

APRIL 9, 2015

# The Meridian Trio performs April 12 in Queenstown Reply

by [peabodyinstitute](#) • [News](#) • Tags: [Chamber Music](#), [honors ensemble](#), [piano](#), [strings](#)



(<https://peabodyinstitute.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/550c97b7540c1-image.jpg>) The Aspen Institute will host a concert featuring the Meridian Trio (a Peabody Honors Ensemble) on Sunday, April 12, at 3 pm at the Inn adjacent to River House on the Institute's Wye River campus off Carmichael Road in Queenstown, Md. The concert program will include Beethoven's Piano Trio in D major, Op. 70#2 ("Ghost") and Brahms' Piano Trio in C major, Op. 87. A reception will follow in River House. The trio includes graduate students Margarita Loukachkina, piano, Nikita Borisevich, violin, and Jacques-Pierre Malan, cello. The concert is free with a limited number of

seats available to the general public. Seats may be reserved by calling Mary Ann Dodd at 410-820-5433.

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#)

JUNE 2, 2016

# Solomon Eichner, Jacques-Pierre Malan, and Nikita Borisevich Perform Beethoven and Tchaikovsky Reply

by [peabodyinstitute](#) • [News](#) • Tags: [alumni](#), [cello](#), [chamber music](#), [piano](#), [violin](#)



Solomon Eichner (MM '13, *Piano*), Jacques-Pierre Malan (GPD '12, MM '16, *Cello*; GPD '13, *Chamber Music*), and master's student Nikita Borisevich (GPD '13, *Violin*; GPD '15, *Chamber Music*) will perform Beethoven's Piano Trio in D major, Op. 40, No. 1 ("Ghost") and Tchaikovsky's Piano Trio in A minor, Op. 50 on Sunday, June 5, at 2:00 pm, at the Towson Unitarian Universalist

Church with the Music in the Great Hall concert series.

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#)

JANUARY 7, 2016

# Peabody Student is a Finalist in Getting to Carnegie Competition Reply

by [peabodyinstitute](#) • [News](#) • Tags: [alumni](#), [competition](#), [strings](#), [Students](#)



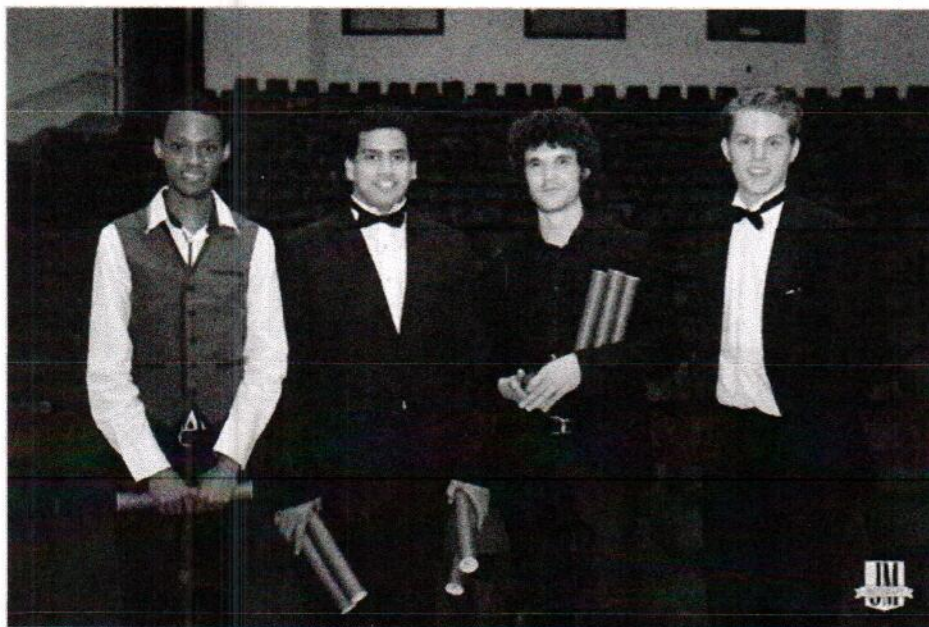
Left: Julian Gargiulo  
(MM, '97) Right: GPD  
Student Jacques-Pierre  
Malan

MM cello student Jacques-Pierre Malan (GPD '12, Cello; GPD '13, Chamber Music) is a finalist in the Getting to Carnegie

(<http://www.gettingtocarnegie.com/#home>) competition. The competition was started by Peabody alumnus Julian Gargiulo (MM, '97) and is described as "the Hunger Games of Classical Music." The finalists compete January 17 at 7:30pm at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall in New York. Each will perform a movement of Gargiulo's Cello and Piano Sonata in front of a live audience. It will be the premiere of the cello sonata and the audience will choose the winner.

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#)





SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

## Jacques-Pierre Malan Wins Second Prize in SICMF International Study Bursary Competition Reply

by [peabodyinstitute](#) • [News](#) • [Tags: alumni, cello, student](#)

MM cello student Jacques-Pierre Malan (GPD '12, Cello; GPD '13, Chamber Music), student of Amit Peled, won second prize in the inaugural [Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival \(SICMF\) International Study Bursary Competition](http://www.sun.ac.za/english/Lists/news/DispForm.aspx?ID=2704) (<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/Lists/news/DispForm.aspx?ID=2704>) – the largest South African bursary for overseas music studies.

The aim of the competition is “to attract the finest local music students to the SICMF by offering an internationally competitive financial reward that will enable further study abroad”, according to the Non-Voting Chair of the jury panel and SICMF Artistic Director, Prof Nina Schumann.

