

Newburgh Preservation Association
P.O. Box 206, Newburgh NY 12550

The Netherland-America Foundation
82 Wall Street, New York NY 10005

2/3/03

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Queen's Day" Concert for the Dutch Reformed Church – Sunday, April 27

Everyone encouraged to wear a touch of orange!

Newburgh, NY. – A special "Queen's Day" Concert for the Dutch Reformed Church will be given on Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m., at St. George's Episcopal Church, 105 Grand Street, Newburgh. Timed to coincide with the traditional birthday of the Queen of the Netherlands, the chamber-music concert will benefit the restoration of the former Dutch church, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2001.

The benefit concert, organized by Wanda Fleck, is presented with financial support from the Netherland-America Foundation (New York), which promotes friendship between the The Netherlands and the United States. The event is co-sponsored by Newburgh Chamber Music and the Newburgh Preservation Association, which is working with the City of Newburgh to restore the Greek Revival structure, designed in 1835 by Alexander Jackson Davis. (The building was de-consecrated in 1967.)

Works by Brahms, Faure, and contemporary American composer Kevin Beavers will be performed by a group of rising professional musicians: Jina Lee (violin), Beth Guterman (viola), Patrick Jee (cello), and Jeff Juan Choque (piano) Ms. Lee and Mr. Choque have been supported in their musical careers by the Netherland-America Foundation. Mr. Jee won First Prize in the first Holland-America Music Society Competition, supported by the foundation. Mr. Beavers, the award-winning Composer In Residence at the California Symphony, studied composition in the Netherlands under a fellowship from the foundation.

Tickets may be purchased for \$15 at the door, or \$12 in advance from the Newburgh Preservation Association, P.O. Box 206, Newburgh NY 12551. Tickets are \$10 in advance for groups of 6 or more. For more information, call (845) 562-8076. All proceeds go to the Newburgh Preservation Association to benefit the restoration. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Following a popular tradition in the Netherlands on "Koninginnedag" (the Queen's birthday), everyone is encouraged to wear a touch of orange, the color of the Dutch royal "House of Orange."

Jina Lee (violin) was born in Korea and raised in Chicago, where she gave her solo debut at the age of 13. A graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and the Sweelinck Conservatory (Amsterdam), she has given numerous recitals in Japan, the Netherlands, Germany, Canada and the U.S.

Beth Guterman (viola) is a 4th year student at the Juilliard School studying with Masao Kawasaki. She won the 2001 Nakamichi Lower Strings Competition at the Aspen Music Festival. Upcoming engagements include a recital in Longy's Pickman hall. Her first CD comes out this year on Naxos featuring music by Stephan Hartke.

Patrick Jee (cello) studied at the Yale School of Music and the Juilliard School. Hailed as a "gifted virtuoso," he has performed at the Aspen Music Festival, the Banff Centre for the Arts, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, La Jolla's Summerfest, and the Seoul Arts Center. He has performed with orchestras in Buffalo, Rochester, Toulouse, and Paris.

Born near Cuzco, Peru, **Jeff Juan Choque** (piano) began his musical studies upon arriving in this country at the age of five. Earning his bachelor's and master's degrees at the Eastman School of Music, he was a three-time Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Festival. He has performed extensively as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia.

The **Netherland-America Foundation**, founded in 1921, seeks to maintain and strengthen the ties of friendship between The Netherlands and the United States. The foundation offers financial support to Dutch and American students pursuing graduate studies in each other's countries; cultural grants in performing arts, visual arts, and historic preservation; and charitable grants. The NAF operates under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of The Netherlands and her husband, The Honorable Pieter van Vollenhoven. The "Queen's Day Concert" has been scheduled a few days before the last day of April – the traditional official Queen's birthday in The Netherlands. For more information, go to www.thenaf.org.

Newburgh Chamber Music is a non-profit organization formed in 2000 to present high-quality chamber-music performances in historic venues in Newburgh. Led by Philip West, Professor Emeritus of Chamber Music at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, and Carol Cowan, concertmaster of the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and Associate Professor of Music at SUNY New Paltz, the group sponsors several concerts each year. For more information, call (845) 562-1861.

The **Newburgh Preservation Association** was founded in 1978 to promote preservation and restoration of significant historic architecture in Newburgh. Its Dutch Reformed Church Restoration Committee works closely with the City of Newburgh in a joint effort to restore the landmark A.J. Davis building, located at 132 Grand Street, Newburgh. For more information, go to www.newburghdrc.org.

St. George's Episcopal Church, established in 1729, occupies a Federal-style sanctuary built in the early years of the 19th century. Led by the Rev. Deborah Dresser, the church is active in many community activities, including "Grand Music," a series of lunchtime concerts given seasonally under the direction of Lillie Mikesell. For more information on St. George's, call (845) 561-5355.

HOW TO GET THERE

St. George's is located at 105 Grand Street, Newburgh, three blocks north of Broadway. Ample parking is available across the street. From New York City, take the Hudson Line train to Beacon, where a \$10 taxi ride will take you across the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge to Newburgh.

For information about the musicians and program, contact:

Wanda Fleck, The Netherland-America Foundation
Phone (212) 825-1221 Fax (212) 825-9105

For information on the Newburgh Preservation Association and the restoration of the former Dutch Reformed Church, contact NPA officers:

Nancy Billman (845) 562-8076 or Jim Hoekema (845) 568-3038