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FLORIDA STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

AFFILIATED WITH MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC.



REPORT FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Cabot Lodge, Gainesville, Florida
June 12, 2010

By Joan Mank
Composition Commissioning Chair

I have spoken with our commissioned composer for the year 2010, Valentin Bogdan, and can report that he is on track, plans to record in July, and will send the CD's and manuscripts to me well before deadline.

Therefore, we must now address the selection of a composer for the year 2011.

Please send me your recommendations at least a month prior to the November conference, along with the necessary curricula vitae, to facilitate the decision-making process.

One issue arose this year, and you need to be aware of it so that your candidate knows of this restriction.

Although MTNA's rules state that compositions may be FOR ANY MEDIUM AND IN ANY STYLE, they may not be for prepared piano. Reason: A few years ago, hotels, piano providers, tuners, and other venue personnel complained about the need for extra tunings and "messing with" the inside of the pianos. (And for MTNA, it is added expense.) Since that time, it has been understood that there will be no performances of that type at any level.

This extends to works of commissioned composers as well, because, as the national chair explained to me, "While individual states might find venues willing to accept the prepared piano, the national judges would not want to consider any piece that could not be performed at the national conference."

The change of date for the FSMTA Conference gave Mr. Bogdan time to make adjustments, but the new composer will have only a year for a composition. So. Forewarned.