Each finalist performed a concerto (or part thereof), accompanied by the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Daniel Boico. Watch Malan's performance [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Zfeagl4i2k) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Zfeagl4i2k>).

[Blog at WordPress.com.](#)

NOVEMBER 15, 2014

# Chamber Music Department announces Honors Ensembles Reply

by [peabodyinstitute](#) • [News](#) • Tags: [chamber music](#), [Students](#)

The Chamber Music Department is pleased to announce

The 2014-2015 Peabody Honors Ensembles

## Trio Phoenix

Alan Choo, violin

Tzu-Jou Yeh, cello

Akkra Yeunyonghattaporn, piano

## Milieu

Joachim Lim, percussion

Matthew Overbay, percussion

Daniel Raney, percussion

Christopher Salvito, percussion

## Borisevich/Malan/Loukachkina Trio

Nikita Borisevich, violin

Jacques-Pierre Malan, cello

Margarita Loukachkina, piano

Congratulations to these groups, and also to the other groups who participated in the audition: Quartet Brio, Quartet con Fuoco, and The Blue Guitar Quartet.

## Jacques-Pierre Malan (cello) and Pieter van Zyl (piano) CD launch



THE ST ANDREW'S SUMMER/AUTUMN 2013 CONCERT SERIES presents:

This is a repeat performance, by popular demand, of the concert given by Malan and Van Zyl on 4 March 2012.

The sonatas have been recorded on CD and will be launched at this concert. This represents St Andrew's as well as the duo's first CD recording together.

*Programme*

J. Brahms: Cello Sonata No. 1 in E minor, Op. 38

INTERVAL

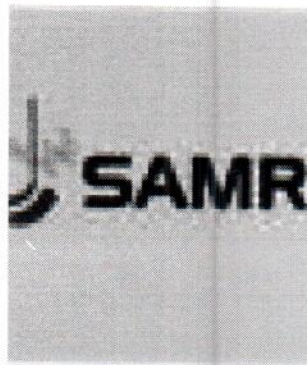
S. Rachmaninov: Cello Sonata in G minor, Op. 19

**Date:** 23 March 2013  
**Time:** 03:00  
**City/Town:** Cape Town  
**Venue:** St Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
**Address:** cnr Buitengracht & Somerset Rds, Green Point  
**Duration:** 100 minutes (including interval)  
**Ticket Price:**  
R80 (gen. admission), R60 (seniors), R30 (students/learners)  
**Bookings:** Tickets sold at the door only  
**Organiser/Presenter:** Pierre van Wyngaard  
**Mobile Phone Number:** 083 355 6371  
**Email Address:** [wyngaard@iafrica.com](mailto:wyngaard@iafrica.com)  
**Website:** <http://www.standrew.stgeorgessingers.org.za>

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## 2012 SAMRO Overseas Scholarships Competition



Following the hard-fought semi-finals, the top four in the 2012 SAMRO Overseas Scholarships Competition for instrumentalists have booked their place in the finals.

In the Western Art Music (also known as classical or serious music) category, the two young musicians who made it through to the final round are **Avigail Bushakevitz** (violin), a recent graduate of the Juilliard School of Music in New York, and **Jacques-Pierre Malan** (cello), who is studying at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

The two finalists in the Jazz/Popular Music category are trumpeters Mandla Mlangeni and Darren English, both from the University of Cape Town.

**Date:** 19 August 2012  
**Time:** 01:30  
**City/Town:** Johannesburg  
**Venue:** SABC Studio  
**Address:** Aucklandpark  
**Organiser/Presenter:** SAMRO Foundation  
**Phone Number:** +27 (0)11 712 8417  
**Email Address:** naseema.yusuf@samro.org.za or samrofoundation@samro.org.za

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## Bushakevitz & Malan in SAMRO final



**18.08.2012** The final round of this year's SAMRO Overseas Scholarship Competition (Western Art Music and Jazz/Popular Music ) takes place at the SABC M1 Studio in Auckland Park on Saturday 18 August at 18h30.

In the Western Art Music (also known as classical or serious music) category, the two young musicians who made it through to the final round are **Avigail Bushakevitz** (violin), a recent graduate of the Juilliard School of Music in New York, and **Jacques-Pierre Malan** (cello), who is studying at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

The two finalists in the Jazz/Popular Music category are trumpeters Mandla Mlangeni and Darren English, both from the University of Cape Town.

On Thursday, 16 August 2012, the six semi-finalists in each genre were put through their musical paces in front of a panel of adjudicators at the SABC studios, performing works of their choice, in addition to specifically commissioned works. This followed the first "listening" round in which candidates were evaluated on recordings they had submitted to SAMRO.

In the Western Art category, the semi-finalists were Bushakevitz and Malan, as well as Liam Burden (saxophone), Matthew Lombard (saxophone), Vicente Espi (violin) and Dylan Tabisher (marimba).

The Jazz/Popular Music candidates were James McClure (trumpet), Benjamin Jephta (electric bass guitar), Creshwell October (acoustic guitar) and Monique van Willingham (flute), as well as Mlangeni and English.

These dazzling young academically trained musicians, aged between 19 and 29 – many of whom have already performed both at home and abroad – displayed artistic virtuosity as well as technical prowess across a wide range of instruments.

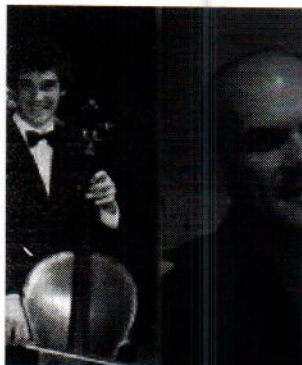
It was common cause among the music experts on the judging panel that even those who did not make it through to the final round were destined to enjoy illustrious musical careers.

