

# SMT newsletter

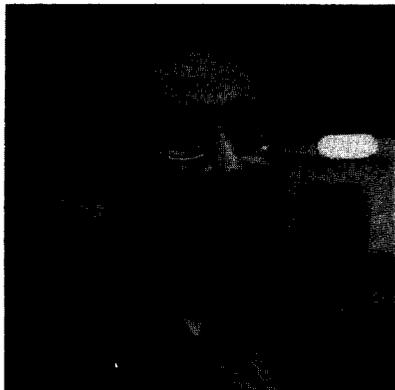
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NUMBER ONE  
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A PUBLICATION OF THE SOCIETY FOR MUSIC THEORY

## Publication Awards 1988

Robert Morris and Jonathan Bernard have been named as the recipients of the 1988 Publication Awards by the Society for Music Theory. The awards were announced November 5 at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Music Theory in Baltimore.

Robert Morris, Professor of Composition and Music Theory at the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, was the recipient of the Outstanding Publication Award for his book *Composition with Pitch Classes*, published by Yale University Press in 1987. According to the citation of the Society's Publication Awards Committee, Morris's book proposes a theory of pitch spaces that synthesizes a broad range of recent studies in pitch organization. The design of compositions is a central focus of the book, making it a distinguished addition to the rich tradition of compositional theories of music.



Robert Morris

Jonathan Bernard, Assistant Professor in the Composition/Theory Division of the School of Music, University of Washington, was selected for the Young Scholar Award for his book *The Music of Edgard Varèse*, also published by Yale University Press in 1987. The book, according to the Awards Committee, explores with persistence and precision a music that almost seems to have been designed to elude music theorists, placing Varèse's compositional ideas in the broader context of various artistic movements of the early twentieth century.



Jonathan Bernard

Each of the awards carries a cash prize of \$250. The awards were announced at the joint meeting of the Society for Music Theory and the American Musicological Society in Baltimore by the Chair of the Publications Awards Committee, Wayne Slawson of the University of California, Davis. Other Committee members were Patricia Carpenter, Columbia University; David Neumeyer, Indiana University; William Rothstein, University of Michigan; and Peter Westergaard, Princeton University.

The Committee invites nominations from the entire community of music theorists for the 1989 Outstanding Publication Awards. Eligible publications include books and articles (but *not* unpublished dissertations) written in English and published during the calendar years 1986 through 1988. Awards are open to scholars of any nationality and citizenship. Eligibility for the Young Scholar Award is limited to authors who are 36 or younger as of the date of publication.

The deadline for the receipt of nominations is 1 September 1989. A nomination—including a self-nomination—may be made by sending a brief letter, which includes a full citation of the publication and the author's address if it is known, to the 1989 Chair of the SMT Publications Awards Committee:

Professor Peter Westergaard  
Department of Music  
Princeton University  
Princeton, NJ 08544

The recipients of the 1989 awards will be announced at the October meeting of the Society in Austin, Texas.

## SMT Austin 1989

The twelfth Annual Conference of the Society for Music Theory will be held jointly with the American Musicological Society in Austin, Texas, October 26-29, 1989, and will be hosted by the University of Texas at Austin. The headquarters hotel, where all conference meetings will take place, will be the Hyatt Regency, which is located on Town Lake south of downtown Austin. Rooms will also be available in the nearby Austin Crest Hotel.

As in the 1988 meeting in Baltimore, the SMT and AMS Program Committees will work closely together to make the conference a truly joint one, rather than simply a concurrent meeting of the two societies. The two program committees will meet together in Austin early in March to organize from the proposals submitted a number of joint sessions as well as separate SMT and AMS sessions.

Of the special events planned during the conference, SMT members will want to note particularly the keynote address, which this year will be given by George Perle. A number of exhibits and concerts are also planned. The UT Humanities Research Center will present exhibits of rare musical books and manuscripts in the University's collections. Concerts will include an evening of electronic and computer music, an eighteenth-century opera, and performances by the UT New Music Ensemble and Jazz Orchestra. The exhibits and all evening concerts will take place on the UT Campus, located three miles directly north of the Hyatt Regency; bus service will be available. Closer to the hotels, the Austin club scene offers a wide variety of blues, jazz, country, and rock music. Local Arrangements Chairs for the meeting are Stefan Kostka (SMT) and Rebecca Baltzer (AMS), both of UT Austin. Jan Herlinger (LSU) is AMS Program Chair, and Joel Lester (CUNY) is Chair of the AMS Performance Committee.

