**EIMI Premiere in Austria**

Laurence Sherr was the first American composer to be a full participant in the KOFOMI Music Festival in Mittersill, Austria. During the September 2006 festival, he collaborated with the German new music group ensemble Intégrales to compose a new work, *EIMI* for violin, saxophone, percussion, and piano. The composition features improvisation and movement of the performers through the performance space, immersing the audience in sound. *EIMI* was premiered at the festival’s concluding concert, and received a favorable review in the Salzburger Nachrichten newspaper. Additional publicity included Sherr’s interview on the nationally broadcast radio program “Kultur-Journal”, an ORF program on arts and culture.

Following the Festival, Sherr began a residency in Salzburg, the second component of the exchange program between the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and Land Salzburg. Sherr was the featured guest at an evening event highlighting the program, where he introduced the performance of his guitar work *Blue Ridge Frescos* by Manuel de Roo and participated in the panel discussion “Warum ein Künstleraustausch?” (Why an artist exchange?) at the Galerie 5020 in Salzburg.

**Two CDs Released**

Laurence Sherr’s compositions appeared on two CDs released in 2007.

KOFOMI #11 archives performances from the 2006 KOFOMI Festival in Austria. The first disc of the two-CD set includes a live recording of the premiere performance of Sherr’s *EIMI* (see story at left). The complete set is available at [http://www.manymusics.org](http://www.manymusics.org) (search for EIMI), or individual tracks such as Sherr’s 10-minute work can be downloaded for .99 Euros each!

Cellist Theresa Villani chose Sherr’s *Elegy and Vision* for solo cello for her two-CD release *Patterns of Eloquence*. Villani recently performed *Elegy and Vision* in a Holocaust memorial concert in Tarpon Spring, FL. CDs are available from: VillaniCello@aol.com
Fugitive Footsteps at Ohio Festival

Noted opera star David Okerland was the baritone soloist in the performance of Sherr’s *Fugitive Footsteps* at the New Music & Arts Festival at Bowling Green State University in Ohio in November 2006. The BGSU Collegiate Chorale conducted by Dr. William Skoog joined forces with Okerland for Sherr’s Holocaust memorial work on poetry by Nobel laureate Nelly Sachs. The preview performance just before the Festival first elicited silence, and then a standing ovation from the full house.

Rusty Banks on tour

Classical guitarist Rusty Banks performed Laurence Sherr’s evocative *Blue Ridge Frescos* on a 2007 Southeast tour. Stops included a residency at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta and an appearance at Birmingham’s ArtBurst Festival. In 2006 Banks performed *Blue Ridge Frescos* at a concert in Lincoln, Nebraska. See Banks’ 5/27/07 blog entry about his tour.

Major Work Completed

In 2007 a three-year project came to fruition as Sherr completed work on *Flame Language* for baritone and chamber orchestra, his second setting of poetry by Nobel laureate Nelly Sachs. The work was commissioned by a national consortium of vocalists and chamber orchestras, and will be given regional premieres over the coming seasons. Participants include vocalists Daniel Gale, Oral Moses, and Elliot Z. Levine, and The Bijou Orchestra, Leo Najjar, Artistic Director, and the Kennesaw State University Orchestra, Michael Alexander, Director. An online article has expanded coverage.

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