The standard was exceptionally high this year and the competition tough, as is generally the custom with the cream-of-the-crop emerging musicians who compete on an annual basis for two sought-after R170 000 scholarships. These grants will be used to further their music studies at an accredited international tertiary institution or to attend master classes under the tutelage of world-renowned musicians.

Presented since 1962, the annual Overseas Scholarships Competition has



## Jacques-Pierre Malan (cello) and Pieter van Zyl (piano) at St Andrew's



### St Andrew's Summer/Autumn 2012 Concert Series

A recital by **Jacques-Pierre Malan** (cello) and **Pieter van Zyl** (piano).

#### Programme:

J. Brahms : Cello Sonata No. 1 in E minor, Op. 38

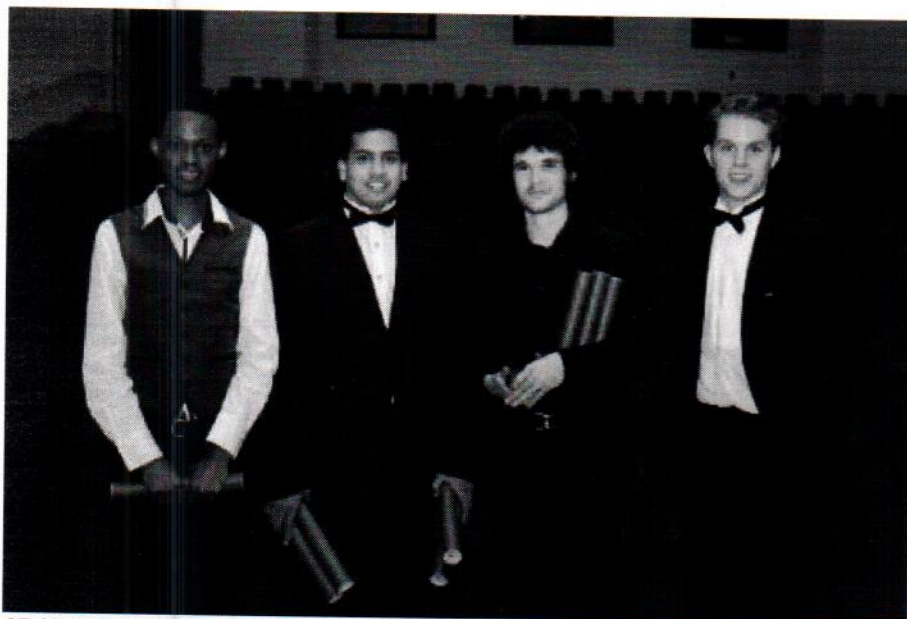
#### INTERVAL

S. Rachmaninov : Cello Sonata in G minor, Op. 19

**Date:** 5 March 2012  
**Time:** 00:00  
**City/Town:** Cape Town  
**Venue:** St Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
**Address:** cnr. Buitengracht & Somerset Rds, Cape Town  
**Duration:** 2 Hours  
**Ticket Price:** R80, R60 for seniors and R30 for scholars/students  
**Bookings:**  
No advanced booking - tickets sold at the door on the day of the recital  
**Organiser/Presenter:** Barry Smith and Pierre van Wyngaard  
**Mobile Phone Number:** 083 355 6371  
**Email Address:** [wyngaard@iafrica.com](mailto:wyngaard@iafrica.com)  
**Website:** <http://www.StAndrew.StGeorgesSingers.org.za>

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## Megan-Geoffrey Prins wins SICMF international study bursary



07.07.2015 South African pianist Megan-Geoffrey Prins (24) has won the inaugural Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival (SICMF) International Study Bursary Competition – the largest South African bursary for overseas music studies.

The final round of the competition was held on Monday evening, 6 July, in the Endler Hall in Stellenbosch.

The other finalists were Cape Town flautist Sakhile Humbane (19), Pretoria cellist Jacques-Pierre Malan (26), and pianist Willem de Beer (22), also from Pretoria.

Malan, currently a student at the Peabody Conservatory in America, won the second prize of a R60 000 bursary towards music study at Stellenbosch University (SU) or a recognized institution abroad, which is sponsored by Rand Merchant Bank.

The aim of the competition is "to attract the finest local music students to the SICMF by offering an internationally competitive financial reward that will enable further study abroad," according to the Non-Voting Chair of the jury panel and SICMF Artistic Director, Prof Nina Schumann.

Prins, who hails from Riversdale in the Southern Cape and studied at SU, won the first prize of R200 000 towards music study at a recognized institution abroad. The prize also includes a "Rising Star" recital in the Endler Concert Series, as well as an apprenticeship position on the faculty of the SICMF 2016.

Besides winning the overall first prize, Prins also received three additional prizes: R10 000 for the best recital programme, R10 000 for the best concerto performance, and the prize for best pianist (a Yamaha Clavinova worth R40 000).

"I am extremely grateful to have won. The standard of the competition was high, and although I thought I might stand a chance to win, I didn't think it would really happen. It required a lot of hard work to prepare for this competition," says Prins, who received a standing ovation for his performance of the Finale from Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No.3, Op.30.

After completing his studies at SU in 2013, Prins moved to America to study with the esteemed Antonio Pompa-Baldi at the prestigious Cleveland Institute of Music, where he recently completed the Master of Music programme. While still a student in South Africa, he won several prizes in all the major South African music competitions,



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## A Tribute to Nelson Mandela- sold out

MANDELA

**Date/Time**

Date(s) -  
06/20/2014  
7:30 pm

**Location**

South African  
Ambassador's  
Residence

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RESIDENCE**

***A TRIBUTE TO NELSON MANDELA***  
**4847 ROCKWOOD PARKWAY, NW**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2014 AT 7:30 PM**

Join us for a great evening at the residence with our usual outstanding talent, soon to be announced and enjoy the gorgeous renovated residence with its beautiful ambience. Featured artist is fabulous South African cellist, **Jacques-Pierre Malan** and noted pianist **Yuri Shadrin**.