Patrick McCreless, Chair  
1989 Program Committee

## Executive Board 1988-89

**Gary Wittlich, president, 1991\***  
Indiana University

**David Lewin, past president, 1990**  
Harvard University

**Robert Gauldin, vice-president, 1991**  
Eastman School of Music

**Richmond Browne, secretary, 1989**  
School of Music  
University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

**Mary Wennerstrom, treasurer, 1990**  
School of Music  
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Bloomington, IN 47405

**Patrick McCreeless, 1989**  
University of Texas, Austin

**Richard S. Parks, 1989**  
University of Western Ontario

**Martha M. Hyde, 1990**  
SUNY, Buffalo

**Bryan R. Simms, 1990**  
University of Southern California

**Marlon Guck, 1991**  
Washington University

**A. Wayne Slawson, 1991**  
University of California, Davis

\*term ends

**Jonathan Bernard**  
University of Washington  
Editor, *Music Theory Spectrum*,  
Vols.11-13

**James M. Baker**  
Brown University  
Editor, *SMT Newsletter*

**Robert Wason**  
Eastman School of Music  
Chair, Publications Committee

**Patrick McCreeless**  
University of Texas, Austin  
Chair, 1989 Program Committee

The *SMT Newsletter* is published in February and August by the Society for Music Theory. Respective deadlines are January 15 and June 15. Material for future issues should be sent to:

James M. Baker, Editor  
SMT Newsletter  
Department of Music, Box 1924  
Brown University  
Providence, RI 02912

## SMT Baltimore 1988

The Society for Music Theory held its eleventh Annual Conference at the Omni International Hotel, just scant walking minutes from newly-refurbished Baltimore harbor, where fragrant crabcakes and flagrant whales refreshed scholars weary of crab canons and midnight cetaceous oil.

Meeting (as is our occasional practice) with the American Musicological Society, we enjoyed perhaps the largest such a gathering ever. Veterans of New York, Washington DC, Boston, and perhaps even Vancouver, could not recall when our combined attendance had ever reached the level of nearly 1700 participants.

As Gary Wittlich took the SMT helm from David Lewin, we began our second decade of conferences with a remarkably diverse and interesting program, arranged by Jonathan Bernard and the 1988 Program Committee. If the past challenge to the Society has been to widen its interests, the future may hold a threat of rampant centri-"fugueing" (if not a plague of terrible puns).

In addition to many fine papers assembled, as usual, into more or less orderly topical sessions, there were several "Special Sessions" devoted to things like musical cognition or the problems for women getting tenure. These seemed quite successful, offering shorter prepared remarks by more persons and more time for cross-talk.

The keynote speaker for our plenary session was Leonard Meyer. His remarks reminded this writer that Meyer has been thinking about the humanistic issues of theory and analysis for so long that many things I think I thought up are really "unconscious borrowings" from early Meyer. Discussing his background with friends in Ann Arbor a few weeks later, Meyer remarked spontaneously that he was, after all, raised "with a bagel in one hand and Locke in the other."

It was gratifying to see many senior figures of the music theoretical world taking active roles in SMT (and AMS!) sessions. Equally satisfying was the fact that persons noted a few years ago as promising graduate students are now moving into prominence on SMT programs and in committee roles. This argues well for the continuity of the Society, as we approach 1989 in Austin with the AMS and a very large-scale 1990 meeting with AMS and SEM in Berkeley.

At the third biennial British Music Analysis Conference, held at Oxford in September just before our meeting in Baltimore, I noted many American scholars presenting papers to an interestingly large number of British and foreign students. The overseas cooperation which has now begun will lead to international theory meetings—and the SMT will be able to lead and learn, using its strong US/Canadian provenance and quite clear sense of ecumenical responsibility.

Richmond Browne, Secretary

## From the Publications Committee

I am pleased to report that the Publications Committee continues to function most effectively in reviewing articles for *Music Theory Spectrum* and in advising the Executive Board on policy related to all aspects of SMT publications.

At its annual meeting in Baltimore, the Committee extended its special thanks to John Clough, who has now completed his tenure as Editor of *Spectrum*. John has worked tirelessly the last three years, ensuring that our Society's journal has sustained the high calibre of excellence of which we can all be proud. I have personally been enriched through my working relationship with John and now wish him all the very best as he turns his energies to new pursuits. The committee then welcomed Jonathan Bernard as our new *Spectrum* Editor. Jonathan comes to the position with considerable editorial experience, and all of us look forward to working closely with him. I want also to report that Jonathan Kramer has stepped down from the Publications Committee. During his many years of service, Jonathan has contributed much valuable advice and expertise, especially in the preparation of Volume 7 of *Spectrum*, devoted to musical rhythm and time.

