

THE WESTERN ILLINOIS HORN FESTIVAL 2004

* THE WESTERN ILLINOIS HORN INSTITUTE – with support from THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL presented THE WESTERN ILLINOIS HORN FESTIVAL on April 18, 2004. Nashville Recording Artist, Hornist Jennifer Kummer, was the featured clinician and soloist. Also honored at the Festival was Horn Professor Emeritus Roger Collins—founding hornist of The Camerata Woodwind Quintet, and teacher, mentor, and friend to Western Hornists since 1966.

The first recital of the Festival opened with Randall Faust's 1986 composition: *Fanfare for the Southeast Horn Workshop*—performed by members of the Western Illinois CORnucopia: Laurel Filzen, Karla Vilchez, Jerry Beck, Samantha Jones, Mary Rudd, Adam Beck, John Versluis, Laura T. Smith, Christina Roth, Christina Neal, Sherrill Filzen, and Doug Reiners. The fanfare was followed by a rousing performance of Heinrich Hübler's *Concerto for Four Horns* ---- performed by Jerry Beck, Karla Vilchez, Laurel Filzen, and Randall Faust—accompanied by pianist Jason Aquila. The second half of the recital featured Guest Artist **Jennifer Kummer** performing Randall Faust's *Rondo* (1997)—composed in honor of the founding hornist of the Camerata Woodwind Quintet—Roger Collins, *Jazz Set for Solo Horn* by Douglas Hill, and a special work composed for Jennifer Kummer--*Running To Safety* (1991/2004) by the Los Angeles Hornist --Daniel Kelley.

Following the recital, Ms. Kummer presented a lecture titled: “From the Symphony Hall to the Recording Studio.” Ms. Kummer is particularly qualified to discuss this topic. From 1992-1997, she was the Principal Hornist of the Memphis Symphony. In addition she has performed as Assistant Principal Hornist of The Grant Park Symphony in Chicago, and has performed with the sections of the St. Louis Symphony and the Nashville Symphony. However, since 1997, she has performed in the recording studios in Nashville, Tennessee with many artists including Amy Grant and Vince Gill. During the course of her lecture, Jennifer presented a variety of musical examples from both experiences—as well as discussing the varieties of artistic gratification and financial compensation found in both popular and symphonic genres of horn performance.

A Master Class featuring students of a variety of area horn teachers followed Ms. Kummer's lecture. These included Sean Elam—student of Christina Werling, Rachel Peterson—student of Lee Kessinger, and Leona Quist—student of Ingrid Mullane.

The final recital gave Ms. Kummer and Mr. Aquila an opportunity to demonstrate the stylistic diversity and technical agility of her playing in *Vals Venezolano and Contradanza* by Paquito D'Rivera and the *Elegy for Mippy I* for Horn and Piano by Leonard Bernstein. They were joined by her former teacher—Roger Collins—in a performance of *Three American Folksongs* by Randall E. Faust

The Western Illinois University CORnucopia performed Marvin Howe's arrangement of The Russian Folk Song--*Some One's Horse is Standing There*, Ms. Kummer joined Randall Faust in a presentation honoring Mr. Collins, and the Festival Horn Choir, conducted by Roger Collins, performed Lowell Shaw's transcriptions of *The Prelude and Fugue in A minor* J.S. Bach, and *O Rest In the Lord* by Felix Mendelssohn. The Festival concluded with the Festival Fanfare by Nicholas Perrini.

Photos

1. Jennifer Kummer
2. 829 –Jennifer Kummer with Master Class Hornists-Rachel Peterson, Sean Elam, and Leona Quist
3. 842—Randall Faust, the very tall Roger Collins, and Jennifer Kummer