The Art of Soichi Watanabe at Yale

The Prodigal Son Returns: The Art of Soichi Watanabe will be on display at Yale Institute of Sacred Music weekdays from 9 to 4 from January 26 – March 26, 2009.

A resident of Koshigaya City, Saitama, Japan, Soichi Watanabe is the 2008–09 artist in residence at the Overseas Ministries Study Center in New Haven. Watanabe graduated in 1982 from the Ochanomizu Art School in Tokyo after having earned, a decade earlier, an economics degree from Tohoku Gakuin University in Sendai. He teaches at a private art school that he started in 1982. Watanabe’s oil paintings have been displayed in numerous solo exhibitions, including “The Encounter and the Hope” at Meiji Gakuin University, Tokyo, in 2000; “Prayer for Peace” at the Ein Karem Gallery, Tokyo, in 2006; “Meeting Jesus” in 1993 and “The Revelation of John” in 1999, both at the Nisshin Gallery, Tokyo; and “Make Straight the Way of Lord,” Ginza Towa Gallery, Tokyo, in 2008. He is a member of the Christian Art Association in Japan and the Asian Christian Art Association.

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Art of Soichi Watanabe continued from page 1

In his book Jesus Walking with Us (2004), Watanabe writes, “In retrospect I realize that [my works] are my own humble responses to God’s calling in my life. . . . The images are often given to me through the words of God, at worship services on Sundays, and during my daily devotion.”

The exhibition is presented by Yale Institute of Sacred Music in collaboration with the Overseas Ministries Study Center with support from Yale Divinity School. There will be a reception in honor of the artist on Thursday, January 29 from 4:30 – 6 in the Great Hall of the Institute at 409 Prospect St. Free parking is available. Both the exhibition and the reception are free and open to the public.

Since its inauguration in 2001, the OMSC artist in residence program has hosted seven outstanding artists, representing some of the finest work being done by Asian Christian artists today. A goal of the program is to present stirring works to deepen appreciation of sacred art and enrich the viewer in mind, heart, and soul.

Recently, four of the former OMSC artists in residence were represented in the Summer 2007 exhibition “The Christian Story: Five Asian Artists Today,” held at MOBIA (the Museum of Biblical Art) in New York City.

For more information, log on to www.yale.edu/ism or call 203-432-5062.

Schola in the News

American Public Radio International has offered a broadcast of two Magnificats performed by Yale Schola Cantorum and Yale Collegium Musicum on a number of NPR radio stations during the Christmas season. Of special interest is the first broadcast performance of the Magnificat in D by the very young Mendelssohn who was just 13 at the time of its composition and immersed in the music of Bach, whose own Magnificat in D completes the program. These two Magnificats (with a very early String Sinfonia by Mendelssohn and his 16 voice Ave Maria in the original version for wind instruments and voices) will be released on the Naxos label in 2009. This is the first release by Yale Schola Cantorum to have been produced in recording sessions rather than live in concert.

Yale Schola Cantorum

Warm Wishes for a Happy, Healthy & Festive 2009
from the faculty, students, and staff of the ISM

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Green Peace on Earth

Teresa Berger

One can hardly escape “greening” these days. From the sublime (e.g. the recent remarks of Pope Benedict XVI on the subject) to the ridiculous (an “eco-friendly” plastic water bottle), “greening” has become a part of contemporary culture. It also has turned into a global advertising strategy: green marketing and branding pay off these days, from “ecomagination” to “eco-friendly living” to “ecotainment.” Our efforts at greening the ISM are happening as part of these broader cultural trends. And yet, these efforts hopefully are rooted in commitments that go much deeper than the contemporary “greenwash” (e.g. giving an “eco-friendly shape” to an otherwise ecologically lethal commodity – and yes, I am talking of plastic bottles here).

What, then, is “greening” at ISM all about? The roots of ISM’s greening commitment are twofold, I think. On the one hand there is the simple recognition that we live in a time of planetary emergency, namely the threat of ecocide. This threat is manifested in a multitude of ways, for example the dramatic increase of greenhouse gases, the melting of arctic ice, rising sea levels, intensifying storm activities, severe waste pollution, and the toxic contamination of numerous ecosystems (Long Island Sound among them). Yale, like other universities, has begun to adopt measures to turn back this tide of toxicity. Within this context, the ISM’s green commitment is rooted not only in these facts of a planetary emergency and of Yale’s overall effort, but in something more profound yet. I think of it as a vision of a God-sustained way of being on this earth, a vision that seeks to live reverently and gently with the world God has made, and which God continues to lure toward redemption.