Surely the most exciting news that I want to comment upon is the approval by the Executive Board for the semi-annual publication of *Spectrum*. The Committee has been working hard for a number of years to realize this goal, one that so many members of our Society have eagerly desired. We are most gratified that final action has now been taken.

Our new publication schedule will be inaugurated by a special issue—Volume 11, Number 1—that commemorates SMT's tenth anniversary. This special issue, which members should receive this spring, will contain all of the papers and bibliographies on the current state of research in music theory, presented at the Plenary Session of the Annual Meeting in Rochester. As well, the issue will feature a comprehensive Index to Volumes 1 through 10, carefully compiled by Jane Edmister Penner. As a bonus, we have also included Allen Forte's informative and most entertaining address, which he delivered at the banquet following the Plenary Session.

As we move to our new publication schedule, I want to bring to the attention of the Society two changes of general policy concerning articles submitted to *Spectrum*. First, the traditional December 1 deadline will no longer be in effect. Articles will be considered throughout the entire year, and those accepted will be published as soon as

### Reminder!

A member of the Society who wishes to remain in good standing must pay dues for the year on or before August 1.

space within the journal permits. Second, we would ask that all new contributors send a brief abstract of their articles at the time they are submitted. The abstracts of those articles chosen for publication will then appear gathered together at the back of each issue.

To conclude my report, I want to announce that I have now retired as Chair of the Publications Committee. In stepping down, I want particularly to thank Wallace Berry for having given me the opportunity to serve the Society and David Lewin for his continual support these last number of years. I am very pleased that Robert Wason has been appointed the next Chair and wish him well in this most challenging and rewarding position.

William Caplin

#### From the Committee on the Status of Women

In 1988 the SMT Status of Women Committee, with the formal support of the Executive Board, gathered information on patterns of tenuring theorists, male and female, and on policies and strategies for helping junior faculty, especially women, achieve tenure. Our findings, and relevant findings by Rosemary Killam and Joan Groom-Thornton from their survey of women on music faculties, were presented at our session in Baltimore, "Making a Place for Women IV: Getting Tenure." We were particularly concerned with the tenuring of women, and the statistics we gathered indicate that this concern is warranted: in 1987-88, in the eleven music departments and music schools from which we received relevant data, women constituted fewer than 7% of the 46 tenured full-time faculty whose teaching loads were at least half in theory. For the most part, however, the policies and strategies that help junior faculty achieve tenure would seem to help men and women equally. We publish here a list of those policies that department heads and recently tenured faculty members consider helpful to candidates in achieving tenure.

These policies fall into three categories. First is a reduction of work-load, which allows more time for research and publication. (Insufficient number and quality of publications is the most frequent reason given for denying tenure.) As well as lighter teaching loads, junior faculty may be given more credit for teaching new courses. Related to such policies—although not providing a reduced load—is that of scheduling courses to leave large blocks of time for research. Junior faculty may be given reduced committee assignments and administrative duties, a policy that may prevent the frequent overuse of women on committees in predominantly male faculties. (An alternative response to this problem may be the granting of research leaves to women who have been assigned excessive committee or

administrative work.) Some institutions also have research leaves and fellowships specifically for untenured faculty. A policy that may prove most helpful to junior faculty (both men and women) is eligibility for (unpaid) parental leave, which extends the probationary period preceding formal reviews.

A second category of policies is direct support for research, as well as assisting faculty in seeking grants and fellowships. This support may take several forms, such as editorial and secretarial assistance and funds for travel to scholarly meetings. A different form of support for research may be provided by colleagues who read and comment on candidates' papers before the papers are submitted for publication.

A third category is early preparatory reviews and advice about strategies for a final review. For instance, there may be formal early reviews, which can even involve outside evaluators. These reviews often reveal more precisely a department's expectations and methods of evaluation. Preparatory reviews may provide not only teaching evaluations but also advice for improving teaching as well.

Most important in the opinion of several respondents is the assignment of a mentor, or a committee of mentors, to help candidates plan a strategy for achieving tenure. This proves especially helpful to women who find themselves isolated in a predominantly male department, consequently lacking role models and collegial support. For these women, support groups of junior faculty or women faculty outside the department may be helpful.