**Jacques-Pierre Malan** matriculated – with two distinctions in music – from Pretoria Boys' High School in 2005. In 2006 he enrolled for a BMus degree at the University of Pretoria, majoring in cello. In the last few years he has won several top prizes in South Africa, including the ABSA competition category prize (2004); the Pretorium Trust Bursary for four consecutive years (2006-2009); Rhona Lubner Prize overall winner



including second prize in both the UNISA National Piano Competition and the SAMRO Overseas Scholarship Competition. The SICMF International Study Bursary will enable Prins to complete his doctoral studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Further special prizes were awarded as follows:

- R10 000 for the best rendition of a South African work: Sakhile Humbane
- R10 000 for the best rendition of a major chamber music work: Jacques-Pierre Malan
- The prize for the best string player (a one-year supply of 4 sets of Evah Pirazzi gold strings): Jacques-Pierre Malan

The competition was adjudicated over three rounds. For the first round candidates submitted a 30-40 minute recorded recital programme. For the second round ten semi-finalists were chosen to perform a 40-50 minute recital programme and a substantial chamber music work on 1 and 2 July.

On Monday, the four finalists each performed a concerto (or part thereof), accompanied by the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Daniel Boico.

The panel of adjudicators for the second and final rounds were Prof Nina Schumann (Non-voting Chair), American violinist Madeline Adkins, Portuguese flautist Paulo Barros, Stellenbosch pianist Dr Pieter Grobler, American trumpeter Billy Ray Hunter, and Stellenbosch cellist Dalena Roux.

The SICMF runs until Sunday, 12 July. For more information visit <http://www.sicmf.co.za>. Concert tickets are available from Computicket.

*Photo: Sakhile Humbane, Megan-Geoffrey Prins, Jacques-Pierre Malan, Willem Botha*

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## Related Entries

[<< Back to News & Reviews](#)

**Much anticipated Carmen opens in Cape Town**

[<< Back to All Features](#)

**Six of Us overall winners of US National Ensemble Competition**

**Cameron Williams wins National Youth Music Competition 2016**

**Stefan Temmingh joins ranks of music greats with Echo Klassik award**

**Carlo Ponto joins Evita, Daniel Richards for CPYO Fundraiser**

(2006); Philip Moore Competition overall winner (2006); UNISA Grade 8 Scholarship Competition overall winner (2008); ATKV Muziq Competition Strings category winner (2008); ATKV Muziq overall winner (2009); UNISA National String Competition: Bach prize, Beethoven prize and the prize for the best recital in the cello category (2009).

The Russian-born pianist **Yury Shadrin** has made a dramatic entry into the international concert world. As a soloist with orchestras, as well as in solo recitals, he is widely known through South America, Asia, and the United States as a formidable young talent. Of Yury Shadrin's 2012 performance of the Brahms B-flat Piano Concerto with the Peabody Orchestra, the Baltimore Sun wrote, "A wide range of nuances kept the music sounding fresh and spontaneous as the pianist effectively limned the concerto's drama, poetry and, ultimately, charm."

Moving to the United States to continue his training, Mr. Shadrin studied at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music with Monique Duphil, at Yale with Peter Frankl, and most recently at the Peabody Institute with the great American master Leon Fleisher. In 2013, he taught as Visiting Assistant Professor of Piano at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Buffet dinner with South African delicacies/South African wines. **(SOLD OUT)**

## Newsletters

SEASON OPENING CONCERT AT THE EMBASSY OF UKRAINE ON OCT. 7- by Gary Tischler

The Vietnam Memorial- by Gary Tischler

Commemoration of the Anniversary of the April 19, 1943 Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

Commemoration of the 1956 Hungarian Uprising- April 12th at the Embassy of Hungary

Sounds of Harmony from Colombia

Celebrating Peace Through Music by C. Naseer Ahmad

## Videos

From December 2, 2015 at the Embassy of France, a stirring dedication to the victims of the terrorist acts in Paris.



**Embassy Series [Extended]**

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The Embassy Series Presents, Pianist Nikolay Khozyainov at the Russian Ambassador's Residence.







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## AHF Honors Holocaust Memorial Month 2015



2/5/2015 - AHF Co-sponsors Concert dedicated to International Holocaust Memorial Day and to Victims of Terrorism in Paris: The concert, held at the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, DC and organized by the Embassy Series, featured George Peachey, piano; Jerome Barry, baritone; and Jacques-Pierre Malan, cello. The deeply moving concert included musical poems, dances and Hassidic Prayer Chants, three selections from a rabbi's commentaries on the Talmud, musical memories of childhood, songs from the Holocaust, and the so-called Partisanerlid (Partisans' Song).

"Whoever Saves a Life, it is Considered as if He Saved an Entire World" (Jerusalem Talmud)



Buy books related to the Holocaust and Col. Koszorus on AHF's Amazon Store

[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



January 27 also marked the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the infamous Nazi death camp where, *The Georgetowner Magazine* noted, "approximately half-a-million Hungarian Jews perished in a steady stream of shipments and deportations from Hungary in the Nazis' last act of horror toward the close of World War II, never stopping in their pursuit of the Final Solution. This occurred in spite of often heroic efforts by many Hungarians to stop, delay or prevent the tragedy."

