



The Arts and Letters Club of Toronto

Club Night — April 4, 2011

**Hambourg Conservatory Centennial Celebration  
1911-2011**

Host: Margaret McBurney

Klement Hambourg, violin

Laura Jones, cello

Boyd McDonald, piano

Guest speakers: Elizabeth Elliott – Morry Kernerman

**Programme**

Sonata No. 4 in D Major for violin, piano and continuo

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Affetuoso

Allegro

Allegro con brio

Sonatina for violin and piano

Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)

Allegro risoluto

Larghetto

Scherzo – Molto vivace

Finale: Allegro molto

*Bist Du bei Mir*

(Arranged for Cello and Piano by Jan Hambourg) J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Miniature Trio No. 3 for violin, cello and piano

Frank Bridge (1879-1941)

Valse Russe

Hornpipe

Marche Militaire



## About the Hambourg Family

The Hambourg Conservatory of Music was a private institution established in 1911 by the internationally famous Russian piano pedagogue, Professor Michael Hambourg. Located in a mansion at the northeast corner of Sherbourne and Wellesley Streets in Toronto, the spacious rooms and high ornate ceilings provided an ideal venue.

On the grand main stairway was a bronze statue of Mercury holding a torch which lit the way to the upper regions. Busts and reproductions of the great composers adorned the studios, and the hallways were festooned with inscribed photos of famous musicians and composers together with posters, caricatures, concert programs and other memorabilia.

The Hambourg family were central contributors to musical life in Toronto. Michael, violinist Jan and cellist Boris were all early members of the Arts & Letters Club, and performed here on many occasions, as did Michael's eldest son, Mark, the great pianist whose stellar career on international concert stages was based in London, England.



The three brothers appeared together as the Hambourg Trio, and Boris performed as cellist of the renowned Hart House String Quartet, founded by the Hon. Vincent Massey.

The family tradition was carried on through the youngest brother, Clement Hambourg, a well-known classical and jazz pianist in Toronto, in the middle part of the 20th century. His son, Klement, and Klement's two daughters, violist Tanya and violinist Corinne, continue to represent this important musical family into the 21st century.

For more information visit [www.hambourgconservatory.ca](http://www.hambourgconservatory.ca)

## About the performers

Violinist and conductor, **Klement Hambourg**, son of Clement and grandson of Michael, was a member of the Pro-Musica String Trio of Toronto with violist Macey Cadesky and cellist Boris Hambourg. He also performed with the Toronto Renaissance Ensemble under the direction of Wolfgang Grunsky and gave many concerts and CBC broadcasts.

His chosen career was in music education, establishing string programs in the public schools in Oshawa and Peterborough, founding a youth orchestra, the Peterborough Chamber Orchestra and the Peterborough Symphony. Appointed Assistant Professor of Music at Western Oregon University, he played as concertmaster of the Salem Symphony, was a first violinist with the Portland Opera Orchestra, and earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Oregon. He was also assistant concertmaster with the Oregon Bach Festival under Helmuth Rilling. In 1982 he joined the faculty of Lebanon Valley College of Pennsylvania, where he built the orchestra to full symphonic strength. In 1995 he retired as professor emeritus.

Klement and Leonie then made their home in Victoria, B.C. where he established the Celebration of Chamber Music concert series. They are now residents of Toronto. Klement is an active member of the Arts and Letters Club.

A versatile and sought-after musician, **Laura Jones** is a member of the Talisker Players, the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Nota Bene Period Orchestra in addition to her duties as cellist of the Windermere String Quartet on Period Instruments. Recent recordings include *Serenade Française*, a CD of music by French composers recorded with her father, pianist Lawrence Jones; the world premiere recording of the Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano by John Ireland, with the Riverdale Ensemble; and *Where Words and Music Meet: the Talisker Players at Massey College*.

**Boyd McDonald** began his career as a pianist giving his Wigmore Hall debut in 1960 followed by a New York Debut in 1963 as winner of the Leschetizky Town Hall Debut Prize.

He toured North America, Europe and England as a member of the Beckett and McDonald Piano Duo. Since 1982 he has been an active fortepianist recording the *Complete Works for Cello and Fortepiano* by Beethoven with Paul Pulford. As an academic he taught composition at the University of Manitoba. He joined the Faculty of Music at Wilfrid Laurier University in 1976 where he currently teaches piano as Professor Emeritus.

As a composer Boyd McDonald studied with Murray Adaskin, three years with Nadia Boulanger on a Canada Council grant and summer schools with Darius Milhaud, John Cage and Stefan Wolpe. His works display a synthesis of virtuosity combined with a theatricality valued by performers whose concerts must be seen as well as heard!



**Elizabeth Elliott** had a long career as a freelance soloist, performing with the Toronto Symphony, the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, The Canadian Opera Company, as a recording artist, and on CBC in both concerts and recitals. She has also sung as soprano soloist in church choirs conducted by her husband, organist Doug Elliott.

**Morry Kernerman** has been a principal member of the Toronto and Montreal Symphonies and has acted as concertmaster with both. He has also been guest concertmaster with many orchestras in Canada, the United States, Europe, Japan and New Zealand. While he has done much solo playing over the years, his first love is chamber music.



Designer and social and architectural historian **Margaret McBurney** is a long and much-valued member of the Club. She served as its first woman President from 1998-2000, and is the author of *The Great Adventure*, the award-winning history of the Club published in 2007. Her other books include *Tavern in the Town: Early Inns and Taverns of Ontario* and *True Newfoundlanders: Early Homes and Families of Newfoundland and Labrador*.