That said, the actual practices that are greening the Institute simply follow basic commitments of green living. Five such practices stand out: fighting the plastic plague, reducing, reusing, recycling, and working toward zero waste. Within the University, the ISM is recognized as being in the vanguard of Yale entities embracing change in the way we do business. Here are some of the changes at ISM over the past year or so resulting from these commitments:

- ISM now prints its publicity materials on recycled paper.
- Staff have become more careful about not printing documents unless necessary, and about using both sides of a piece of paper before recycling.
- Staff and faculty increasingly bring their coffee mugs to the office, rather than using disposable cups for both hot and cold beverages.
- ISM no longer uses plastic for its events, but fully bio-degradable/compostable plates, utensils, and “glasses.” We are waiting for compost bins, to be used, for example, at weekly Colloquium.
- ISM uses vendors and caterers that strive to comply – and with 15,000 people who every year gather for ISM events, this does add up! One caterer in particular actually collects the used materials after the event and takes them away for composting.
- Recycling bins have become ubiquitous.
- Yale’s cleaning staff have adopted green products and practices.
- Other smaller things: some of us have reconfigured our offices, so that we can turn printers, for example, off when not in use.
- Automatic sensors have been installed to turn lights on and off in offices and classrooms.
- The ISM won a “bronze medal” from Yale for its eco-efforts in hosting the ISM liturgy conference last February.

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The New ISM Bicycle

By providing an additional transportation option to faculty and staff, the Yale Department of Sustainable Transportation hopes to provide more support to the members of the Yale community who leave their cars at home. The bicycles come fully-equipped with fenders, lights, bell, rack, rear basket(s), odometer, combination U-lock, helmet and the department’s name on the bike! Andrea Hart, the ISM Business Manager, spearheaded the ISM entry into the program, and the new bike arrived on December 1. Albert Agbayani, the ISM staff person responsible for its care and maintenance, took the first ride, including “Heartbreak Hill” on Prospect St., to bring the bike to its new home.
medal escaped us because we flew people in for this conference, from Ethiopia and Great Britain to Australia. Since then we have purchased carbon credits on a pilot basis for lengthy travel legs, and are looking into institutionalizing the practice.

- The ISM is represented on the Yale Sustainability Leaders Committee.
- Faculty and staff, as well as students, increasingly use the Yale Shuttle and other sustainable means to get around Yale. Albert Agbayani has programmed the ISM kiosk on the first floor to display the location of the shuttle for easy transportation planning. Business Manager Andrea Hart led the ISM’s efforts to receive a departmental bicycle as an early participant in the new Y-Bike Program (see sidebar on page 3).
- Several ISM staff and faculty walk to work. More are taking public transportation, coupled with the Yale Shuttle, to get to work; and more are doing carpooling with new University incentives in place to reward carpoolers. Last, but not least: some of us are cycling to ISM when possible: last summer Andrea Hart biked in from Madison about 20 times; a round-trip commute of 42 miles, and a total of over 800 carbonless, heart-healthy miles!

Looking forward

Obviously, much remains to be done. For example, until we all learn to carry mugs around with us and to fill them from water fountains as needed, plastic water bottles will continue to be seen at ISM. Moreover, recycling bins are only as effective as the people who use – or fail to use – them. If people continue to use plastic bottles and then throw them into the trash instead of a recycling bin, these bottles will end up in a landfill. Plastic, tragically, never biodegrades, it only breaks apart into the tiniest of pieces (think of the 100 billion plastic bags that are thrown away, in the U.S. alone, every year). In other words: every piece of plastic you ever use is here to stay. This is but one example of the kinds of small but profound lifestyle changes that, implemented individually, make incremental but substantial differences in the health of the planet.

Outlook

The ISM is a place of vibrant academic life, interdisciplinary scholarship, artistic events, and generous hospitality. All of these privileges should be cherished, but not at the expense of a creation living in planetary emergency: “Insatiable is not sustainable” as a green maxim aptly puts it. If we want future generations to be able to continue the passionate work of the ISM, greening will have to become fundamental to our way of life – or there will be none.

