

About "PaPas"

"PaPas" started in October 2000 when a group of male singers was invited to sing at the "Concert in the Forest" at the Kiyosato Experimental Education Project Foundation (KEEP) in the Yatsugatake Mountains, some 100 miles west from Tokyo. The occasion effectively kicked off a permanent group which seriously tackles a finely woven choral ensemble, under the baton of Minoru Sunagawa, a retired famed tenor singer.

Many of the members are senior amateur singers, experienced in choral singing since college days, but a few young singers who are graduates of conservatories join to add brilliance to the sound. Their average age is not quite young but they are eager enough to manage sparing time to rehearse despite the still busy work duties, seeking a higher level of choral performance. PaPas' spirit ... ? It is perhaps the humble but earnest attitude in pursuing music.

Since its regular annual concert in 2003 to date it has been making unique challenges to sing lieder of Franz Schubert in male chorus.

Along with musical interest, PaPas also tries to help people in developing countries who are suffering from poverty and need to establish their basic life. Now it is donating, although a modest sum yet, out of its concert revenues to such causes through KEEP Foundation and Friends of Haiti.

Further details, and a sample sound of its singing, can be found on its homepage at the URL below.

http://www.ne.jp/asahi/excelcom/mag/ensemble_papas/index.html

Male Voices Ensemble ***PaPas*** ***Concert 2006***

Sunday, November 12, 2006

Kioi Hall, Tokyo

Supported by

Yomiuri Nippon Television Culture Center

In Association with

KEEP Foundation, Japan

&

Saikyo House Co. Ltd.

*Thank you for coming to our 6th annual concert today.
We hope you will find our music enjoyable and somewhat
memorable.*

PROGRAM

Conductor **Minoru Sunagawa**
Piano Tadayuki Kawahara

I Praise and Thanks to Schubert

- *From the Three Major Lieders*
 - From "Winterreise" Good Night // Linden Tree
 - From "Schwanengesang" Messenger of Love // At the Sea
 - From "Die Schöne Müllerin" The Miller and the Meadow
- Ave Maria
- Die Forelle (Trout)
- Nacht und Träume (Night and Dream)
- An Silvia (To Silvia)
- Ständchen (Serenade)
- Lieder der Mignon (Song of Mignon)
- Gott meine Zuversicht (God is my Pastor)



Intermission

II Nostalgic PaPas

- Slavic Songs – *a capella*
 - From Choral Works of Leos Janacek (Czech)*
 - True Love // Can't Read His Thoughts // Sinking Garland
 - From Russia*
 - Bells Toll Monotonously (Traditional) //
 - Evening of Moscow Suburbs (Soloviev – Sedoy)
- Songs of Japan
 - "Tohryanse" (Walking Through) //
 - Beside the Ruined Castle of Komoro //
 - "Machi-bohke" (Kept Stood Up) // "Kono Michi" (This Road) //
 - Eight Miles of Hakone // "Suna Yama" (Sand Dune)

Baritone

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Hashiguchi, Masaru | Catching up with the memorizing of music of which he was proud during college days. Works hard to secure rehearsal rooms. |
| Kusamitsu, Hiroshi | Treasurer. Most seriously working out during rehearsals. |
| Matsubara, Susumu | A young trained singer studying German lieder. Center of brilliance in baritone. |
| Ohta, Shinya | An elementary school principal. Looks back he has been active in music "thinly but long." |
| Okada, Takashi | An ex-principal of elementary school, and "Super Presbyter" of PaPas. Surprises younger colleagues by memorizing music first. |
| Tsuda, Yoshinobu | Enjoys music along with photography and golfing. An active church chorister. |

Bass

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Agata, Masahiko | Part Leader. Most "orthodox" chorister at PaPas, admirably fighting against aging of voice. |
| Azuma, Hiroshi | Deputy Leader and one of the founding members of PaPas. Believes "Effort Does Not Betray." |
| Fujii, Koji | An experienced choral singer loving classical music. Shows dandism with smoking pipe and T-shirt. |
| Kozu, Susumu | Busy singing in a few choral groups for his un-Japanese bass voice. |
| Yamauchi, Harusuke | A boy soprano during childhood turned now to a key base singer. |

Announcement !

PaPas' **Schubertiade**, with all-Schubert program, is now scheduled for Sunday, February 25, 2007.
Details will be announced on our website within a few days.

About the Artists

Minoru Sunagawa *Conductor*

Professor Emeritus, Kunitachi College of Music, Tokyo, and member of Nikikai Singers Association. Graduated Kunitachi College of Music and studied under Maestros Taneko Seki, Ntke Löwe, Takanosuke Watanabe, Teiichi Nakayama, E. Rado, A. del Mota.



After frequent performances as a tenor singer in various operas, concerts and radio programs, moved to Vienna to study at Vienna National Academy.

Made debut in Europe as a soloist in "Misa Solemnis" (Beethoven) at the Vienna Music Festival. Thence, performed in number of concerts and radio programs including, among others, "Christmas Oratorio" (regular concert of Vienna Baroque Ensemble, conducted by Guschelbauer), and concerts of various orchestras and Radio Austria (Lieder by Henri Duparc).

