

NJRO

Report of May 2, 2010

A great orchestra arrived, consisting of celli: Ruth Lepp, Innes Borstel and Sybille Wallace. Violas: Ellen Hill, Peggy LaVake (hope your allergies have cleared up!) and y.t. Firsts (among equals) were Herb Steiner, Barbara Brandyberry, Luba Schnabel, Jennifer Seligman. Seconds (to none) were David Crowell, Bert Hartmann and Noriko Kubo. Woodwinds: Laura Papparatto and Kent Weis-ert on flutes, Steve Lepp on oboe and I believe we had Donna Dixon on clarinet. If I missed anyone, apologies — let me know! Maestro Culbertson could not join us, so we were led by Maestro-in-waiting, Evan Schwartzman.



Maestro Schwartzman was having entirely too much fun; I don't think I've ever seen such pure joy and aerobic animation in conducting. Never any doubt where the downbeat was!

Laura Papparatto was the featured soloist in the Quantz flute concerto. I managed to capture one photo of a studious Laura before my battery went dead:

Herb Steiner graced us with his interpretation of "Meditation" from Thais .

We later played some music Steve Lepp brought—an arrangement of the famous Bach Fugue in D minor, called "Bach Bites Back." Afterwards, Herb's question to Evan seemed most appropriate: "Did the conducting bug bite you?"

I think yes. Evan led us (or maybe bounced us through) the Mozart Symphony No. 35, "Haffner." What a great time we all had — thanks Evan!