



MASSACHUSETTS ACCORDION ASSOCIATION

Volume 9, Issue 3
May 2015

The MAAA is a group of accordion enthusiasts that welcomes players of all skill levels and accordion types, as well as interested non-players.

Join us! Open to the public.

Ciociaro Social Club
144 Bridge Street
Newton, Massachusetts

Next meeting:

May 31, 1 pm

Detailed meeting info is available on our website:

www.MAAccordion.org



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www.facebook.com/MAAccordion

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Send news and story ideas to the MAAA newsletter editor

Catherine Coleman
catherine.coleman@gmail.com

MAAA members attend 17th Semi-Annual Roland V-Accordion event

by Jim Avedisian

Several MAAA members attended the Roland V-Accordion Event put on by Sam Facetti and Falcetti Music on Sunday, May 2, 2015. I can't fail to mention Peggy Falcetti, Sam's wife who is seemingly related to the Energizer Bunny and is a big part of pulling off the event successfully.

Among the attendees were Carol and me, Tony DeEramo and his wife, Carmen D'Angelo, Coach Dave LaPrise and Ernestine, Al Bacchiocchi and Rosemary, Dave Sullivan, and Oliver Mutch and Jan Miller. Not that I needed it, if you know me, but Jan, as usual, baked an incredible array of baked cookies and squares and they were, as always, eagerly received by the attendees.

Transposing workshop

The event started off with a workshop by Sam Falcetti who went over the ins and outs of transposing music, defining what it was and how it might be used. He covered both vertical transposition and horizontal transposition. Of course, being a Roland event, the availability of their transpose function was mentioned.

In addition, his handout covered instructions for using the on-board transposer of the various accordion models and a discussion of the circle of fifths, key of C, and how the Stradella system follows it, making transposition much easier.



Sam Falcetti



Martha Flood

Diverse performances demonstrate Roland versatility

The performance part of the event followed a break and refreshment period. First up was Martha Flood who played a Snappy Polka, showing some of the extra embellishments in dressing up a song, which also included transposition.

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Next up was Liam McCool. Liam recently placed third in the Accordion Championship category at the recent Accordion Teachers Association of Massachusetts competition. Liam played one of his winning selections for the crowd.



Liam McCool

another song I unfortunately cannot remember the name of. She definitely captured our hearts. She not only plays but sings!

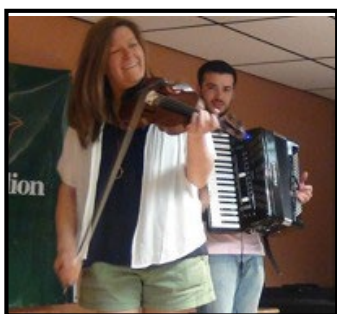
Share your accordion story!

by Jim Avedisian

Having done the newsletters for the MAAA for a while previously, I know that the hardest part is really coming up with appropriate articles and information. We have seen the great work Catherine Coleman has done in volunteering to do the organization's newsletter. The newsletters take quite a bit of time to put together, especially so when one has to hunt for information.

There must be plenty of accordion related stories, both personal and informational, amongst the varied members of the MAAA.

Please consider writing an article for submission and /or passing along accordion relevant information about gigs you might play, performances you have seen or are going to, etc.



Joseph Dziok

Joseph Dziok, a 2015 graduate of Hart College of Music, performed with Sarah Michel on violin and her husband, I believe, on what looked like a box made for simple drum beat accompaniment. I am not quite sure what it was called.

Joseph decided to go with a Roland because it provided adequate bass for the trio, unlike the acoustic. They were amazing, playing both a polka and more traditional fiddle music. This was a first and went over extremely well.



Next up was Sammy Gavish who mesmerized us with his mixture of Jewish, Arabic, and Russian music. This type of music is a little different from what we normally hear at Sam's and at the MAAA. Sam is an incredible player. If I understood correctly, Sam studied music in Israel and learned to play under the Solfeggio system. While I am not familiar with it, evidently that system doesn't use note letters like C, F, A but instead uses a system of do, re, mi, etc. I found that very

interesting indeed. I wonder if anyone in the MAAA either learned with it or knows about it. It would make a great article for this newsletter (see article at right for more about this!).



Angela Falcetti

Sammy was followed by Sam's granddaughter, Angela Falcetti. Due to previous commitments, she was a little late but worth waiting for. Angela uses a Roland 1x V-Accordion. Angela is a member of the "Pink Zebras," an all-girl, five-member group made up of young ladies like her. The entire group was scheduled to perform but a couple of the young ladies couldn't make it, so Angela entertained us solo. Angela performed "Let It Be," "Tomorrow," and

World champion accordionist Cory Pesaturo performs at MAAA April meeting

Cory Pesaturo dazzled us all at MAAA’s April meeting. Whether you’d heard Cory before or this was a first exposure, it was like watching fireworks.

After greeting his “extended accordion family” of MAAA members and friends, Cory launched into performing with no pre-rehearsed program. Instead, he invited the audience to call out musical genres or specific compositions, and responded to each request with a spectacular, spontaneous rendition.