Upon return to Japan, won applauses for singing in operas; eg. Mime (Rheingold, Nikikai Opera), Tamino (Zauberflöte), Jacquino (Fidelio). Was also chosen as a soloist for "Misa Solemnis" in the Beethoven bicentenary memorial concert (conductor: HS Isselstedt) in 1970. Frequently sang tenor solo in Symphony No.9 of Beethoven in the year-end concerts of Tokyo Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony, Yomiuri Symphony, Tokyo Metropolitan, New Japan Philhamony orchestras. Did a number of recitals for German lieder and appeared on "FM Recitals" of NHK.

Expanding activities recently to conducting and performed "Requiem" (G. Faure), "Mass in B major" (JS Bach), etc. Commitment to Male Ensemble PaPas is another major undertaking in the past several years.

In 1992 and 1993 general-produced "Zauberflöte," and in 1995 "La Bohême" (as part of the 55st Anniversary Program of Tachikawa City). In 2005 superintended "Carmen" (a Tachikawa City civic opera production).

Tadayuki Kawahara *Pianist*

Born in Tokyo. Having finished undergraduate and graduate schools of Kunitachi College of Music, appointed as a pianist for the college's Opera Faculty. Thereafter, upon return from Italy, joined Fujiwara Opera Company in 1992 as a co-répétiteur, and participated in various performances. From 1993 also participated in the opera series of Saito Kinen Festival.

Today, he appears on more than 100 stages a year as vocal concert pianist and engages in other activities including giving lessons for accompanying pianists for vocal performances, thus winning the reputation of a most trusted pianist. His field extends further, eg. musical staff for musicals.



PaPas – Musical Staff

Pianists	Maiko Ohzono, Yukiko Ikura, Yukiko Nariuchi Mariko Hirota
Coaches	Tetsuya Sato, Susumu Matsubara

PaPas – Singers

Top Tenor

Abe, Yoichi	A hotel consultant. He uses his method in warming-up exercise making colleague singers ready for singing.
Asai, Hiroyuki	PaPas' treasure lyric tenor. Living in Nagoya, he "commutes" 400 km for rehearsals.
Goto, Masaru	Returned to PaPas after three years of break. His specialty is Italian songs.
Hirasawa, Teruo	Part Leader. Added water color to his life hobby to previous music and antique collection.
Sato, Tetsuya	A young member of genuine lyric tenor. Leads voice training.
Shoji, Akiyoshi	A tall boy who is ex-banker. Works hard to memorize Schubert in the commuting train rides.
Sunagawa, Makoto	PaPas' leader, busying himself with PaPas' rehearsals and overseas business.

Second Tenor

Hino, Tadahiko	Librarian. Trusted member who likes nothing but singing.
Ipposhi, Nobutake	First year after moving up to Second Tenor. Second year after turning to a graduate school professor in Sendai. Sings in a mixed voice choir as well.
Nikyo, Matsuo	Neer faltering love for music and warm care for the singing colleagues.
Seita, Masataka	Seeks power from singing with PaPas after retirement, remembering his college day enthusiasm.
Uchida, Yoshiro	Part Leader. Looks back the past four years as those which shook him by the depth of Schubert's lieder.

About Praise and Thanks to Schubert

Franz P Schubert, a romantic composer, wrote more than 600 pieces of lied and, hence, is called the "King of Lieder." PaPas has been tackling in the past few years with a focus on Schubert's lieder; singing 9 pieces from "Winterreise" in 2003, all pieces of "Schwanengesang" in 04, and 12 pieces from "Die Schöne Müllerin" last year – all arranged from the original solo singing pieces to male choral singing by Kazuhiko Koyama, and sung in the original German language. This year we are pleased to present 12 glistening pieces of Schubert with praise and our thanks to him for giving us such a dlight of music.

Of the three major lieder "Winterreise" (Journey in Winter) and "Die Schöne Müllerin" (Fair Daughter of the Miller) are both based on the poems of Wilhelm Müller, singing of the young heart of men. "Schwanengesang" (Songs of Swan) is a collection of lyrical works of different poets, including Heinrich Heine (An Mer).

The works from "Ave Maria" to "Lieder der Mignon" are sung in new choral arrangement based on the original pieces for solo. And "Gott meine Zuversicht," based on Psalm 23, is known as a female choral piece but has been rearranged to male choir for this concert.

About Nostalgic PaPas

Leos Janacek from Czech is increasingly winning a high regard as one of the representative and important "nationalistic composers" of the 20th century. His works strongly carry the unforgettable scents of folkloric music of Molavia. The three pieces sung today were composed for his own choir when he was 22.

The two Russian songs are too well-known to need a note.

Of the Japanese songs, "*Tohryanse*" finds its origin in Saitama-ken in the Edo period. "Beside the Ruined Castle of Komoro" depicts the nostalgic heart of a young traveler in the scene of Komoro, adjacent to Karuizawa, while "*Machi-bohke*," "*Kono Michi*" and "*Suna Yama*," all works of a 'golden combination' of Kitahara Hakushu (lyrics) and Yamada Kohsaku (music). "Eight Miles of Hakone," a representative piece by Taki Rentaro, was first published in 1901.