

ACT Solutions, Inc.
Collaborative Families™
Pilot Project Benefit

World Premiere Screening

The Buddha of the Piano

Leopold Godowsky

A Critically Acclaimed New Film
Conceived & Performed by

Antonio Iturrioz



Thursday, March 25, 2010
Rialto Cinemas Lakeside
551 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Dr. Charles Sepos, Host
Executive Producer of Curtain Call on KRCB-91 FM

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Collaborative Families™ Benefit

World Premiere Screening
Antonio Iturrioz's
The Buddha of the Piano: Leopold Godowsky

PROGRAM

Greetings

Dr. Charles Sepos
Executive Producer, Curtain Call on KRCB-91 FM

Acknowledgments

Claire Spector, JD
ACTS Solutions, Inc., President & CEO

Betty Ann Spencer, JD, MFT
Director, Collaborative Families Pilot Project

Antonio Iturrioz
Pianist/Filmmaker

The Buddha of the Piano: Leopold Godowsky

World Premiere Screening (run time: 57 minutes)



Intermission: 15 minutes
DVD Signing with Antonio Iturrioz



The Art of the Left Hand Bonus Film Clip
(run time: 6 minutes 20 seconds)

Q&A: Antonio Iturrioz & Charles Sepos
Live interview & audience participation

Meet the Maestro Reception
A Toast to Antonio Iturrioz



About Antonio Iturriz

Cuban-born, Antonio Iturriz, came to the U.S. when he was very young. He made his debut at 9 and his orchestral debut at 15 playing the Liszt Piano Concerto No. 1 with Bay Area orchestras.

His teachers include his father Pablo Iturriz, Francisco de Hoyos, Bernardo Segall (who studied with Alexander Siloti, a pupil of Liszt), and Julian White of Berkeley.

Antonio is the recipient of the Los Angeles Young Musicians Foundation Award and the Dewars Young Artist Award. In 1973, he was one of 10 young pianists selected by Andre Watts to participate in the Andre Watts Piano Seminars at Tanglewood.

Antonio extensive repertoire ranges from Scarlatti to works of present day composers and includes the complete piano works of Robert Schumann. He continues to perform in the United States and in Europe, most recently in Athens, Greece. His recordings on CD include Bellini's Norma arranged by Liszt and Schumann's Davidsbundler, Opus 6.

An injury to his right hand interrupted his career for several years. While recovering, Antonio developed a formidable repertoire of left hand piano music, including the complete Chopin-Godowsky transcriptions. This led him to make his first-of-its-kind educational film, *The Art of the Left Hand: A Brief History of Left Hand Piano Music*, which had its broadcast debut and two encore performances on PBS affiliate, KRCB-TV.

DVD's of *The Art of the Left Hand* and Antonio's critically acclaimed new film, *The Buddha of the Piano: Leopold Godowsky*, are available at Antonio's website: www.TheArtOfTheLeftHand.com



About Charles Sepos

Charles Sepos is winner of numerous composition awards, including the Broadcast Music, Incorporated (BMI) Award, and grants from Meet-the-Composer and American Music Center. He is the first recipient of the Bradmark Composition Award. His music has been played by the Houston Symphony and other artists and ensembles internationally.

Charles is host and Executive Producer of Curtain Call airing on KRCB 91 FM Sonoma County Public Radio and streaming live at www.krcb.org, Fridays, noon to 1. His guests over the past 14 years include soprano Kiri Te Kanawa; mezzo-soprano Frederica Von Stade; pianists Andre Watts and Garrick Ohlsson; violinists Joshua Bell and Pinchas Zukerman; flutist James Galway; vocal quartet Anonymous 4; Kronos, Juilliard and Emerson Quartets. He also hosted Curtain Call on KRCB TV 22 San Francisco Bay Area Public Television for two years, with such guests as violinist Hilary Hahn and Turtle Island String Quartet.

He taught Composition and Theory at Shepherd School of Music where he earned Rice University's highest Course/Instructor Evaluation. He also taught for San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Rice University Office of Continuing Studies, Texas Institute for Arts in Education, University of Colorado College of Music, and University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he received Bachelor of Music, Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Composition. He currently teaches individual lessons in composition, theory and piano throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. He specializes in audition preparation and advanced placement study for conservatory-bound music students, performance coaching for emerging artists and professionals, as well as exam preparation for graduate admission and music teaching credentials.

He is a co-founder of American Philharmonic, and served as its Composer-in-Residence and its first Communications Director.

Antonio Iturriz Speaks...