The program included the late Tom Lantos' recognition of Col. Ferenc Koszorus as "a Hero of the Hungarian Holocaust" for his military intervention that blocked the deportation of the Jews living in Budapest in July 1944. The Colonel was posthumously promoted to the rank of General. General Koszorus's son, AHF President Frank Koszorus, Jr., seen above on the right.

Among the many guests were Manny Mandel, a Survivor Volunteer at the *US Holocaust Museum*, who recited the Kaddish, and Luxembourg Ambassador Jean-Louis Wolzfeld. This was the last official evening for Hungarian Ambassador Gyorgy Szapary who has returned to Hungary.

AHF thanks the Hungarian Embassy and the Hungary Initiatives Foundation whose generous support made this evening possible. Thanks also to The Georgetowner for headline photo of Mssrs. Peachy, Barry, and Malan.



## AHF Honors Hungarian Heroes of the Holocaust



Hungary, heavily influenced by her desire to regain lost territories and reunite Hungarians in the Carpathian Basin, had found support in Italy and Germany and joined the Axis, a tragic mistake. While the Jewish community in Hungary had reason to hope that it would be spared the fate of other Jewish communities in the countries surrounding Hungary and elsewhere, 1944 changed everything.

Until 1944, Hungary had enacted a series of laws that increasingly restricted the civil liberties of Jews. But with the exception of the massacres of partisans and Jews in Novi Sad in 1942 (whose perpetrators fled to avoid prosecution by Hungarian authorities only to return to Hungary with the German occupying army in 1944) and the 16,000 "alien" Jews who were expelled to German-held Ruthenia in 1941,<sup>1</sup> Hungary refused Nazi Germany's demands that it deport Hungarian Jews or participate in the "Final Solution." Thousands of Jews from surrounding states actually found refuge in Hungary whose Jewish population exceeded 800,000 in March 1944.

When Hitler's patience ran out with the conservative leaders in Budapest and their peace-



AHF, Tibor Eckhardt, and the "Free Hungary Movement" seeking to extract Hungary from the Axis sphere [\[read more\]](#)



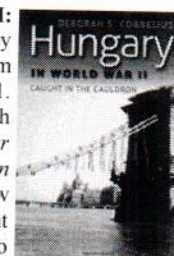
AHF relief efforts during WWII [\[click for large image\]](#)

## Related Articles:



3/19/2014 - AHF article regarding the occupation of Hungary by Hitler on March 19, 1944 and its horrific consequences, entitled "Reflections on March 19, 1944 and Its Aftermath: A Perfect Storm of Tragedy and Folly." "We are concerned that a political agenda has replaced a debate based on historical facts relating to the Hungarian Holocaust and Nazi Germany's invasion and occupation of Hungary," said Frank Koszorus, Jr., the Federation's president. "We condemn not only whitewashing but the blackening of this historical record as well. Both forms of revisionism do a great disservice to the memory of the victims of evil and those who opposed it at a treacherous time in Hungary's history. These considerations prompted us to issue our statement," he added. [\[read more\]](#)

**Hungary in World War II: Caught in the Cauldron** by Deborah Cornelius, Fordham University Press, New York, 2011. Csaba Zoltani writes: "Deborah Cornelius' *Hungary in World War II: Caught in the Cauldron* (Fordham University Press, New York 2011) gives an excellent overview of the events leading up to and the horrendous events of World





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## A Tribute to the Lives Lived and Lost at the Holocaust Museum

BY GARY TISCHLER | JANUARY 29TH, 2015 | SHARE



Manny Mandel, Ambassador of Luxembourg Jean-Louis Wolzfeld, Ambassador of Hungary Gyorgy Szapary and Jerome Barry.

Just earlier that day, Holocaust survivor Manny Mandel had recited the Kaddish, the traditional Jewish prayer often said by way of mourning at the U.S. Holocaust Museum where candles were lit and music played and dignitaries spoke in observance of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The day also happened to be the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the infamous Nazi death camp where millions of the over six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust died.

And Mandel was there at the Embassy of Hungary that evening to once again recite the Kaddish as part of a special evening at the embassy, which included a deeply diverse, and often emotionally wrenching concert presented by the Embassy Series. The concert featured baritone Jerome Barry (the Embassy Series founder and director), the gifted and young cello player Jacques-Pierre Malan, and pianist George Peachey, who provided a steady and solid underpinning for much of the program.

Mandel and Barry noted that the Kaddish, in this instance, was not about death, but about life and the living, and about the how the incomprehensible number of lives lost were lived.

Auschwitz was the place where approximately half-a-million Hungarian Jews perished in a steady stream of shipments and deportations from Hungary in the Nazis' last act of horror toward the close of World War II, never stopping in their pursuit of the Final Solution. This occurred in spite of often heroic efforts by many Hungarians to stop, delay or prevent the tragedy.

It was an auspicious evening at the Embassy of Hungary—this was the last official evening for Hungarian ambassador to the United States, His Excellency György Szapary, who is returning to Hungary on Saturday, Jan. 25.

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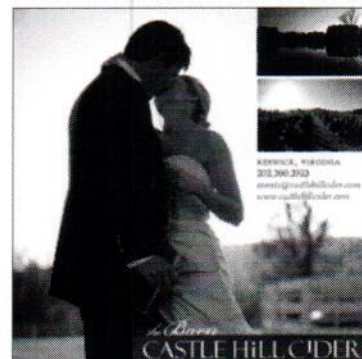
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### SOCIAL SCENE



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If the Kaddish is about life, not death, then the concert and its contents—like a mural, a book, a packet of all the lost things the victims carried, including the substance of their lives—became something of a perfect illustration of life, not death.