Angela Falcetti called out the first request--for a polka. Cory began “Pennsylvania Polka” with what he labeled a “Lawrence Welk” intro. A gypsy jazz version of “After You’ve Gone” (requested by Tony Marini) came next, which Cory played in honor of Don McMahon--a

jazz accordionist and pioneer of the Roland digital accordion from Springfield, MA.

Of course we all wanted to hear a tango, and were treated to the passionate Libertango, the composition which in 1974 announced Piazzola’s launching of Tango Nuevo. It was followed by “You Must Believe in Spring,” a gorgeous ballad by one of Cory’s favorite composers, Michel Legrand; “Green Dolphin Street” rendered by a chorus of Roland voices; and the Chopin Fantaisie-Impromptu (“Chopin works so well on the accordion, if you change a couple of things,” he noted.)

It was an exciting afternoon of musicianship.

Brief bio

[Cory Pesaturo](#) grew up playing the accordion in Rhode Island and got his first break at the age of 11 when he filled in for a sick Myron Floren at the Warwick Musical Theater.

At the age of 12, Cory performed at the White House for President Clinton and on another occasion became the youngest person ever to perform at a State Dinner when he played with the Marine Strolling Strings for the President of Hungary. He graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music, where he was the first musician ever to major and graduate in the accordion.

Cory (aka C Pez) is a World Digital Accordion Champion (Coupe Mondiale), World Acoustic Accordion Champion (Primus Ikaalinen), and the only person to ever win Acoustic Accordion, Digital Accordion, and Jazz Accordion World Championships.

Cory builds on the accordion’s glorious history and brings it into the future in order to revive its popularity. He made the first ever skinned accordion with a symmetric midi lighting system attached to the keys, and is developing his own electric accordion.

TED Talk available online

Watch Cory’s TED Talk, which he gave on March 29, 2014, to hear his passionate and exciting vision for the instrument:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Acsv55lctGY>

SQUEEZEBOX SLAM

Saturday, June 13, 12-6 pm

Davis Square, Somerville

www.somervilleartscouncil.org/squeezebox

Don't miss the fourth installment of this accordion extravaganza! The Big Stroll takes place from 12-3 pm throughout Davis Square. Bring your accordions, button boxes, bandoneons, etc. Play with friends, strangers, or alone, or listen as the sound of accordions fills the air.



Lady Kielbasa

The "Big Squeeze" concert begins at 3 pm, hosted again this year by everyone's favorite family-friendly drag queen accordionist, Lady Kielbasa. The lineup of performers is:

- Ralph Tufo and the Squeezebox Stompers
- Sonny Barbato (jazz)
- Balkan Field featuring Melinda Fields
- Jinta-la-Mvta featuring Marié Abe (Japanese klezmer)

CALENDAR

May 17, 9 pm

Golden Novak Band

Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., JP

www.midwaycafe.com

Golden Novak features accordion, violin, keys, guitar, percussion and three vocalists delivering soulful covers and original music.

May 31, 4 pm

A Sunday Afternoon of Cafe Chamber Music: Roberto Cassan & John Muratore

Arts at the Armory Cafe, 191 Highland Ave., Somerville

<https://www.facebook.com/events/763510480430565/>

An afternoon of Piazzola, Galliano, and others. Also appearing: Elinor Speirs Chamber Project

May 31, 8 pm

Club Passim

26 Church St., Cambridge

<http://www.clubpassim.org/>

Local professional musicians with a strong track record of touring create their own brand of urban folk, country, and blues.

June 6, 10 pm

Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band

Johnny Ds, 17 Holland St., Somerville

<http://johnnyds.com/>

Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band combines sounds of the circus, avant-garde jazz, funk, and vaudeville. Playing "anything that won't break from vigorous use," their instrumentation is a unique blend of brass, winds, violin, accordion and an eclectic rhythm section.

June 13, 7:30 pm

Jan and Lou Borelli

Sovitajaa, Finn Park Rd., Rutland

www.borellimusic.com

Lou and Jan Borelli play Scandinavian and ballroom music for a dinner dance. Call Bob at 508-842-8468 for tickets.

June 19, 7 pm

Gogol Bodello and Flogging Molly

Blue Hills Bank Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave., Boston

www.bluehillbankpavilion.net

Celtic punk co-headlines with Ukranian fusion.

June 12, 7:30 pm

Leftover Cuties

Regattabar, Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, Cambridge

<http://www.regattabarjazz.com/>

Leftover Cuties achieves its prohibition-era jazz sound with voices, ukeleles, brass, percussion, and accordion.

June 16, 8 pm

Contra dance with music by Nova MIT, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge

<http://mit.edu/fdc/contra>

Nova features fiddle, accordion, and guitar playing both traditional repertoire and original compositions. Contra dancing is high-energy, directed by a caller, and easy to learn. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary.

July 10, 7 pm

Paris Combo / Bastille Day Party Marlborough St. between Berkeley and Clarendon, Boston

<http://worldmusic.org>

The French Cultural Center's Bastille Day Party features Paris Combo and The Hot Sardines, accompanying street dancing, French food, and drinks.