~ Melissa Maier contributed to this article.

Paul Hillier to Conduct Yale Schola Cantorum on Pan-Baltic Choral Series

The noted British conductor Paul Hillier will conduct the Yale Schola Cantorum, the University’s acclaimed chamber choir directed by Simon Carrington, in a program of music from Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania on Saturday, January 17 in New Haven. Soloists are drawn from the Yale Voxtet directed by James Taylor. The concert will take place at 8 pm in St. Mary’s Church (5 Hillhouse Ave.) as part of the Pan-Baltic Choral Series.

Paul Hillier’s career has embraced singing, conducting, and writing about music. He was founding director of the Hilliard Ensemble, and subsequently founded Theatre of Voices. He has taught in the USA at the University of California campuses at Santa Cruz and Davis, and from 1996-2003 directed the Early Music Institute at Indiana University. He was principal conductor of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir (2001-2007) and has been chief conductor of Ars Nova Copenhagen since 2003. His recordings, over a hundred CDs including seven solo recitals, have earned worldwide acclaim and won numerous prizes. His books about Arvo Pärt and Steve Reich, together with numerous anthologies of choral music, are published by Oxford University Press. In 2006 he was awarded an OBE for services to choral music. In 2007 he received the Order of the White Star of Estonia, and was awarded a Grammy for Best Choral Recording. In 2008 he took up the position of Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the National Chamber Choir of Ireland.

The Yale program, entitled Baltic Voices, includes music by Tulev, Augustinas, Tormis, Mazulis, Vasks, and Pärt.

The free concert is presented by Yale Institute of Sacred Music; no tickets are required. More information is available at 203/432-5062 or online at www.yale.edu/schola.

~ Melissa Maier contributed to this article.
Margot Fassler, the Robert Tangeman Professor of Music History, has announced her intention to retire from Yale as of December 31, 2009. On sabbatical with a Luce Fellowship this year, Fassler will return to Yale to teach for the fall semester, 2009. She will become the Hesburgh-Keough Professor of Music History and Liturgy at the University of Notre Dame in January, 2010. Rest assured, we did everything we could to keep Margot here at Yale, but the pull of teaching at a premier Roman Catholic university in America was strong indeed.

Prof. Fassler’s positive and energetic leadership in the ISM and at Yale will leave an indelible mark here for years to come, and the ways her work has been and will continue to be realized are too numerous to mention. She was instrumental in recruiting nearly all the current ISM faculty. She led the renovation of our current space in the SDQ. She paved the way to begin the Schola Cantorum and voice program, and the vibrant worship program in Marquand chapel owes much to her continued support and encouragement. Her work on a Lilly grant to document liturgical celebrations and their music will be a valuable contribution to theological education. She has received many awards and honors during her time here, including induction into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2007. The world awaits her monumental tome on the Chartres Cathedral.

We all owe Margot so much, and we anticipate a time when we can celebrate her work among us in a fuller and more appropriate way. I know that I am personally grateful for the support and mentoring that she has given me.

For now, I hope you will join me in sending Margot and her family our warmest best wishes as they look forward to beginning an exciting new chapter in their lives.

James Taylor in Recital

Tenor James Taylor will perform Beethoven's *An die ferne geliebte*, Schubert’s *Auf dem wasser zu singen*, and Schumann’s *Dichterliebe* on Sunday, January 25, 2009. The concert will take place in Sprague Memorial Hall at 8 pm.

James Taylor is one of the most sought after and highly regarded oratorio singers on the circuit today. He appears world-wide with such renowned conductors as Herbert Blomstedt, Christoph Eschenbach, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Philippe Herreweghe, Kurt Masur, Franz Welser-Möst, Sir Roger Norrington and Helmuth Rilling. He performs regularly with the world’s leading ensembles like the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, Houston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Tafelmusik, Vienna Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic, Academy of Saint Martin in the Fields, Akademie für Alte Musik, Concentus Musicus Wien and countless others. His forty CD recordings, including Britten’s *War Requiem*, Dvorak’s *Stabat Mater*, Mendelssohn’s *Paulus* and *Elia*, Beethoven’s *Missa Solemnis*, Handel’s *Messiah*, Conradi’s *Ariadne* and Art Songs of John Duke and F.J. Haydn, display his clear, vibrant tenor, his exceptional versatility, and his impeccable musicianship.

