



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

# Quarter Notes

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Jim Hogan, Editor



## 16 YEAR OLD PIANIST RIEKO TSUCHIDA PERFORMS WITH THE CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

16-year old pianist Rieko Tsuchida was born in Japan and began her piano studies at age 3 with Ankie Foell in Madison, Wisconsin. In 1999 her family relocated to San Francisco, where she is currently a scholarship student of John McCarthy in the Preparatory Division at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She has also studied with Andre Watts and Boris Slutsky during the summer and performed in a master class for Lang Lang. Since giving her first public performance at the age of three, Rieko has performed at international venues as a soloist, chamber musician, and keyboardist of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. In May 2009 she performed in Carnegie Hall as first prize winner of the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition; that same year she made her concerto debut with the El Camino Youth Symphony Orchestra as grand prize winner of the ECYS Concerto Competition. Rieko has appeared in a joint program with opera stars Placido Domingo at the San Francisco Museum of the Modern Art and with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and Frederica Von Stade at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's "Annual Gala Concert." Additionally she has performed to a capacity

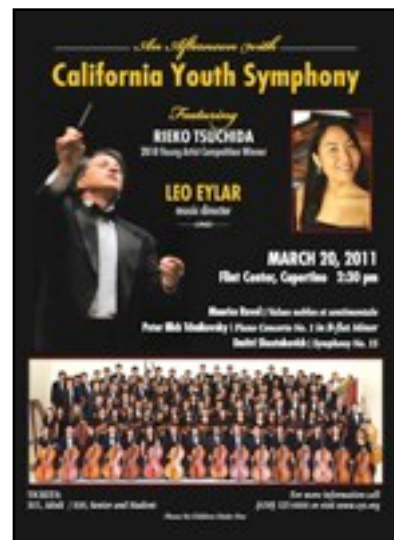
**SUNDAY, MARCH 20**  
CONCERT STARTS AT 2:30 PM  
Flint Center, De Anza College  
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

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## CYS FEATURES TCHAIKOVSKY & RAVEL

The California Youth Symphony, under the direction of Maestro Leo Eylar, will showcase the CYS 2010 Young Artist Competition winner, pianist Rieko Tsuchida, in its upcoming March 20<sup>th</sup> concert at the Flint Center in Cupertino. Rieko will perform one of the most popular and beloved of all classical works, the famous *Piano Concerto No. 1* by Tchaikovsky. The orchestra will also perform Ravel's *Valses nobles et sentimentales*. Inspired by the waltzes of Schubert and originally written for solo piano, Ravel's shimmering orchestral version has long been a concert hall favorite. Concluding the concert will be the magnificent *Symphony No. 15* by Shostakovich -- the final symphony by the great Russian composer.

Tickets for the California Youth Symphony are priced at \$15.00, general admission, and \$10.00, students and senior; \$30.00, family single concert ticket. Tickets are available by contacting the CYS office and are also available at the door on the day of the performance at the Flint Center (on the campus of DeAnza College, Cupertino).



## **Rieko Tsuchida**, continued from page 1

audience at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco at the invitation of the Smuin Ballet, and on the nationally broadcast radio show "From the Top" at Herbst Theatre. In May she will make her professional debut with the California Symphony, performing the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto no. 1 at the Leshner Center for the Arts under Belgian conductor Ronald Zollman.

This past year she performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra as a top finalist in the 2010 Eastman Young Artists' International Piano Competition, where she also won the "Best Performance of a Classical Sonata" award. She also presented numerous recitals throughout the Netherlands as the youngest participant of the prestigious The International Holland Music Sessions, studying with renowned teachers Matti Raekallio and Klaus Hellwig.

Rieko has won numerous awards in recent years. In 2009 she received first prizes in the Ross McKee Piano Competition, the MTAC State Solo Competition, the El Camino Symphony Concerto Competition, and the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition. She also won Grand Prize in the 2008 KDFC Classical Star Search and first prize in the San Francisco Chopin Piano Competition. In 2003 she was the youngest prizewinner in the Chopin International Piano Competition in Asia.

An avid chamber musician, Rieko was a founding member of the award-winning Soleil Trio. In January, the trio was chosen to perform in Santa Barbara on the NPR show "From the Top" and received first prize in the chamber music division of the Mondavi Young Artists' Competition. The trio was also chosen from a nation-wide search to perform for the American String Teachers' Association National Conference - Opening Ceremony - in February. Rieko is currently Principal Keyboardist for the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and is a junior at Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley.



