



Newsletter of

Kansas
City
Ragtime
Revelry

Presents

Morten
Gunnar
Larsen



Photo by Urban Adventures

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

7:00 PM

Californos Restaurant

4124 Pennsylvania Avenue, Kansas City, MO

Come, listen to ragtime and early jazz.

Dine if you desire.

(816) 531-1097 for dinner reservations

Concert tickets - \$20.00 at the door

Children with parents and students with student identification admitted free.

Kansas City Ragtime Revelry • 1212 W 66th St, Kansas City, MO 64113

www.kcragtimerevelry.org

Recognition

Kansas City Ragtime Revelry recognizes individuals who volunteer or were major contributors to our efforts.

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Morten Gunnar Larsen is regarded as one of the finest performers of ragtime and early Jazz. He is known for stride piano recordings and his collaborations. The New York Times said when he plays Fingerbreaker, "The theater seems to swirl deliriously around him."



Mr. Larsen was born in Norway and calls Oslo his home. He graduated from the Norwegian Academy of Music 1978, specializing in classic ragtime and early jazz piano with an emphasis on Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Eubie Blake and Louis Gottschalk. He often plays solo concerts and duo performances with jazz singer Karin Krog, clarinetist Georg Reiss, or singer Ståle Ytterli. As a solo artist Morten has played with different symphony orchestras performing works by Gershwin and Bernstein. He tours frequently in Norway and abroad – especially in the USA, where he has lived for extended periods in New York and New Orleans.

Morten created and leads the Ophelia (Ragtime) Orchestra, an early jazz and ragtime ensemble that is often referred to as Norway's "Crown Jewel". As well as leading Ophelia he works with the Odeon Jazz Quintet, was a longtime member of Magnolia Jazz Band and periodically has been a member of Ytre Suløen.

Mr. Larsen was musical director and solo pianist for *Jelly Roll- The Music and the Man* in collaboration with American actor/playwright Vernal Bagneris. This show played Off Broadway for eleven months and gained Morten an Obie (1995) and an Outer Critics Circle Award for his role as solo pianist and musical director. He toured as the musical director with *One Mo' Time* and has created musical programs such as Eubie, a review featuring the music of Eubie Blake. *(Continued on next page.)*

(Morten Gunnar Larsen – Continued)

More recently Mr. Larsen has been interested in the music of the Caribbean and South America, and on his most recent solo CD *Creole Connections* (Lawo Classics 2014) he has focused on this. Morten has been involved in about 40 recordings, and among his solo recordings the internationally released *Fingerbreaker* on Decca/Universal is noteworthy.

Mr. Larsen was awarded the Spellemannsprisen (Norwegian Grammy) for his first solo recording (1976), was nominated in 1990 and 2000, and has been given the Norwegian Jazz Forum's *Buddy-Prize* and the New Orleans Workshop Prize.

Morten is an honorary citizen of New Orleans.

The KCRR program for the rest of this year appears on the back of this Newsletter. We have artists planned through April of 2016. At the last meeting of the KCRR Board we created a list of musicians to be considered for the rest of 2016. If you have an artist or artists you would like to be considered, contact Jerry Lanese.



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May 30, 2015
7:00 PM
House Concert
Jointly sponsored by
AMICA
(Automated Mechanical Instrument Collectors Association)
And KCRR
(Kansas City Ragtime Revelry)
Featuring
Frederick Hodges and the Automated Instrument Collection of Doug Cusick

This house concert has become a tradition over the past 4 years. Frederick Hodges returns to delight the audience with his interpretations of the classical rags, Gershwin and more modern composers. The Cusick collection of Automated Mechanical instruments showcases classical automated instruments that have been collected from throughout Europe and the United States. One of the historical instruments in the collection is the grand piano which stood in the parlor of Tom Pendergast in the 1930s.



Frederick Hodges at
Pendergast Grand Piano



Barbara and Doug Cusick and one of their
collection of automated mechanical
instruments

This joint event is not part of the KCRR concert offerings. Therefore, KCRR Complimentary tickets will not be honored. Seating is limited. If you are interested in attending, contact Mary Grace or Jerry Lanese at mgjer@earthlink.net or 913 491 6923

KCRR Members

Every organization must change with the times, technology and demographics. Kansas City Ragtime Revelry is no different. However, we must be careful that changes do not isolate members who have been faithful in the past, but for various reasons have not embraced the new technologies. If you are a follower of KCRR and feel that our actions are isolating you and discouraging your attendance at concerts, let me know.

