Welcome to the 2013-14 academic year! We look forward to a wonderful year of new students, concerts and music events.

The major announcement is that much of the Music Department is now located in the 161 wing of Camino Hall! This new wing features two state-of-the-art Wenger sound rooms; one of them is dedicated to percussion and gamelan, the other room is smaller with environmental and recording capabilities and available for faculty and students. (We will have a room reserve system set up soon.)

With these changes, we now have a 5th practice room available in the 142 block of rooms.

Another big announcement is that we now have a new Executive Assistant, Marilou Alcantar. Please come by the 161 wing to meet Marilou, who is a USD music alum!

We also have a new Jazz Ensemble director, Justin Grinnell. Ella Steinberg took a position in Marin County and the soon-to-be Dr. Grinnell seeks to grow and expand the jazz program. As always, the Jazz Ensemble meets on Wednesday nights in Shiley Theatre at 7 pm.

This is the second year of the USD Mariachi Ensemble, directed by Serafin Paredes. The ensemble has begun to perform throughout parts of San Diego and we again hope to grow this program to be an asset both at USD and in the community. Mariachi meets on Thursday nights at 7 pm in Camino 153.

The USD Gamelan Ensemble, named Gunung Mas (Mountain of Gold), is now housed in the percussion room in the 161 wing and classes are held there on Tuesday nights at 7 pm. We will host a Balinese mask-dancer this semester and I am again joined by Balinese musician/dancer I Putu Maya. Related to things gamelan, I will co-teach a course in Bali, Indonesia, on Balinese Music and Religion with Professor Lance Nelson of Theology/Religious Studies next June through the International Center.

Chamber Music Ensembles begin this month. For more information, please contact Dr. Angela Yeung. Several incoming students are fine musicians and we look forward to excellent duos, trios, quartets and quintets. Concert Choir is again offered on Monday nights at 7 pm in Camino 153. Please come and add your voice to the choir.

Concerts not to be missed in the fall include Guitar and Dance Recital on Friday, September 20 in the French Parlor, beginning at 7:30. The music and dance will be flamenco! Other events this semester include Jie Ma on the dynamic Chinese lute, pipa, performing in the French Parlor on October 16 at 7:30; Dr. Chris Adler will join her for contemporary, improvised duos! Senior music performance student, Mario Ramirez, will perform his piano recital on
Chair’s Corner, continued

in Shiley Theatre. Another highlight will be the Faculty Voice Recital in Shiley Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 pm. Come watch and hear Dr. Ron Shaheen, Renee Calvo, and Scott Gregory perform a variety of repertoire! And, Lisa Cella will perform a solo flute recital on Wednesday, November 13 at 7:30 performing a wide variety of pieces. The following night, November 14, is the Cello Duo Recital (including piano) featuring Dr. Angela Yeung and Alvin Wong. Toward the end of the semester are Student Composers Concert, Chamber Ensembles Concert, Lessons and Carols (featuring the Choral Scholars and Concert Choir), Gamelan Concert, Student Recital, Mariachi Ensemble, and the Messiah Sing-and Play-Along. More on these events later in the semester.

I hope that all of you have exciting and rewarding semesters and that you will take full advantage of your time here at USD! If you need help in any way, just let one of us know.

David Harnish

Faculty Spotlights

Eric Foster

Eric Alan Foster of Vista, California plays the guitar in concerts, and private events throughout southern California. He is the author of two concertos for guitar and orchestra which he performed as soloist with both the USD Orchestra and the North Coast Symphony. These works were had repeat appearances in Oceanside, Carlsbad, San Diego and Tijuana, Mexico. His compositions for guitar orchestra are published by "Productions d'Oz" in Canada. A self-produced CD ("Paint the Wind") showcases his solo works for the guitar.

Mr. Foster earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree with an emphasis in music composition from the University of California at Santa Barbara and his Master of Music Degree with an emphasis in guitar performance from San Diego State University.
NOISE Plays Burtner

On Innova Recordings, featuring compositions by University of Virginia Associate Professor of Composition and ecoacoustic artist Matthew Burtner. Both recordings are available through Dr. Adler’s website: www.christopheradler.com.

Over the summer, two recordings were released featuring Professor of Music Christopher Adler. Morris Palter’s double vinyl LP recording This Place Our Body was released on Blue Leaf Records and includes the world premiere recording of Christopher Adler’s virtuoso solo for drum kit, Plenum Vortices.

Dr. Adler also appears as pianist with the ensemble NOISE on the new CD NOISE Plays Burtner on Innova Recordings, featuring compositions by University of Virginia Associate Professor of Composition and ecoacoustic artist Matthew Burtner. Both recordings are available through Dr. Adler’s website:

On Feb. 14, 2014, USD cellist and student of Dr. Angela Yeung will be the featured soloist with the orchestra in Boccherini Cello Concerto. The concert will begin at 7:00pm at the Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church, 17010 Pomerado Rd., San Diego 92128. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online, please visit, http://www.yposd.org/.