The Status of Women Committee encourages the Society to use its members as advisors. The Committee feels it may be particularly useful in helping junior faculty devise strategies for achieving tenure when they are having difficulty finding the help they need within their own institutions. With this aim in view, the committee membership is being expanded and its geographical distribution increased. SMT members are invited to consult any member of the Committee. Committee members are Douglass Green, University of Texas at Austin; Anne C. Hall, Wilfrid Laurier University (Mills College 1988-89); Martha Hyde, SUNY Buffalo (Columbia University 1988-89); Marianne Kielian-Gilbert, Indiana University; Judith Lochhead, SUNY Stony Brook; Richard Parks, University of Western Ontario; and Joseph Straus, Queens College, CUNY.

Anne C. Hall, Chair

#### Executive Board Actions

Richmond Browne, Secretary of the Society, announces the following actions of the Executive Board taken at the 1988 Baltimore meeting:

*Music Theory Spectrum* will publish two issues per year, beginning with Volume 11 (1990). The price of a yearly institutional subscription to *MTS* will be raised to \$40 in 1991 with suitable adjustments in other dues categories.

**Contacts with Regional Societies** The Vice-President was authorized to contact regional theory organizations, including possibly foreign ones, to ask about relations they may wish to establish with SMT.

**Travel Support for Foreign Scholars** The Treasurer was authorized to disburse up to \$500 per year, on a yearly basis, to help defray travel costs for scholars from outside the United States and Canada whose papers have been accepted by the Program Committee for presentation at SMT conferences. (This enlarges a previous action authorizing such grants for British scholars.)

**Overseas Postage Rates Raised** The Secretary and Treasurer were authorized to raise overseas postage rates to match SMT costs.

#### Contacts for Regional Societies

##### Central Gulf Theory Society

James A. Jensen  
School of Music  
Samford University  
800 Lakeshore Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35229

##### Central Midwest Theory Society

Charles W. Smith, Chairman  
c/o Brandt Music Hall  
Southeast Missouri State University  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

##### Florida State University Music Theory Society

Hiram C. Powell, President  
c/o School of Music  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2098

##### Georgia Association of Music Theorists

Richard B. Nelson, President  
c/o Department of Music  
Mercer University  
Macon, GA 31207

##### Indiana University Graduate Theory Association

School of Music  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 47405

##### Music Theory Society of New York State

Mary Arlin, Secretary  
c/o School of Music  
Ithaca College  
Ithaca, NY 14850

##### New England Conference of Music Theorists

James M. Baker, President  
c/o Department of Music  
Box 1924  
Brown University  
Providence, RI 02912

##### Texas Society for Music Theory

Stefan Kostka, President  
c/o Department of Music  
University of Texas  
Austin, TX 78712

## Canadian Music Theory Conference

The Department of Theory and Composition of the Faculty of Music of the University of Western Ontario announces that it will host a Canadian Music Theory Conference on 16-18 March 1990, with the assistance of Wilfrid Laurier University's Faculty of Music and the Department of Music of the University of Guelph. The conference will be held on the campus of the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario.

The Steering Committee solicits suggestions for topics and types of sessions and events. The Committee anticipates a diverse conference that will accommodate the wide range of subjects and events appropriate to a national constituency, including opportunities to share current research and address professional issues.

A Call for Papers will be issued soon. In the meantime, to send suggestions or have your name and address added to the mailing list contact Richard S. Parks, Department of Theory and Composition, Faculty of Music, The University of Western Ontario, London, Canada N6A 3K7.

## Conference on Recent Music

The Department of Music of the State University of New York at Stony Brook presents a conference "Time, Space, and Drama in Recent Music" on 7-9 April 1989 at the Humanities Institute on the Stony Brook campus. For further information contact Judith Lochhead, Department of Music, SUNY at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794-5475; (516) 632-7330.

## Call for Proposals: AMS-SEM-SMT Joint Meetings, Oakland 1990

The Joint Program Committee for the 1990 AMS-SEM-SMT Meetings in Oakland solicits proposals for sessions on topics of interest and concern to members of all three societies. Proposals should describe the topic and identify individual speakers and the aspects of the topic, with tentative titles, that each will address. Send proposals by May 1, 1989 to Bruno Nettl, School of Music, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1114 West Nevada Street, Urbana, IL 61801.