Alex Chien, piano  
2009 YAC Winner



Stella Chen, violin  
2009 YAC Winner

## **2011 CYS YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION**

Talented young instrumental soloists are invited to compete for the opportunity to perform with the California Youth Symphony Orchestra during the 2011-2012 Season. The CYS Young Artist Competition will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2011 at Stanford University. The competition is open to instrumental soloists under age 19. Contestants may be auditioned on the piano, or any symphonic instrument. Two artists will be chosen, by a panel of three judges, to perform with the CYS Orchestra during the November or March concert series. Visit our website at [www.cys.org](http://www.cys.org) to sign up for the competition. Applications must be post-marked by March 11, 2011.

## **CYS ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT ON MARCH 6**

The California Youth Symphony Associate Orchestra under the direction of Leo Eylar will present its Winter Concert in the Smithwick Theatre at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 6. There is no admission charge for the concert. Sunday's program will feature violinist



**Emeri Zhang**, one of the winners of the 2011 Associate Orchestra Soloist Competition, performing Paganini's *La Campanella*. The other Competition winner, James Wang, will perform the Saint-Saens *Violin Concerto no. 3* at the season finale concert on May 22, also at Foothill College. Here is the full program for the March 6 concert:

*Poet and Peasant Overture* -- Franz von Suppé  
*La Campanella* -- Niccolò Paganini  
Emeri Zhang, Violin Soloist  
*Peer Gynt, Suite No. 1* -- Edvard Grieg  
*Egmont Overture* -- Ludwig van Beethoven  
*"Hoe-Down" from Rodeo* -- Aaron Copland  
*Das Liebesverbot Overture* -- Richard Wagner



# 2012 ORCHESTRA TOUR CYS TO VISIT NEW ZEALAND



As loyal readers of CYS Quarter Notes know, the California Youth Symphony was the first youth orchestra ever to tour internationally when the orchestra accepted an invitation to tour Japan in 1963. Since then CYS has mounted 17 additional tours to many parts of the world, including last summer's first ever trip to South America where they visited Argentina and Uruguay.

Last month the CYS Board selected another "first ever" location for the 2012 tour - New Zealand! This island nation in the far South Pacific is home to both a vibrant indigenous Maori culture, as well as the predominant European culture brought by English colonists in the 18th and 19th centuries. It also boasts some of the most spectacular scenery on the planet, as seen in the "Lord of the Rings" movies.

Although many details of the tour remain to be worked out, the outline is already becoming clear: 4 or 5 concerts in the best venues in the country, collaborations with young New Zealand musicians, sightseeing and other exciting activities as the orchestra travels from Auckland, Rotorua, and Wellington on the North Island to Christchurch on the South Island before returning home. If CYS' past 18 tours are any indication, the New Zealand tour will be musically and educationally fulfilling -- and a lot of fun.



*Michael Fowler Centre in Wellington*



*The beautiful coastal city of Auckland*



*Spectacular geysers of Rotorua*



**2011-2012**  
**California**  
**Youth**  
**Symphony**  
60th Season

**Auditions**

*Register Online by March 15!*

## NEW MEMBER AUDITIONS FOR THE CYS 2011-2012 SEASON

The California Youth Symphony offers multiple programs for young musicians on all symphonic instruments -- from beginning to advanced levels. To audition for a spot in one of our orchestras or ensemble groups, visit our website at [www.cys.org](http://www.cys.org) and register online. Completed online applications and a \$25 audition fee must be received by March 15 and will be processed in the order received. Auditions will be held the weekends of April 8, 9, 15 and 16 at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills. Please visit our website for more details and audition requirements. For additional questions, please contact the CYS office at 650-325-6666.

# CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Leo Eylar, Conductor

“The [CYS] orchestra played brilliantly and with a keen feeling for the composer’s style. This I consider semimiraculous. Hats off to conductor Eylar”

*Renowned critic Heuwell Tircuit in “San Francisco Classical Voice”, on CYS’ performance at the first Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival at Davies Symphony Hall, January 2009*

*Valse nobles et sentimentales*.....Ravel

*Piano Concerto No. 1*.....Tchaikovsky  
Rieko Tsuchida, soloist

*Symphony No. 15*.....Shostakovich

**Sunday, March 20, 2:30pm**

Flint Center, DeAnza College

Stevens Creek at Highway 85, Cupertino

TICKETS; Adults \$15, Students and Seniors \$10

Available at the door or from any CYS member

CYS, 441 California Av. #5 Palo Alto, CA 94306 phone 650/325-6666 [www.cys.org](http://www.cys.org)

*No children under five, please*