Ms. Alyze Dreiling will also be guest conductor of the Cabrillo Chamber Orchestra on Feb. 15, 2014, in their concert entitled “American Experience”. 
The USD Jazz Ensemble was begun in the Fall of 2010 in response to student interests and backgrounds, and to provide students the opportunity to perform the rich and challenging music of one of the U.S.’s native art forms. The ensemble consists almost entirely of USD students (with some special guests) playing for both the USD campus and occasionally for the San Diego community. The Jazz Ensemble rehearses every Wednesday night for two and a half hours and gives at least one on-campus concert at the end of each semester.

The Music Departments expects that the Jazz Ensemble will continue to grow and develop, that the student musicians will enjoy more performances in the community and connect with peers on- and off-campus, and we welcome students to join and help the Ensemble become a larger presence in campus life.

The director is Justin Grinnell (DMA candidate, USC), who has been a well-respected leader in jazz performance and instruction in San Diego since 1999. He plays a variety of instruments but specializes in acoustic and electric bass.

USD students can enroll in the Jazz Ensemble for one credit each semester, without limit. Three credits will fulfill the students’ CORE Fine Arts requirement.

For further information, contact Justin Grinnell at justinjazzbass@yahoo.com or Dr. David Harnish, Chair of Music Department, at dharnish@sandiego.edu or (619) 260-4128.

The new director of the USD Jazz Ensemble, bassist Justin Grinnell, had an eventful and productive summer 2013. First, Justin finished recording a collection of original jazz compositions and arrangements for his debut CD. The CD, set to be released this December, will feature Los Angeles-based rising stars: pianist Josh Nelson, drummer Dan Schnelle, and saxophonist Robby Marshall. Justin also maintained a busy performing schedule, especially with the San Diego-based Danny Green Trio. The piano-bass-drums group enjoyed a 3-week residency at the San Diego Museum of Art in June featuring special guests guitarist Peter Sprague and trumpeter Derek Cannon. Additionally, the Danny Green Trio’s latest CD release, A Thousand Ways Home, was recently nominated for a San Diego Music Award for Best Jazz Album. As a music educator, Justin was involved in some exciting music summer workshops: "Strictly Sax" at CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB), the 3rd annual Jazz 88.3-House of Blues Summer Jazz Workshop at Francis Parker School, and the San Diego Jazz Orchestra (SDJO) Summer Jazz Workshop 2013. As a faculty member at these workshops, Justin taught jazz improvisation-oriented clinics and performed with notable guest artists, such as saxophonist Eric Marienthal (CSUMB) and pianist Bill Cunliffe (SDJO).
Dr. David Harnish

During the summer I gave research presentations at University College Cork in Ireland and at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in China. I also spent time doing ethnographic research on the islands of Bali and Lombok in Indonesia on a variety of subjects; in Lombok I mostly concentrated on music sustainability. In the meantime, I organized the 400 accepted abstracts for the program for the Society for Ethnomusicology conference, which will be held in Indianapolis in November and should attract over 1,000 participants.

Publications over the summer:


I continued performing in the summer with the LA-based Latin rock group, La Revancha, when my schedule allows.

Dr. Jeff Kaiser

Dr. Jeff Kaiser had a featured profile in the Spring 2013 issue of the International Trumpet Guild Journal. Also: Dr. Kaiser’s most recent album, "Endless Pie"—a freely improvised work featuring quartertone trumpet, electronics and pianist Phil Skaller—was released earlier this year and is getting strong reviews and regular play on adventurous radio programs. Bruce Lee Gallanter, reviewing for NYC’s Downtown Music Gallery, "This is an extraordinary duo and one of this year’s most challenging efforts on a variety of levels" and Robert Bush, reviewing in the San Diego Reader, “Wicked trumpet meets prepared piano in this intense and hilarious pairing of twisted minds...For those with an ear tuned toward adventure, Endless Pie is indispensable.”
Dr. Angela Yeung will be conducting three concerts in October. E-mail Dr. Yeung at ayeung@sandiego.edu for tickets and more information:

**Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 4 p.m.**

**Sunday, October 20, 2013 at 2 p.m.**
Carlsbad Community Church, Carlsbad Coastal Communities Concert Band Michael Ruhl, tenor and Carl Janelli, saxophone Tickets: $15 general admission; $12 seniors/students More information at www.cccband.com.

**Sunday, October 27, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.**
San Rafael Catholic Church, Rancho Bernardo Messa di Gloria by Giacomo Puccini Greater San Diego Community Chorus and Orchestra and San Rafael Festival Choir Dan Decker, tenor and Carl Erickson, baritone Free admission with free-will donation at the door More information at www.gsdmusicoterie.org.

This performance is part of Daniel Pearl World Music Days, an annual global concert network affirming the ideals of tolerance, friendship and our shared humanity. To find out more, please visit www.danielpearlmusicdays.org.

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