The concert included musical poems, dances, children's songs and Hassidic Prayer Chants, three selections from a rabbi's commentaries on the Talmud, musical memories of childhood, in the manner of E. E. Cummings and the true spirit of young hearts flying, songs from the Holocaust, vivid evocations of life in the ghettos and camps of Poland and Vilna in Lithuania and the so-called Partisanerlid (Partisans' Song), which members of the resistance sang like a loud but private badge.

Words, in these selections of music, mattered—they conjured weather, nights and days, the ashes in the air, the danger of daily existence, the grind of death and loss, and the spring-insistence on the continuance of life amid the systematic onslaught of destruction.

The concert, or rather the recreation all of the individual lives lost with words and music, was a remarkable achievement of the playing, the singing and the creation of music as a reverent, respectful illustration of content.

Barry, a teacher, singer, cantor, linguist and Vietnam veteran rose to the occasion by treating the material—those songs, those recitations, those poems—with a natural delivery without an inkling of emotive style. The singing was not about calling down the sky or even bearing overbearing witness. It was more an expression of universal kinship. It came from identity, training, experience and empathy that flowed naturally to and from him.

The youthful and gifted cellist Malan brought the strength and depth of the instrument to bear, especially in the playing, with Peachey, of Gabriel Fauré's "Elegie," which was described by one writer as the composer's rare "expression of pathos."

The concert—dedicated to the victims of terrorism in Paris and the Holocaust—was not an occasion that was principally an opportunity to critique. It seemed to many a kind of work of delicate musical carpentry, built piece by piece from not only the music, and the words, but from the details of lives lived and lost forever. It came from hard nights, pieces of bread rarely received, long journeys to doom, but also still the familial and familiar stuff of daily life, where God is, in spite of all, a strong presence, visible in the invisible, in a pair of shoes, in a stick made to be a toy, in the kind of mark, Pompeii-like, made by the living where they stood, prayed, ate, shivered and comforted each other in community.

Consider the works by Hungarian poet Hannah Szenes, who was killed by the Nazis in 1944: her work "Eli, Eli," "My God, My God/May these things never end," "The sand and the sea/The rustle of the water/The lightning in the sky/Man's prayer."

The concert veered and trembled through three piano dances, songs from the Holocaust including the familiar Ani ma'amin, believed to have been composed by Reb Azriel David, a Moditzer Hassid when he was in a cattle car on the way to Treblinka.

The musical details piled up, like remembrances left at shrine, but living memories, not dead flowers, and the marvel that people in the midst of all this still thought to look up at the sky.

Many of the musical offerings were sung in Yiddish, with an ironic underpinning, in which you notice how familiar it sounds, how close to German en toto, in consonants and vowels they are and you wonder again how we came to this in that time, and how it echoes to this time, a time of technological wonders, and new horrors.



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# Pakistan Link



Sunday, October 23, 2016



Community

## A Fitting Tribute to Nelson Mandela in Washington

By C. Naseer Ahmad



From left: Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool with artists, a section of the gathering at the Embassy, statue of the late Nelson Mandela at Ambassador's residence and South African flag with a verse of the Holy Qur'an

"He belongs to the ages," said President Barack Obama remembering former South African President Nelson Mandela. Almost one hundred and fifty years earlier, Edwin Stanton too said: "He now belongs to the ages... There lies the most perfect ruler of men the world has ever seen," about President Abraham Lincoln. Few people have earned such epitaphs.

While Lincoln successfully fought a war to preserve the Union, Mandela successfully averted what could have been a bloody end to a partheid in Africa. In this imperfect world, both Abraham Lincoln and Nelson Mandela united humanity through words as well as deeds.

Months have passed since President Obama's memorable funeral speech in Johannesburg, South Africa. But Nelson Mandela's spirit seems to be alive – in the hearts and minds across the world. A vivid example of this spirit was to be found at the South African Ambassador's residence on June 26, 2014 in Washington, D C.

From the moment one entered the door, it felt as if we had stepped into Mandela's home. The Mandela bust rested peacefully on the table, next to the elegant guest book. Some of Mandela's wonderful thoughts - hung by the staircase – invited you to moving from room to room, each filled with remarkable people of towering accomplishments and earthly manners.

"He is the only politician I know who went to jail before serving in office," said retired Congressman John Tanner – jovially quoting his friend President Jimmy Carter.

"Resentment is like drinking poison and then hoping it will kill your enemies," was a quote from Mandela awaiting you as you stepped into the sunlight. Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool was standing by the swimming pool, with a coffee mug in hand, engaging guests with lively conversations. Though he too paid a price – with imprisonment and house arrest for the anti- apartheid struggle, Ambassador Ebrahim Rasool had a cheerful smile and a rainbow flagged shirt communicating kind words for all his countrymen as well as guests.

The most vibrant place was the living room, as Nelson Mandela's spirit came alive through the speeches filled with humor, the cello strings, the piano chords and the songs: "We shall overcome" as well as "tula tu tula baba tula sana." The mantel piece was decorated by a beautiful rainbow colored South African flag with the words: "And hold fast, all together by the rope which God (stretches out for you) and be not divided amongst yourselves," Qur'an, sūrat āl 'im'rān (The Family of Imrān) verse 3:103

And, in those moments and in that room, the humanity - made up of Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus and others in between – hung on to the rope of music and melody in remembrance of a man. And, it did not really matter whether you were black, white or in shades of grey. Nor was it a concern whether you drove a few miles or a hundred miles – like Deacon Herman Cole of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church near Richmond Virginia or Shirley Johnston from Delaware - that evening.