On Leopold Godowsky

“Godowsky is one of the geniuses of history. During his lifetime, he achieved recognition as a pianist and, as an arranger, he was considered to be second to none. However, even accomplished musicians are not aware that he was a wonderful composer.

“Godowsky wrote original works of great musical beauty and colossal pianistic difficulty. The works for which he is most famous are the 53 paraphrases on the Chopin Etudes.

“Leopold Godowsky’s 53 paraphrases on the Chopin Etudes stand as legends among the most difficult of all piano pieces. In Godowsky’s time, Harold Schoenberg of The New York Times said, ‘These are fantastic exercises that push piano techniques to heights undreamed of even by Franz Liszt.’

“Godowsky acknowledges Chopin’s originals as, ‘the highest attainment in the realm of beautiful piano music combined with indispensable mechanical and technical usefulness. Godowsky wrote he, thought it wisest to build upon their solid and invulnerable foundation,’ for the purpose of furthering the art of piano playing. These works are testimonials to Godowsky’s pianistic gifts and his phenomenal musical imagination.”

On Godowsky Compositions for the Left Hand

Antonio Iturriz’s passion for Godowsky is partly inspired having known him as a true guide on the pianist’s path beyond the darkness of injury. While recovering from a non-piano related injury to his right hand, it was Godowsky’s beautiful music for the left hand that inspired and consoled him. There was also the true challenge of making the piano sound as if two hands are playing.

“Godowsky is the last word in left-hand piano music and a master of creating this illusion which can only be achieved when one spends enough time practicing his works.

“It was this journey of giving total attention to the left hand, using the best material made possible by Godowsky, which helped me to get through a very difficult period of my life. As a result, I added Godowsky’s extraordinary music to my repertoire and it has become some of the most interesting music I play.”

...Antonio Iturrioz Speaks

On Making *The Buddha of the Piano*

“Researching and the making of *The Buddha of the Piano* has been the most inspired artistic project I have tackled in my life. One could write or make a four hour film about Godowsky and still not cover his legendary, exciting and poignant life. The works I chose to play in the film profile his important compositions from his birth, in 1870, to his death in 1938, noting each important historical period of his life.

“Godowsky’s fame was great and international, as a pianist, teacher, and composer. Those who were fortunate enough to hear him have testified that the rhythmic and melodic subtleties of his playing were surpassed by no other pianist. He developed polyrhythmic and poly-melodic possibilities of the piano to a degree that no other composer has achieved. By doing so he became the last of lineage of innovators of piano music, with Rachmaninov and Bussoni. He is the last of the great Post-Romantic composers for the piano. He represents the end of an era.

“In the 1920’s, Sergei Rachmaninov said, “Godowsky is the only musician who has given a lasting contribution to development of piano music.

“My objective in making this first documentary about Godowsky and his genius, is to make people aware, and, in particular, to make musicians aware that he was a wonderful composer. It is my genuine wish that if more pianists know of him then his work will be more widely performed.

“All pianists should study several of Godowsky’s left hand paraphrases because no matter how good one’s left hand may be, it could always be better. This is true for every pianist.”

~ *Interview with Claire Spector, January 6, 2010, Santa Rosa, CA*

**For more information about Leopold Godowsky,
please visit the International Godowsky Society’s website:**

www.LeopoldGodowsky.com

The Piano Takes a Bow

The piano featured in *The Buddha of the Piano: Leopold Godowsky* is one of the “Mythical Ten” Steinway Duo-Art Concert Grand Demo Pianos. It was made for the Aeolian Company to be shipped around the world to demonstrate the Duo-Art reproducing mechanism. Duo-Art technology replicated hand-played performances by pianists with such precision that even audiences could not tell the difference. For technical reasons, it is both six inches longer and three inches wider than a standard 9-foot New York Steinway concert grand and has a custom cast harp. All the other beams underneath are placed just a bit differently specifically to fit the Duo-Art mechanism.

“Duo-Art player piano rolls and cutting-edge 1920’s technology were able to record 1,600 levels of volume for each note independently of all the others at any given time. This made it possible to record performances that were so “live” at the time they never thought it would be surpassed...and then Jolson sang, talkies came to the big screen, and the Depression killed everything that cost more than a dime.

The piano was restored by Tockhwock and Bruce Grimes and David Snyder of Snyder Piano Service. Tockhwock built the Player mechanism and David rebuilt the piano around it. Its piano case was designed by Tockhwock and Bruce and won the juried International Veneer Tech Craftsman’s Challenge Award in the Specialty Items Division for excellence in natural veneer and wood products applications in 2008.