A reviewer from *The Sun* (March, 2008) wrote, “His singing is almost impossibly fresh, lovely – and accurate. It is also extraordinarily easy. Mr. Taylor goes for a high note like other people reach for a grape. And he has a thorough understanding of what he is doing. He can put some vinegar in his voice, when he needs to. And his diction is very, very clear. As I’ve noted in reviews past, Mr. Taylor is almost eerily perfect.” And in *Süddeutsche Zeitung* a critic opined, “He sings with a hundred different voices, however, the most moving is his tone of quiet desperation: when he speaks of sorrow and death, when Bach writes finest chromaticism in the highest range, when Taylor’s voice simultaneously becoming tender and soft, begins to soar effortlessly.”

James Taylor received his training at Texas Christian University, where he was a vocal student of Dr. Arden Hopkin. Receiving a Fulbright Scholarship in 1991, he studied at the Hochschule für Musik in Munich with Adalbert Kraus and Daphne Evangelatos. He began his teaching career as Professor of Voice at the Hochschule für Musik, Nürnberg-Augsburg. In 2005, he returned to the United States to begin his professorship at Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Yale School of Music.

The free concert is presented by Yale Institute of Sacred Music; no tickets are required. More information is available at 203/432-5062 or online at www.yale.edu/ism.
**Placement Listings**

**Connecticut**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church, West Hartford CT**
Director of the Chancel Choir/Principal Organist (30 hrs/week.) Bachelor’s degree required, Master’s degree preferred. Competitive salary and benefits consistent with AGO guidelines. Details of job description, information on the church, and the physical description of both organs may be found through the Director of Music link on the church website - www.westpresby.org Availability no later than June 1, 2009. Please send resume to office@westpresby.org or in print form to Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2080 Boulevard, West Hartford CT 06107.

**Out of State**

**Sacred Heart Church, Bloomfield NJ**
Bass/baritone Section Leader (part-time). Primary responsibilities include singing in a four-part professional Schola and serving as a section leader in the parish choir. In most instances the chant resource is “The American Gradual.” Thursday evening rehearsal 7:30-9:00 PM and Sunday morning Rehearsal/Mass 9:30-11:30 AM. For more information, contact Ryan Malone, Director of Music and Organist at 631.786.6150 or rmm5@duke.edu. Applicant must be able to prepare repertoire on his own prior to rehearsal. Position available immediately.

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**Special Opportunity**

The Association of Anglican Musicians has developed the AAM Mentoring Program, “designed to offer support and guidance to young professional or less-experienced church musicians, particularly musicians who are new to the Episcopal Church.” If you know of potential mentees or would like information about the program, contact Marilyn Keiser: keiserm@indiana.edu.

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**Grammy Nomination**

Tarik O’Regan’s *Threshold of Night* with Conspirare/Craig Hella Johnson was nominated for Grammy awards in the categories of Best Classical Album and Best Choral Album. Among the works on the album is *The Ecstasies Above*, the first piece commissioned by the Yale Institute of Sacred Music from the Robert Baker Commissioning Fund for Sacred Music. Written for Yale Schola Cantorum, it was first performed by Schola under the direction of Simon Carrington on March 4, 2007. The piece was committed to disc by a major record label, Harmonia Mundi, with Conspirare conducted by Yale School of Music alumnus Craig Hella-Johnson. Current ISM student Paul Max Tipton (voice, MM expected 2010) is a member of Conspirare and of the octet singing in *The Ecstasies Above*.

O’Regan received the commission after spending a year at the ISM and, in particular, working with Simon Carrington and the Schola Cantorum. “For me,” he says, “Simon’s rehearsals formed some of the finest ‘compositions lessons’ I’ve ever experienced! The piece itself was written very much with those singers in mind and reflects the skills of particular soloists as well as the sound of the group as a whole: the richness of tone coupled with a clarity of line. *The Ecstasies Above* has had over thirty performances since its premiere and each time, no matter the differences in interpretation, a small part of the varied and fantastic work of the ISM, so much embedded into this piece, is furthered into the wider world.”

