

October 16, 2022

## Notes from the Music Department

Thank you, thank you, Jimmie Mayer, for taking time out of your busy student life to lead us in song and to share a special solo.

Austrian Anton Diabelli (1781-1858) was a composer and music publisher perhaps known best for his waltz upon which Ludwig van Beethoven wrote his monumental "**Diabelli Variations.**" Diabelli published several other works of Beethoven and was the principal publisher for Franz Schubert. He wrote numerous works for piano, flute, guitar and other instruments in addition to today's "**Sonatina in B-flat Major.**"

"**Etude in C, Op. 50, No. 1**" was one of the many etudes (studies) composed by Louise Farrenc (1804-1875). Frenchwoman Farrenc was a gifted pianist, a prolific composer and a professor of piano at the Paris Conservatory. In my music library, I have three compilations of music composed by women. Louise Farrenc is featured in all three.

Contemporary English composer Pam Wedwood (1947) often uses great works of art as her muse. Joseph Mallord William Turner's "**Approach to Venice**" was the inspiration for her interpretation of his 1840 painting. Her hope is that you can imagine yourself approaching the exotic city of Venice. The playing instructions are to "play steadily with a romantic feel."

Jimmie Mayer chose today's Postlude, "**Ashokan Farewell.**" Although it was featured in Ken Burns' mini-series, *Civil War*, this music was not written during the mid-1800's but was originally a tribute to a 1982 music camp held at the Ashokan Field Campus of SUNY New Paltz. The Bronx- born composer Jay Unger wanted to compose a tune in the style of a Scottish lament, something that would capture the sense of sadness that the camp along with all the camaraderie, community and joy it represented to him, would be ending.

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The **UU Choir** meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 in our well ventilated atrium. Join us as we prepare music to share with the congregation approximately once a month. No audition is required - just bring your good ears and a desire to be a part of our close knit singing community as we create joyous harmonies.

Our **Drum Club** meets Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Drum Haven located at 1005 Steuben St. Wausau. No previous percussion experience or musical background is necessary and all drums and other small percussion instruments are furnished. Our time is spent in fairly equal parts of technique and skill building along-side fun drum circle improvisational activities and games.

For the safety of both musical communities, we ask that members be vaccinated.