



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2007

**Looking Forward to
THE JANUARY MEETING
Friday, January 12, 2007**

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Pre-Meeting
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Performance
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Program

Marks Hall, 9th Floor
Roosevelt University
430 S. Michigan Avenue (at Congress)
Chicago, Illinois

Pre-Meeting

Focus on Jazz Part 2
Improvisation on 12 Bar Blues, Improvisation on
Misty and Lover Man, and Chord Substitutions.
See article in this newsletter for more detail.

Performance

Janet Hickey
Chopin's Polonaise-Fantaisie in A flat Major, Op 61

Program

The Psychology of Practice and Performance
by Svetlana Belsky

If what we call technique is the art of reproducing with the fingers the sound picture in the performer's mind, true musical artistry lies in the ability to form the clearest possible and the most convincing picture. In this lecture, Dr. Belsky will analyze the psychological aspects of preparing a piece – imagination, memory and design. The questions of concentration and performance anxiety will also be discussed.

Born in the Soviet Union, Svetlana Belsky began piano lessons at the age of seven and was soon performing in the major concert halls of her native Kiev. Her playing has been critically acclaimed as "passionate," "impressive," "hypnotic" and "... (possessing) a high degree of musical maturity and sensitivity." Dr. Belsky received her Bachelor of Music Summa cum Laude and Master Degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of Music where she studied with Ann Schein, a student of the legendary Arthur Rubinstein. Later, she earned her Doctorate in Performance at the Manhattan School of Music, while working under Mme. Nina Svetlanova, an heir to the tradition of Heinrich Neuhaus. Ms. Belsky has been active as a recitalist and chamber performer throughout the United States, in concert and on the radio. Dr. Belsky resides in the Chicago area, where she teaches, writes, lectures, and performs. She is on the faculty of the North Shore School for the Arts, and has recently been named Coordinator of Piano Studies at the University of Chicago.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to All.

Our December program was an insightful presentation by Bruce Berr, who gave us wonderful, concrete concepts of how to look directly into the music itself for dynamic direction, rather than strictly relying on editorial markings and suggestions.