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*The Ecstasies Above* takes for its title a phrase found in the lyric poem *Israfel* by Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) which was first published in 1831 in *The Southern Messenger*. Through his creative description of the angel Israfel and the heavens, Poe creates a virtuous image of the supernatural. Poe compares this heavenly vision to the harsh reality of human existence.
ALUMNI NEWS

**Richard Coffey** (SMM ‘72) has recently published a book entitled *A Service of Song - The Musical Legacy of South Congregational-First Baptist Church, New Britain, Connecticut*. The book traces the legacy of the 200-year-old music ministry at the church.

**Stuart Forster** (MM ’98, AD ’99) is excited to announce the release of his new organ solo CD on the Pro Organo label. Recorded on the IV/110 Schoenstein Organ at First-Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, NE, the program features 3 of Stuart’s orchestral transcriptions (Holst “Jupiter”, Vaughan Williams “Dives and Lazarus” and Beethoven VII/iii) and varied organ pieces from Christopher Luke’s “Tuba Tune” to Gerre Hancock’s “Toccata.”

**Paul Jacobs** (MM ’02, AD ’03) performed Messiaen’s *Livre du Saint Sacrement* in a recital at Woolsey Hall on December 10th (Messiaen’s 100th birthday). Jacobs was invited to join the faculty of The Juilliard School in 2003, and the following year, he was named chair of the organ department, one of the youngest faculty appointments in Juilliard’s history.

**Dan Locklair** (UTS ’73) was the Principal Guest Composer of the Indiana State University Contemporary Music Festival in November in Terra Haute, Indiana. The Festival featured performances of his orchestral, choral, chamber, solo piano and song repertoire.

**Glen Segger** (MM/MA ’95), the TA in the Foundations course, has successfully defended his dissertation on Baxter’s liturgical rites and theology at Drew University, and was awarded the degree with distinction.

STUDENT NEWS

**Chelsea Chen** (AD candidate ’09) played a concert at the Walt Disney Concert Hall on November 23rd, 2008, as part of the ongoing organ series. She joins the ranks of such illustrious artists as Dame Gillian Weir (the 2008 ISM organ artist-in-residence) and Olivier Latry. Her stellar reviews can be found in the LA Times and Pasadena Star.

**Judith Dupré** (MAR candidate ’09) has been named a MacDowell Colony Fellow for 2009. The Colony’s mission is to nurture the arts by offering creative individuals of the highest talent an inspiring environment in which to produce enduring works of the imagination. More than 250 writers, composers, visual artists, photographers, printmakers, filmmakers, architects, interdisciplinary artists, and those collaborating on creative works come to the Colony each year from all parts of the United States and abroad. The sole criterion for acceptance is talent.

**Paul Max Tipton** (MM candidate ’10) performed Tarik O’Regan’s “The Ecstasies Above” on the Harmonia Mundi album as a member of Conspirare. The album has been nominated in two Grammy categories: Best Choral Album and Best Classical Album (see article on page 6).

FACULTY NEWS

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Father Gregory Woolfenden**, Ph.D., 61, pastor of St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church in New Britain, and visiting professor of liturgical studies at the ISM and Yale Divinity School in spring 2008, passed away Thursday Nov. 20, 2008 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Bryan Spinks writes: “I first met Graham (Fr. Gregory) back in the 1980s when he was completing his M.Phil on the divine office in the Mozarabic (Visigothic) rite. He went on to complete his PhD on the Divine Office, which was published by Ashgate. Gregory trained for the Roman Catholic priesthood at the English College in Rome, but in later life decided to become Eastern rite Catholic. Later still he decided to leave the catholic Church and join the Orthodox Church. For many years he taught at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, and was a member of the theology faculty at Oxford University. On coming as a parish priest to the Ukrainian Church at New Britain, we were delighted to use his liturgical scholarship and experience here at ISM. He was taken ill in Rome in September while attending the Society for Oriental Liturgy. He returned to the USA, where his condition worsened. He will be greatly missed.”
The Prodigal Son Returns

THE ART OF SOICHI WATANABE

ON DISPLAY AT THE
YALE INSTITUTE OF SACRED MUSIC
January 26 – March 26, 2009
Weekdays 9 to 4
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RECEPTION FOR THE ARTIST
Thursday, January 29
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