venue for it!

Lumeng Yang, Yuna Jo, Doris Du, and Clara Cho playing a piece by Fanny Mendelssohn.

Kaitlin Barron, mezzo soprano, singing a piece by Alma Mahler with Tongyao Li at the piano.

UPCOMING CONCERT!

For more student stories, visit msmnyc.edu/MSMspotlight
During the process of organizing the concert, what have you learned about the behind-the-scenes process of putting something together like this? Did anything surprise you?

Haha, yes I definitely learned it is no easy undertaking to manage 25 people's schedules. Everybody has school, work, rehearsals, and a personal life, so to add an extra unrequired concert to their plate is a lot to ask. Finding mutual rehearsal times was a bit rough but luckily with the power of social media and patience we are doing it!

What stigmas are there about women in music, particularly classical music, and what should we do about them?

There are so many stigmas that have attached themselves to women in classical music. One stigma is for a woman composer's work to be taken seriously. As soon as a piece is composed by a woman it is immediately under scrutiny. It's worth and value is questioned and then it may not be considered a serious piece of music. There have only been two operas in the Metropolitan Opera's history to be performed that were composed by women. This says something very strongly about how we are still making progress to be held in equal footing. For a lot of these composers, their music was not represented at their own time just by the simple fact that they were women. Many of them had their works published under pseudonyms or were published under their husbands so they received no credit. For the fortunate wealthy women that did receive some sort of formal musical education their works were still not held on the same level as male composers. Alma Mahler had to stop composing as a condition when she married Gustav Mahler, because "From now on you have only one profession: to make me happy!... You must surrender yourself to me unconditionally."* Can you imagine how many pieces she could have written if she hadn't been married or was taken just as seriously as her husband? That is why we have to perform their works and promote new works by women!

Continued on page 4

*From a letter from G. Mahler to A. Mahler in December 1901
BSU
Manhattan School of Music’s Black Student Union (BSU) is composed of jazz voice, jazz instrumentalists, classical voice, classical instrumentalists, composers, musical theatre and pianists. We as a community have decided to take a different approach to leadership this year. I am overjoyed to announce this year’s executive board as well as our two advisors!

With our executive board meetings occurring every Thursday and general meetings every other Sunday, there is a continuous deliberation of ideas and growth as an organization. As many of you know, we put up an annual Black History Month performance every year in February. Due to the overwhelming amount of support from students, staff, alumni, and supporters, on February 19, 2020, our performance will be held in Neidorff-Karpati Hall. On top of our annual show, we will have many events leading up to Black History Month and afterwards. Make sure to stop by when we’re tabling and do not hesitate to bring forth any ideas, questions, or support. To keep up to date with Black student life and the preparation for our concert, please follow our official Instagram @bsu_msm!

~Rayna Campell, President

BSU Executive Board:
Rayna Campbell, President, Imani Williams, Vice-President, Chira Bell, Secretary, Tabitha Johnson, Treasurer, Celine Walker, Staff/Faculty Advisor, Alexa Smith, Staff/Faculty Advisor

BSU Exec Board Meeting
Thursday, October 24th at 4:00 in the 4th floor lounge

Music for a Better World
Volunteer for Cancer Research!
MBW is organizing volunteers for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s “Light The Night” event in Queens. LLS is the foremost organization fighting blood cancers in America, and Light The Night is their largest fundraiser of the year. Please email mfbwMSM@gmail.com to sign up! Saturday, October 26th. 12:30pm-4:30pm, or 4:00pm-9:00pm

How can the classical musician today bring more light to the musical works of women, from the past and present?