Over the first five years of restoration, Tockhwock and Bruce rebuilt and inlaid the piano case with avodire wood. They realized a unique trumpeter motif with five different veneers depicting images taken from their 1987 wedding invitation. Completely rebuilding the piano’s lid presented a considerable challenge as it was very difficult to find wood large enough to cover the unusual width of the piano. The “Greek Key” molding design at the edges of the lid harkens back to Ancient Greece. Tockhwock and Bruce were intent on situating the molding joint out of sight at the far end of the piano and needed an unusually long piece which was initially impossible to find. It wasn’t until three months after Tockhwock had called every possible source in the nation that a supplier was able to provide two-14-foot pieces.

To Tockhwock’s knowledge there are only two pianos of any sort in the world that have been lengthened to accommodate a Duo-Art player mechanism since 1935 and Tockhwock made both of them happen. Of the forty or fifty fine pianos Tockhwock and Bruce have restored together, this is one of their two award-winning art case designs.

To see a slide show of the restoration of the piano, please visit the website of fine Steinway piano restorer, David Snyder, at:

www.SnydersPianoService.com, then select the Projects Link



Antonio Iturrioz playing Tockhwock & Bruce Grimes' beautifully restored 1923 New York Steinway Duo-Art 9½ foot Concert Grand

Recordings of the Music of Leopold Godowsky

Antonio Iturrioz, pianist

www.TheArtOfTheLeftHand.com

Marc-Andre Hamelin, pianist

Hyperion Recordings

www.hyperion-records.co.uk

Sonata & Passacaglia • Hyperion CDA67300

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Carlo Grante, pianist

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seven recordings

www.ArkivMusic.com

Konstantin Sherbakov, pianist

Marco Polo Recordings

Godowsky: Piano Music Vol. 3

www.ArkivMusic.com

Collaborative Families Pilot Project wishes to thank...

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www.TheArtOfTheLeftHand.com

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For more information about Collaborative Families, please email:
families@CollaborativeTeamSolutions.org

Making Collaborative Families Possible

Please send your Tax-Deductible Contributions to:
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829 Sonoma Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95404
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ACT Solutions, Inc.
Collaborative Families[™]
Pilot Project Benefit

Making Collaborative Families Possible

Our Mission

To assist self-represented parents in preventing conflict, negotiating mutually beneficial collaborative family law agreements and developing effective co-parenting plans necessary to raise emotionally healthy children.

Our services

We offer early intervention conflict prevention, skill building collaborative family law workshops for self-represented parties, and interdisciplinary collaborative team-based services for income eligible self-represented Sonoma County families with children not otherwise available in Sonoma County.

Our Focus

- sliding scale collaborative team-based family law counsel and negotiating support / co-mediation
- communications skills coaching
- co-parenting plan development
- financial decision-making & vocational support

About Collaborative Families

Collaborative Families is designed to prevent escalating conflict, repeated court battles and trauma to children caught in the middle among the more than 82% of all Sonoma County divorces filed by self-represented parties every year.

We are inspired by early efforts of Collaborative Council of the Redwood Empire colleagues' and follow the Sonoma Superior Court's leadership toward making professional collaborative conflict resolution more broadly accessible.

**The Sonoma Superior Court's Local Rule 9.25,
entitled Collaborative Law Cases, states:**

The Sonoma County Superior Court recognizes the unique nature of family law disputes and the fact that family law issues are best resolved by the parties reaching agreement over such critical matters as child custody, support, and property, without engaging in the traditional adversarial litigation process. The Sonoma County Superior Court strongly supports the use of the collaborative law process as well as other alternative dispute resolution tools for the purpose of developing both short-term and long-term workable agreements that meet the best interests of the entire family, particularly the children whose lives will be affected by the resolution.

Betty Ann Spencer, JD, MFT

Collaborative Families Pilot Project Director

A practicing family law attorney for twenty years, and a practicing collaborative lawyer since 1998. Betty also holds a CA License as a Marriage, Family Therapist (MFT).

Betty earned a B.A. and a M.A., in Clinical Psychology from San Jose State and her license as a Marriage Family Therapist in 1975. She received a Law Degree from New College of the Law, was admitted to the California Bar in 1990 and opened a family law practice in San Francisco. In 1994, when Betty's family relocated to Sonoma County, she joined Margaret L. Anderson's practice, as an associate.