At a recent meeting of the KCRR Board it was decided that KCRR should move away from distribution of hard copies of our Newsletters via postal service. The best and most economical methods of communication are either through the internet or via e-mail. For more than a year, the Newsletter has been posted on the KCRR website (www.kcragtimerevelry.org) and past Newsletters are maintained on that website. This will continue and current and past Newsletters will be available to anyone who desires to reference them.

Beginning with the next Newsletter, friends on the mailing list, members and donors will receive Newsletters via e-mail unless you indicate preference for U.S. Postal Service. Of course, we prefer that you choose to receive the Newsletter via e-mail, but we will honor any request for postal delivery. There are several mechanisms for you to inform us of your preference. The standard membership form that appears in all Newsletters has been revised so that it can be used to indicate your preferences and make any changes to your preferences and contact information. A similar form is available on the website. Or, you may call or write Jerry or Mary Grace Lanese (913 491 6923) or Don Grimes (contact information on page 7).

We will continue to make reminder calls and send out reminder e-mails before concerts if we have a current phone number or e-mail address. If you prefer to be left off of the reminder call list or reminder e-mail list, inform us.

We always welcome your ideas and opinions.

Thank you for your continued support of KCRR!

Jerry Lanese,

President, KCRR

Dick Hawk's

GASLIGHT GRILL

Featuring

Lynn Zimmer

and the Jazz Band
in the Back Room

6:30 PM Wednesday through Saturday

6:00 PM Sunday

Continental Cuisine
with an American twist
in the main dining room
beginning 4:00 PM

GASLIGHT GRILL
5020 West 137th Street
(between Roe and Nall)
Leawood, Kansas 66224
(913) 897-3540

Special appearance the first Monday of each month

The New Red Onion Jazz Babies

KANSAS CITY RAGTIME REVELRY MEMBERSHIP

KCRR cannot bring outstanding entertainment to Kansas City without support of those of you who enjoy the music. Admission alone does not cover the cost of our concerts. By becoming a member or donor of Kansas City Ragtime Revelry you can support our yearly concert series and other activities of this organization, including taking our musicians into schools. General donations have allowed KCRR to present quality concerts. Several generous donors made it possible to bring Ophelia to Kansas City last June. Specific donations have made it possible to take Frederick Hodges, Nan Bostick, Bryan Wright, the Barnharts and others into schools. Identify a musical event that means something to you and help make it happen!

All levels of membership will receive our newsletters. KCRR is a 501(c)(3) corporation and deductions allowable within the tax law apply. Donors at the bronze level and above, will be listed in KCRR newsletters, programs and other literature. Membership and donor levels are listed in the table below.

Donor Level	Annual Donation Amount
Basic Membership	\$25 to \$49
Bronze	\$50 to \$99
Silver	\$100 to \$249
Gold	\$250 to \$499
Platinum	\$500 and above

Current members – Use the form, below to update your contact or preference information

KCRR Membership and Contact List Information

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ e-mail _____

_____ Donation _____

Preferences

I am joining KCRR. My donation of is enclosed. Please remove me from all KCRR lists.

Please updated my contact information and/or preferences

Send Newsletter by _____ e-mail _____ U.S. Postal Service

Please send e-mail concert reminders.

I am interested in sponsoring a specific KCRR event. Event or activity _____

I am interested in seeing/hearing the following artist. _____

Complete the above form and send it and your donation to: Don Grimes, 6606 Hauser, Shawnee, KS 66216

Make checks payable to KCRR.

Kansas City Ragtime Revelry, Inc.

1212 W. 66th St.
Kansas City, MO 64113

Nonprofit
Organization
U. S.
POSTAGE
PAID
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Coming KCRR Events

Morten Gunnar Larsen

June 9, 2015

Frederick Hodges

AMICA/KCRR House Concert

Ethan Uslan

October 1, 2015

Scott Kirby

Fall 2015

Carl Sonny Leyland

Fall 2015

Visit our website – www.kcragtimerevelry.com