I think that the most important way to bring light to them is by being curious and using the technology at our fingertips. It is more than likely you will hear Brahms and Mozart at Carnegie Hall, the New York Philharmonic, or the Metropolitan Opera rather than the works of Florence Price or Fanny Mendelssohn. WOMEN is a sampling of works by women composers. There is so much more out there, you just have to be inquisitive and find them.
COMIC AND MEME CONTEST
Submit original comics and memes to newspaper@msmnyc.edu or DM us on Instagram! @polarbearpress
Finalists will be posted in Issue 05 and students can vote for the winner!
Submission Deadline: Friday, November 1st

See solutions, pg. 9

MSMemes

SUDOKU
Difficulty: Easy

9 8 5 7 1
7 8 1 9
1 2 3 9 4
3
8 7 6 5
3 1 4 9
7 1 4 9

Difficulty: Medium

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9 3
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9 7 5
4 3 9 7 2 1
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MOVEABLE DO HAS A MORE SOLID THEORETICAL BASIS AND ALLOWS STUDENTS TO HEAR DIATONIC RELATIONSHIPS MORE EASILY THAN FIXED DO

MOVEABLE DO REQUIRES TOO MUCH UNNECESSARY SYLLABLE MODIFICATION, AND IS NOT INTUITIVE OR EASY TO USE IN MODULATING MELODIES

SINGING IN FIXED DO MAKES STUDENTS SING UNNATURAL INTERVALS LIKE MAJOR SECONDS BETWEEN TI AND DO, DISRUPTING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN WHAT THEY DO IN THEORY CLASS AND WHAT THEY DO IN AURAL SKILLS

FIXED DO MEANS STUDENTS DON’T HAVE TO ANALYZE A MELODY BEFORE THEY SING IT; THEY CAN JUST USE THE INTERVALS AS THEIR GUIDE NO MATTER WHAT KEY THE MELODY MOVES TO

MAKING STUDENTS MORE AWARE OF A MELODY’S HARMONIC CONTEXT IS THE MAIN STRENGTH OF MOVEABLE DO, NOT A WEAKNESS

Mahler

Smahler

Conductor’s Tempi

Dress Rehearsal: Performance:

Music major? But you get to do what you love for a living!

Me:
VEGAN BROWNIES
These vegan brownies are fudgy, chewy, and uber chocolatey. Plus they’re quick and easy, and made with everyday ingredients!

TOTAL TIME: 30 MINS PREP TIME: 10 MINS COOK TIME: 20 MINS

INGREDIENTS:
- 1/4 cup pureed or well-mashed avocado
- 1/4 cup avocado oil or extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 cup white whole wheat flour (or all-purpose flour)
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 3/4 cup cane sugar (or granulated sugar)
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup water (I like to instead use 1/2 cup brewed coffee + 1/4 cup water)
- 1 1/2 cups vegan chocolate chips

Preheat oven/toaster oven to 350 degrees F (180 degrees F). Grease an 8-inch square pan with cooking spray.

In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the pureed avocado and olive oil until smooth. Add in the flour, cocoa powder, sugar, baking soda, salt, and water (or coffee + water). Stir until smooth. Fold in 1 cup of the chocolate chips. Pour into the prepared pan and spread the batter evenly throughout the pan. Sprinkle with an additional 1/2 cup of dark chocolate chips on top. Bake for 15-20 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out mostly clean (there may be some melted chocolate chips in there).

If you overbake, the brownies will have a cake-like texture. Remove and let the brownies sit out for at least 20 minutes before serving. Cut and serve, or cover and store for up to 3 days.

From gimmesomeoven.com/vegan-brownies/

Microwave Egg Wraps
Spray a microwave-safe bowl with cooking spray.

Beat the eggs in the bowl, pop into microwave and cook for about 90 seconds, until eggs are done. (For best results, stir the eggs after every 30 seconds).

Cut the cooked egg patty in half. Place a piece of egg and a a slice of cheese on each tortilla.

Fold or roll up the tortillas to make burritos. Microwave for 20 seconds to melt the cheese.

Enjoy with salsa if desired.

From "Mr. Breakfast Collections" website
October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. This event was originally created by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence in October 1981 to connect advocates for survivors of abuse across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children.