In 1997, when Collaborative Practice was in its formative stages, Betty was part of a small group of Sonoma County attorneys who met with Collaborative Law leaders, clinical psychologists, Rod Nurse, Ph.D., and Peggy Thompson, Ph.D. In 1998, Betty opened a solo family law practice in Santa Rosa.

In 2000, Betty helped two Marin psychologists in editing the Pre-Mediation Orientation Handbook used in the Sonoma Family Law Court.

Betty on Collaborative Practice

Betty particularly enjoys working as a collaborative lawyer because the collaborative process is positive. Collaborative Lawyers act as guardians of the process and help participants learn to negotiate in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Collaborative lawyers work with coaches in assisting participants to communicate more effectively and to develop parenting plans that work for their children.

Participants work with lawyers, communication coaches and various financial and vocational specialists who assist them in making informed financial and vocational decisions and in dealing with issues related to our current economic crisis. The Collaborative Team can help participants protect important relationships, particularly their relationships with their children.

The agreements worked out using the collaborative process focus on the needs and interests of each member of the family. In matters relating to the children, the children are the primary focus. Participants are not expected to sign any agreement until both are ready to do so. Betty particularly enjoys working with people who want to use collaborative practice skills as a means of creating their own new beginning.

Betty is also interested in helping couples who need assistance in deciding whether to stay married or to get a divorce or legal separation. If participants want to explore reconciliation, then their collaborative team can assist them in establishing better communication and new boundaries, in having difficult conversations and in working out a post nuptial agreement which will restore hope and sanity to the participants' marriage commitment.

Claire Spector, JD, CDEA

A mediator since 1979, Claire Spector has over 27 years experience as a New York attorney and senior executive specializing in business development, commercial applications of technology and using collaborative process to build business value. Ms. Spector maintains a practice as a Mediator, Financial Neutral, Collaborative Process Facilitator and Certified Divorce Financial Analyst at the Collaborative Practice Center in Santa Rosa, CA.

She is co-founder, President and CEO of Advanced Collaborative Team Solutions, Inc., a nonprofit innovating interdisciplinary collaborative team processes, pilot projects and education programs to serve emerging and unmet public needs.

Ms. Spector is co-chair of the Civil Collaborative Practice Committee of the Collaborative Council of the Redwood Empire and is Founder and Editor of the CCRE Civil Collaborative Practice Journal. She is a member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals Civil Probate Subcommittee, ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Collaborative Law Subcommittee and ABA TIPS ADR Subcommittee on Psychology of Conflict Resolution.

She holds a B.A. in Political Science from City College of NY and a J.D., from Cardozo School of Law. She has more than seven years of professional training, and 17 years experience, as a natural medical self-care researcher and educator.

Kathleen Clark, PhD, JD, MAM

Attorney and mediator, Kathleen Clark, has practiced in the San Francisco Bay Area for twenty-two years. She holds a law degree from Golden Gate University School of Law, a PhD from Tilburg University, with a dissertation topic of Bringing Dialogue and Collaborative Law to Health Care, and a Masters Degree in Business Management from John F. Kennedy University. She is founder and CEO of Servant Lawyiership. Kathy publishes, speaks, trains professionals, consults and coaches about the dialogue process, collaborative law, patient safety, disclosure, and appreciative inquiry. Her many articles on collaborative law, disclosure, dialogue, and appreciative inquiry appear in legal, insurance and other periodicals, including various American Bar Association journals, are available on her website, www.ServantLawyiership.com.

Kathy is convening a collaborative law symposium, Bringing Healing to Law and Medicine, in San Francisco on April 7, 2010. The event is co-sponsored by three sections of the American Bar Association. Kathy has convened and facilitated dialogues across the nation on medical errors and alternatives to medical malpractice litigation. Her work builds collaborations and alliances across professions and stakeholders, including patients, physicians, defendants' and plaintiffs' attorneys, insurers, other health care providers, hospitals, risk managers, patient safety professionals and other interested parties. Kathy is a member of The State Bar of California, the American Bar Association, The Global Collaborative Law Council, the Association for Conflict Resolution, and the National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation. She is a co-founder of Advanced Collaborative Team Solutions, Inc., serves as the organization's Treasurer, and as Director of ACT Solutions' Collaborative Healthcare Dialogue Project.

For their work, perspective and counsel, we thank:

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www.CollaborativeCouncil.org

CP Cal

www.cpc.com

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Kathy Weir, Business Manager
www.LegalAidSC.org

Recourse Mediation Service

Cathy Ward, JD
Courts Program Director
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For more information about Collaborative Families, please email:

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