

# THE PIERRE MONTEUX SCHOOL

*for Conductors and Orchestra Musicians*

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## NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2015



### *Maestro Jinbo Brings Monteux Experience to Mexico*



*Guillermo Villarreal & Michael Jinbo, Music Director*

This past March, Michael Jinbo served as guest teacher for a week at the Facultad de Música of the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León in Monterrey, Mexico. His visit fulfilled a dream I've had since first studying with him at the Pierre Monteux School in 1999: to bring Michael's way of teaching to Mexico, including having the conducting students actively participate by playing in the orchestra, in order to reach a deeper understanding of the music and of themselves.

Over the course of the week, ten outstanding students from different parts of Mexico lived the experience of working with one of the best conducting teachers in America. Michael addressed works of Beethoven, Schubert and Mozart, plus a special session devoted to Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. With every single conductor becoming a part

*Guillermo, continued on outside back*



*M*y week in Monterrey was a very enjoyable one. All of the students were responsive and eager to learn and the administration of the university worked hard to make my visit pleasant and productive. Everyone I encountered was so kind and gracious, whether helping me with what little Spanish I could muster or offering cuisine suggestions. One thing is certain: I ate well while I was in Mexico!

The workshop consisted of five masterclass rehearsals with orchestra, plus ancillary sessions with piano. Though I was unsure of what to expect beforehand, the workshop took off immediately and we quickly fell into the swing of things. It is remarkable to me that changes in locale and language really didn't affect my teaching.

While the weather wasn't particularly nice that week, with lots of overcast or rainy days and unseasonably low temperatures, it was a heck of a lot warmer than back home! I had the opportunity to see some of the sights in the area, including touring Monterrey and neighboring towns; spending a day with Guillermo and his family at their weekend hacienda; and enjoying the magnificent mountains of the eastern Sierra Madre range.

Special thanks to Guillermo's charming wife Elda Nelly and his administrative assistant Mariana Cerda Ocejo,

*Jinbo, continued on outside back*

## Pierre Monteux School for Conductors & Orchestra Musicians

*All Contributions · May 6, 2014 – May 5, 2015*

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corrections to our attention  
by contacting  
[admin@monteuxschool.org](mailto:admin@monteuxschool.org).

## From the President

April 30, 2015

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Michael Jinbo

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### Dear Monteux Friends,

Just two more days, and we head back off home from here in New Zealand. And what is it that, above all, makes me eager—not to leave—but to return? You only get one guess.

It is the upcoming season at the Monteux School, of course! I hope—and trust—that you are looking forward to this just as much as I am.

And a busy and exciting season it will be. Here are some of the highlights:

- our old friend – and METOpera violinist - Ming Feng Hsin will return as guest artist and perform in our first “Wednesdays at Monteux” concert on the evening on June 24, and then play Samuel Barber’s Violin Concerto with our orchestra on Sunday, June 28. We featured Ming in our Fall 2014 newsletter
- the DaPonte String Quartet will perform on July 9 and give two masterclasses for our string players, a new initiative for us
- our Children’s Concert: ‘Peter and the Wolf’ Monday, July 6 at 10am
- and lots more—do read on!!

Here is a surprise—to all of us. Ron Schwizer has discovered that two pieces by Pierre Monteux’s sister-in-law, Hilda Davis, were played at JFK’s inaugural ball in 1961!! I hope we can find them, and if so... stay tuned (as they say)!

So, get your season tickets early, and buckle in. We are in for another ride on the Monteux musical magic carpet!

Warm wishes from afar, but not for long,



Phil Devenish, President

## Pierre Monteux School

PO Box 457 · Hancock, Maine 04640

### SYMPHONIC CONCERTS

Sundays at 5 PM

June 21

June 28 - MET Opera violinist  
Ming Feng Hsin – Barber's Violin Concerto

July 5, 12

July 19 (Memorial Concert)  
Maestro Michael Jinbo, conducting

July 26 - POPS Concert

### CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

June 24; July 1, 8, 15, 22

DaPonte String Quartet

Thursday July 9, 7:30 pm

 **FREE - Children's Concert - FREE** 

Monday, July 6 at 10:00 AM

"Peter & the Wolf"

followed by "instrument petting zoo"

[www.monteuxschool.org](http://www.monteuxschool.org)

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*Guillermo, continued from front*  
of the orchestra (Sinfonietta UANL), instrumentalists and conductors alike learned from Michael's expertise. It was my fortune to coordinate the event and serve as Michael's assistant, and working with him reaffirmed my commitment to achieve high levels of musical quality at my university. Having such an important teacher working with us was a great privilege.

Michael's directness and clarity in explaining both musical and life-related concepts changed the way we see music. I'm certain that soon many of the participants will find a way to attend the Pierre Monteux School in Hancock. Thank you, Michael, for sharing your knowledge and love of music so wholeheartedly!!!

-- Guillermo Villarreal ('99, '13)

*Jinbo, continued from front*  
both fluent in English, for translating Guillermo's English for me! I am particularly grateful to Jorge Blanco Montaña, a composition student at the university, for serving as my chauffeur, tour guide, shadow, and frequent meal companion. He made my visit easy and I very much enjoyed his company and getting to know him.

Finally, I am grateful to Guillermo Villarreal for his hard work in making his dream come to fruition. I must say that I didn't fully comprehend what a major accomplishment this visit was or how personally important it was to Guillermo until I was actually there. It was truly a selfless labor of love and everyone involved should be very proud of what they accomplished!

-- Michael Jinbo, Music Director

## Wish List

*Items we need that you might wish to donate or purchase, in whole or in part:*



Single-wide dressers  
for campus bedrooms

Double-wide dressers  
for campus bedrooms



Contact Ron at  
[admin@monteuxschool.org](mailto:admin@monteuxschool.org)