Domestic violence is a term which includes intimate partner violence and/or dating violence. It is defined as the intentional use of abusive tactics or physical force to obtain and maintain power and control over an intimate partner. There are many different forms of abuse which can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats that negatively affect another person.

Manhattan School of Music is committed to addressing and eliminating all forms of intimate partner violence in our community. The School’s Title IX team promotes student awareness and protection, and provides access to remedies. You can read MSM’s Title IX Sexual Misconduct Policy on the School’s website: https://www.msmny.edu/msm-title-ix-sexual-misconduct-policy/. The Title IX team investigates instances of intimate partner violence among students and takes care to support and protect victims through counseling, sheltering, and sharing resources.

We recognize that college students of all gender identities and sexual orientations may experience relationship violence; we provide services to all survivors of intimate partner violence or sexual assault regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. **Continued on page 9**
We understand that college students may face obstacles in reaching out to our services. Some students may feel trapped by social networks in our close campus environment. Other students may not be sure whether they can define their experience as abusive, or they may feel fearful of their assailant. While reporting an incident may feel scary and overwhelming, reaching out for help is the first step and we are here to help.

**Domestic Violence Awareness and Resources at MSM cont.**

*Contact Information:*
If you or someone you know is a student experiencing abuse, contact Title IX Coordinator, Carol Matos at 917.493.4450 or Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Melanie Dorsey at 917.493.4588
We can help you explore remedies available to you or your friend. You may also make a report anonymously through our website at: https://www.msmnyc.edu/sexual-misconduct-report-form/.

**Sudoku Solutions**
See puzzles, pg. 5

**Difficulty: Easy**

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For more information on student organizations at MSM, see page 4
Upcoming Wellness Events at MSM

**Tuesday, October 29**
Lunch & Learn: Mindful Practice  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
Room A402

**Thursday, November 7**
Flu Clinic  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Nurse's Office (Room 105)

**Thursday, November 14**
Stress Relief (Wellness RA Event)  
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm  
Main Building Student Lounge

**Tuesday, November 19**
Lunch & Learn: Sleep Hygiene  
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
Room TBD

Want to see your event featured here?  
Email newspaper@msmnyc.edu!

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**Meme Contest**
Submit original comics and memes to newspaper@msmnyc.edu or DM us on Instagram! @polarbearpress  
Finalists will be posted in Issue 05 and students can vote for the winner!  
Submission Deadline: Friday, November 1st

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**Polar Bear Press Team**
Alexis Seminario  
Editor in Chief
Lilly Cadow  
Managing Editor
Mindy Holthe  
Managing Editor
Nicoletta Berry  
Contributing Editor

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Upcoming Concert Attendance

**October 25**
Student Projects in Performance:  
Ripley Lucas-Tagliani, Voice - "Women"  
7:30 pm, Greenfield Hall

**October 25**
MSM Chamber Sinfonia - Bernard Labadie, Conductor  
7:30 pm, Neidorff-Karpati Hall

**November 3**
Singers' and Pianists' Seminar Concert  
2:30 pm, Greenfield Hall

**November 4**
Student Composers' Concert  
7:30 pm, Greenfield Hall

**November 7**
Faculty Recital: Kim Laskowski, Bassoon  
7:30 pm, Miller Hall

**November 8 & 9**
Sweeney Todd  
7:30 pm, Neidorff-Karpati Hall

**November 10**
Sweeney Todd  
2:30 pm, Neidorff-Karpati Hall

**November 10**
Percussion Ensemble  
7:30 pm, Ades Performance Space

**November 11**
Faculty Composers' Concert  
7:30 pm, Greenfield Hall

**November 12**
MSM Chamber Choir: Look at the Stars  
7:30 pm, Greenfield Hall

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To read this issue online, or to read an older issue, visit us at msmnyc.edu/polarbearpress

Follow us on Instagram!  
@polarbearpress