## Institute for Pedagogy Studies II

The College Music Society announces its second Institute for Music Theory Pedagogy Studies to be held in Boulder, Colorado, June 11-16, 1989. The Institute has been designed for college teachers of undergraduate music theory courses. The focus of this year's institute will be "Problems of Undergraduate Music Theory Instruction with an Emphasis on the Relation of Theory and Performance." Tuition will be \$300 and lodging and meals will be available at attractive rates to participants and their families. For further information, call or write CMS, 1444 Fifteenth Street, Boulder, CO 80302; (303) 449-1611.

## AMS 50 Dissertation Fellowships

The American Musicological Society holds an annual competition for Dissertation-Year Fellowships to encourage the "advancement of research in the various fields of music as a branch of learning and scholarship." Anyone is eligible to apply who is registered for a doctorate at a North American university, is in good standing there, and has completed all formal degree requirements except the dissertation at the time of full application. AMS awards are not intended for support of early stages of research; it should be expected that a fellowship recipient's dissertation will be completed within the fellowship year. Any submission for a doctoral degree in which the emphasis is on musical scholarship will be eligible. The Society currently awards three \$10,000 fellowships each year.

Application forms may be obtained from Directors of Graduate Studies at individual institutions. For further information, contact Rena Charnin Mueller, Secretary, AMS 50 Fellowship Committee, Department of Music, New York University, 268 Waverly Building, Washington Square, New York, NY 10003. Statement of application is due to the above address by 1 October, with final applications and all accompanying materials due by 15 January following.

## Regional Societies

The Florida State University Music Theory Society announces its seventh annual forum to be held at the Florida State University School of Music in Tallahassee on Saturday March 4, 1989. David Beach will be the featured speaker.

The Music Theory Society of New York State will hold its 1989 annual meeting in New York City (school to be announced) on 22-23 September. Proposals for papers should be sent to Taylor A. Greer, 233 Music Building, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802 by March 1. The Program Committee hopes to emphasize the following topics: performance and analysis, pedagogy of twentieth-century music, problems of analyzing early music, and the analysis of the Berio *Sequenza IV* for Piano. For more information, contact: Mary Arlin, Secretary MTSNYS, School of Music, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY 14850.

The New England Conference of Music Theorists will hold its fourth annual meeting on April 22-23, 1989 at Brandeis University. For information, contact Allan Keiler, Department of Music, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02254. NECMT welcomes applications for membership, especially from theorists in the New England region. Annual dues are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (student) and may be sent to Anne Trenkamp, NECMT Secretary, College of Music, University of Lowell, 1 University Avenue, Lowell, MA 01854.

## For the Record . . .

The Society for Music Theory was legally incorporated in the Spring of 1978. It held its first self-sustaining National Conference in the Fall of 1978 in Minneapolis. But these activities were directed by already-empowered Officers and Executive Board Members.

The SMT was actually formed in the Fall of 1977 at Northwestern University. Nearly 300 persons met in Evanston at the Second National Conference on Music Theory, put together by Wallace Berry with assistance from the College Music Society. Details of this process may be found in my article "The Inception of the Society for Music Theory," *Music Theory Spectrum*, Volume 1.

The 1977 Evanston meeting voted to bring the Society into existence. The group approved provisional bylaws and elected a founding Executive Board. The new board met that weekend to plan the future of the Society. It elected its own officers and met several times during 1977-78 to organize the activities leading to Minneapolis 1978.

Thus it is proper to refer, e.g., to Allen Forte as having been President of the Society from 1977 to 1982, and to date similar references either to our founding meeting in 1977 or to our first conference as the Society for Music Theory in 1978, as appropriate.

Richmond Browne, SMT Archivist

## Music Example Data Base Project

A committee is being formed to study the feasibility and means of establishing a data base for musical examples. Such a data base would be of invaluable assistance in theoretical and analytical work, allowing its user to find discussion(s) of a particular passage from a given work in the current literature. Given implementation of the project, users could request a copy of the data base. Then, using their own hardware and software, the users would be able to search and sort through the data base according to their specific needs. Initially the data base would consist of citations from current periodicals and books; once established it is possible that the backlog of previous citations might be included in its purview. Those who have advice regarding hardware and/or software or who are interested in serving on the project should contact Justin London, B16-8 Slocum Heights, Syracuse, NY 13210.

## From the President

Robert Morgan and Lewis Rowell have left the Executive Board. The Society is grateful to them for their contributions to the affairs of the Society, and we wish them well.

Marion Guck and Wayne Slawson have joined the Board as at-large members, and Robert Gauldin has joined the Board as Vice-President after serving a term as an at-large member. We welcome them to the Board and look forward to their contributions to Society governance in the coming years.

Gary Wittich, President