

NJRO - Report of February 5, 2012

Fifteen musicians gathered under the baton of Roland Hutchinson, our conductor du jour (wait he didn't use a baton!) Violins 1: Jennifer Seligman and yours truly, Violin 2: Ken Kalmanson, Viola: Peggy LaVake (welcome! Haven't seen you in a while!), cello: Jody Sumner, Innes Borstel (glad your hand has healed!), Sibylle Wallace, Ruth Lepp and Cheryl Reed Herrera. Woodwinds (lots!) Alice Marcus and Steve Lepp oboes, Doris Danielson and Kent Weisert, flutes, and Kate Yogis on euphonium, playing bassoon parts (and 16th notes with aplomb!) Woodwinds were sharing string parts (I heard some good oboe sounds behind me) attesting to the flexibility of our musicians.

We opened with Suite 2 of *Sperantis Gaudia*, a work by baroque composer Georg Muffat (1653-1704). Wiki tells us Muffat was a student of Lully, and was greatly influenced by Frescobaldi and Corelli. The Suite 2 consisted of an overture followed by 6 movements. Amazingly light on his feet, Roland encouraged us all to make the music "dance." The movements were short, enjoyable and worth repeating, especially the Bouree. [Give a listen.](#)

We continued our reading with Bach's *Orchestral Suite No. 1 in C, BWV 1066*. Somewhere in the midst of that, we wore out the oboes! But they continued on gamely for the next reading, Haydn's *Symphony No. 44*. Roland asked if any of us were familiar with it? Neither was he; he had just picked it up that afternoon. Undaunted, he waved his arms and made music happen. We were having so much fun we ran a little overtime. Way to go!



Roland contemplates Muffat. "Make the music dance!"



Oh my! What does Doris know that Steve doesn't know?