The important thing in everyone's heart was to feel Mandela in your heart and in a most unique way – through music – courtesy of the Embassy Series. One could feel a father's pride in Ambassador Rasool's eyes, as he spoke about his countryman Jacques-Pierre Malan, whose exceptional talent would have remained undiscovered without the end of apartheid in South Africa. From Russian-born pianist Yury Shadrin, one learned the yearning for freedom for many who still remain oppressed across the world today. In his tribute to Nelson Mandela, Shadrin



played Chopin's "*Polonaise*," reminding the audience that when German tanks rolled into Warsaw in 1939, it was the last piece played and heard on the Polish nation's radio.

All this was done in such a beautiful way that the outstanding music and exceptional South African food just became the means to honor such a great man. And, by the end of the evening there was only one word on our lips - *Ubuntu* - in other words, humanity towards others.

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## *The Broadmead Residents Association*

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Meridian Piano Trio - Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 7:00 PM.



The Meridian Piano Trio

The Meridian Piano Trio was formed in 2013 and quickly established itself as a dynamic and promising young group. Members of the trio, Margarita Loukachkina, Nikita Borisevich and Jacques Pierre Malan, have been awarded prizes in many international competitions for chamber music as well as solo competitions. Among these are: Louisiana International Piano Competition, All-Russian String Competition, Yale Gorgon Concerto Competition, UNISA Competition, Chesapeake Chamber Music International Competition, Coleman Chamber Music Competition and Yellow Springs Chamber Music Competition. Members of the Meridian Trio have given concerts throughout the US, Germany, Spain, Netherlands, France, South Africa, Russia and Czech Republic. The trio participated in masterclasses with the members of the Ying String Quartet as well as the Borromeo String Quartet and is currently studying under the guidance of renowned cellist and chamber musician Michael Kanne. Recently, the Meridian Piano trio was selected as one of the Honors Ensembles at the Peabody Conservatory for 2014-2015.

Award-winning Russian violinist Nikita Borisevich is known for the precocious depth and sensitivity in his playing and utter finesse technique. He swept onto the international stage at the age of twelve, and has since then performed in Russia, Czech Republic, Latvia, Austria, Germany, Spain and the US on renowned stages such as the Kennedy Center (Washington D.C.), the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory (Russia) and the Manuel de Falla Auditorium (Granada, Spain).

Nikita was born into a musical family and started playing the violin at a young age of five, with his father being his first teacher. At the age of twelve, Nikita made his orchestral debut, performing the Haydn Violin Concerto with the Perm Opera Symphony Orchestra. At

fifteen he performed two more concerti with that orchestra, after having won the prominent Russian national string competition "The Magical Bow."

In the 2011-2012 concert season, Nikita performed with the Ural Philharmonic and Volgograd Academic orchestras, playing works by Paganini, Ravel and Waxman. Most recently, he performed the Sibelius Violin Concerto in the Friedberg Hall of the Peabody Conservator under the baton of Jordan Smith.

In addition to his busy performance schedule, Nikita broadened his musical horizons by attending the Russian Music Academy in Dortmund, Germany (2005), as well as the Heifetz Institute in Staunton, VA (2010, 2012).

An avid chamber musician, Nikita won numerous chamber music competitions, including the Yellow Springs Chamber Music Competition (OH), the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition (CA), and the Chesapeake International Chamber Music Competition (MD). In 2011, Nikita won the Grand Prix in the International Chamber Music Competition (trio division) in St. Petersburg, Russia and made his debut at the Moscow Philharmonic Society. As a member of a piano trio, he performed in the Washington College Concert Series (MD), the Friend of Chamber Music Concert Series (PA), and the Academy Arts Museum Concert Series (MD).

Nikita received his Bachelors and Masters degrees from the renowned Moscow Conservatory, where he studied on full scholarship with Maya Glezarova and Marina Keselman, and is currently pursuing further graduate studies at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore with Victor Danchenko and Michael Kannen.

Hailed to have an "emotional sound" (DC Metro TheatreArts US and Beeld SA) Jacques - Pierre Malan plays music across Europe, Africa and the United States.

As a member of the South African National Youth Orchestra, Jacques-Pierre performed concerts in the Beethoven Hall in Bonn as well as at the Philharmonie Concert Hall in Berlin. He also became a member of the 12 Celli Family from Germany touring regularly around the world to perform and present works for "large cello ensemble".

In the Netherlands Jacques-Pierre became a member of the Zuid Afrika Huis and the Appeldoorn Music Festival who reached out to re-establish Netherland's historical and cultural connections with South Africa. Jacques-Pierre performs regularly in Amsterdam, Amersfoort and Apeldoorn.

In South Africa where he was born and raised, Jacques-Pierre toured numerous giving solo and chamber recitals at notable concert stages such as the ZK Matthew's Concert Hall in Pretoria, the Hugo Lambregt Hall in Capetown and the Linder Auditorium in Johannesburg. After appearing on the Saint Andrews Presbyterian Concert Series in Capetown, the performance was so well received that he was offered to record the works of Johannes Brahms: Sonata in E minor op. 38 and Sergei Rachmaninoff: Sonata in G minor op. 19.

Jacques-Pierre also appeared as soloist with three major orchestras in South Africa where he performed Edward Elgar's Cello Concerto E minor op. 85 and Pyotor Tchaikovsky's Roco Variations op. 33 with the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Kwazulu Natal Philharmonic Orchestra and the South African National Youth Symphony Orchestra.

After receiving 2 full scholarships to the Peabody Institute in Baltimore for two Graduate Performance Diplomas in Solo and Chamber Music (2010 to 2013) and a Masters of Music Degree, (2014), Jacques-Pierre continued his cello studies with the aspiring Amit Peled who now also holds the cello of Pablo Cassals. Performing frequently now as a solo and chamber musician, Jacques-Pierre has played at the Kennedy Centre, the Phillips Collection, Walters Art Museum, Natural Museum, Chautauqua Theatre, National Press Club, Shriver Hall, Peabody Friedburg Hall, amongst others. Other activities includes fundraising concerts for the lesser privilege, Hospital Concerts for cancer and mentally disabled patients, and concerts at Elder Hostel Residences across Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York and Florida.



Jacques-Pierre is the winner of several national and international competitions in his home country and in the United States. They are the ABSA National String Competition 2001, Philip H Moore Music Competition 2005, Rhona Lubner Concerto Competition 2007, UNISA Grade 8 Scholarship Bursary Competition 2008, ATKV MUZIQ Solo Competition 2009, SAMRO Overseas Scholarship Competition 2012 (2nd and special prizes) and the Wakkerstroom Overseas Bursary Competition 2012 (2nd prize). Prizes in the United States

include the Yale Gordon Competition in 2011 the Baltimore Music Club Competition in 2014 and the Peabody Honors Ensemble competition

Jacques-Pierre is currently teaching at Joystar Studios in Baltimore and performs under management of "The Embassy Concert Series" Jerome Barry.

At the young age of fifteen Margarita (Maggie) Loukachkina gave her debut at the Mishler Theatre (PA) performing the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No.2 with the Altoona Symphony Orchestra. The Altoona Mirror wrote about that performance: "She did a fantastic job, she brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the music. It's really refreshing". Nicholas Palmer, ASO music director and conductor also commented on this performance saying that "the piece is perfect for Maggie, who has a great feel for the piece."

After claiming first prizes at several competitions in the US (the 2004 Nittany Valley Young Soloist Competition, State College, PA and the 2005 Williamsport Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Competition, Williamsport, PA) Margarita performed the Grieg concerto with the Nittany Valley Symphony as well as the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra. Symphony Notes hailed her performance with the Williamsport Symphony as a: "brilliant execution" and the Montoursville Daily Times wrote: "Maggie Loukachkina played so effortlessly. She gave a flawless performance."

A native of Russia, Margarita began her studies of piano at age five with Tatyana Schklvskaya and shortly after was accepted into the prestigious Gnessin School of Music for Gifted Children in Moscow, Russia. While at Gnessin Margarita traveled to competitions and performed in various recital series across Russia and Europe. Just at the age of nine she was awarded second prize at the 1998 "KONZERTUM" International Piano Competition in Athens, Greece. Some of her additional prizes include: 2nd prize at the 2004 Rubenstein International Piano Competition, Paris, France; Grand Prize at the 2006 Wednesday Music Club Competition, Harrisburg, PA; 3rd Prize at the 2008 Louisiana International Piano Competition (Junior Level), Alexandria, LA; as well as 1st prize at the 2009 Baltimore Music Club Competition, Baltimore, MD;

At only sixteen Margarita was accepted into the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Maryland to study with a world renowned Russian pianist Alexander Shtarkman. Since then she received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees and is currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree there. Margarita is on faculty at Garrison Forest School and the Peabody Preparatory and holds an assistantship in music theory with Ildar Khananov.



## MALAN , Jacques-Pierre

**Profession:** Cellist  
**City/Town:** Pretoria

**Jacques-Pierre Malan** matriculated - with two distinctions in music - from Pretoria Boys' High School in 2005. In 2006 he enrolled for a BMus degree at the University of Pretoria, majoring in cello. In the last few years he has won several top prizes in South Africa, including the ABSA competition category prize (2004); the Pretorium Trust Bursary for four consecutive years (2006-2009); Rhona Lubner Prize overall winner (2006); Philip Moore Competition overall winner (2006); UNISA Grade 8 Scholarship Competition overall winner (2008); ATKV Muziq Competition Strings category winner (2008); ATKV Muziq overall winner (2009); UNISA National String Competition: Bach prize, Beethoven prize and the prize for the best recital in the cello category (2009).

While still studying, Jacques-Pierre performed Elgar's Cello Concerto (1st movement) as part of the annual Youth Concerto Festival of the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra (2008) and the Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations with the South African National Youth Orchestra and KwaZulu Natal Philharmonic Orchestra (2007 and 2008 respectively).

In 2007 he attended the Apeldoorn master classes for Chamber Music in the Netherlands, receiving tuition from British cellist Colin Carr and French violinist Philippe Graffin, amongst others. He also attended the Stellenbosch International Chamber Music Festival from 2007-2010 and was selected as leader of the cello section in 2008. Between 2006 and 2009 Jacques-Pierre was leader of the cello section in the Symphony Orchestra of the University of Pretoria and is also a sought after chamber musician.

In South Africa, Jacques-Pierre has received tuition from Heleen du Plessis, Anzél Gerber, Tilla Henkins, Dalena Roux and Berthine van Schoor. He also attended numerous master classes with world-renowned musicians, including Gary Hoffman (France); Jerome Pernoo (France); Daniel Roland (Netherlands); Eugene Osadchy (Russia/US); Morten Zeuthen (Germany); Ivry Gitlis (Israel); Philippe Graffin (France) and Colin Carr (UK), many of whom had high expectations for his future career.

Jacques-Pierre was recently accepted at the Peabody Institute of the University of John Hopkins in Baltimore (United States) where he will enroll for a Graduate Performance Diploma. He will commence his studies in August 2010 under the tutelage of Professor Amit Peled. The main focus of the course is on performance, majoring in orchestral, chamber but particularly solo performance.