



'Puccini' - Photo by T. Kiya

Singularly Beautiful Roses

A Publication Dedicated to Single, Nearly Single, and Semi-Double Flowered Roses

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Of Roses and Sweet Musick

Recently, the students in a Music & Civilization class I was teaching were required to write a paper on the benefits of actively listening to music. I provided some direction for them by asking them to consider music as: math, science, an art form, a language, a way of engaging with others, and as a means of improving our well-being – physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually.

Growing roses, in many ways, impacts our lives similarly. We learn about pH and soil elements. We paint and photograph them. They figure prominently in the language of love and sorrow. We share them. Roses enticingly touch all of our senses and enrich our lives.

Numerous roses have been named to honor musicians that dedicated their lives, often to the point of struggling with poverty, to composing music. Enjoy the following concert!



'Mozart' - Photo unattributed

introduced prior to his death. Lambert began breeding roses in the early 1890's and achieved great early success with the white Hybrid Tea, 'Kaiserin Auguste Victoria' (1891). The classic white Hybrid Perpetual, 'Frau Karl Druschki,' followed in 1901. In 1904 he had released 'Trier,' a remontant white shrub-like climber which The Rev. Joseph Pemberton used to create his highly regarded Hybrid Musks. Mr. Lambert, in turn, used Pemberton's 'Robin Hood' (unnamed seedling/possible offspring of 'Trier' x 'Miss Edith Cavell'/Polyantha; released after his passing by his sister) to create 'Mozart.' It is classed as a Hybrid Musk despite having more in common with the Polyanthas.

'Trier' - Photo by Buffbeauty

The first of the class once known as the Lambertianas.

Opening the program is **'Mozart.'** Exuberant. Vivacious. Prodigious. 'Mozart' the rose is all those things much like the composer. Its smallish, one inch, five-petaled blooms are rose pink with a white center. Although diminutive they appear in massive clusters throughout the growing season. Some detect a light fragrance in its flowers. Blooms are followed by very decorative orange hips in winter. In habit, the rose has an upright but somewhat arching pattern of growth and may get fairly large. It has produced a sport named 'Rote/Red Mozart.'

'Mozart' was bred by famed German rosarian Peter Lambert (1859-1939) in 1936 and was one of the last roses he



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) was born in Salzburg, Austria. He is considered by some to be the most gifted musician in the history of classical music. He began composing music at the age of five and as a very young man toured Europe as a keyboard virtuoso. As a composer he was proficient in every genre then popular, writing more than eight hundred pieces including: symphonies, operas, piano and instrumental concertos, string quartets, and works for small instrumental ensembles. Musicologists consider him to have achieved such a perfection of compositional form that studies published as the “The Mozart Effect” suggest that listening to Mozart *may* improve one’s spatial reasoning ability, thus improving math scores.



‘Mozart’ - Photo by Schmid Gartenpflanzen

My instrument, the trombone, only appears in Mozart’s operas and in his *Requiem*, the major work he was composing when he died. I’ve been privileged to perform the trombone solo that appears in the “Tuba Mirum” section of this work! <https://www.google.com/?tbn=vid&sxsrf=ALiCzsY-ine9bHvi6cJ268kCIHqqxtqacw:1672004945242&q=tuba+mirum+trombone&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj1ncvm35X8AhUlmWoFHftSB-EQ8ccDegQICxAH&biw=1280&bih=609&dpr=1.5-fpstate=ive&vld=cid:a41e0235,vid:RP0YIQ5cGos> (tap “Control” and right click to go to the link and those that follow!)

While preparing this article I discovered a fascinating website entitled “Mozart’s Roses” at <https://www.mozartsroses.com/>. Its creator, Dr. Judith Ecklemeyer, is a professor of music. Under a discussion about Mozart’s opera *Die Zauberflöte/The Magic Flute* she has translated this lyric; “**We need to grow roses in the garden of the soul, but their thorns remind us that the beauty of their flowers comes at a price.**”



Next on the program is ‘Sibelius.’ This compact Hybrid Musk should jump into the hearts of lovers of mauve colored roses. ‘Sibelius’ is semi-double, with blooms measuring roughly one inch in diameter. Delicately scented flowers arrive throughout the growing season in large clusters. It received a bronze medal at the Baden-Baden Rose Trials in 1981.

Louis Lens (1924-2001) is the breeder of ‘Sibelius.’ The Lens family nursery, located in Belgium and founded in 1870, began growing roses in the first decade of the twentieth century.

‘Sibelius’ - Photo by Lens Roses

Twenty-three year old Louis joined the business in 1947 and began his own breeding program. In 1963 the firm introduced the very popular ‘Pascali,’ which was voted into the World Federation of Rose Society’s Hall of Fame in 1991. Louis began to turn his attention to creating roses that produced large bouquets of flowers. In addition to using several species (Multiflora, Filipes, and Arvensis) in this effort, he incorporated ‘Trier,’ ‘Robin Hood,’ and ‘Ballerina.’ ‘Sibelius’ resulted from a cross of ‘Mr. Bluebird’ x ‘Violet Hood’ (a Lens cross of ‘Robin Hood’ x ‘Baby Faurax’). Although bred before 1981, it wasn’t introduced until 1984. His breeding work is being carried on by new owners Rudy and Ann Velle-Boudolf.



‘Ballerina’ - Photo unattributed

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) was Finland’s greatest composer. Many of his compositions – orchestral, choral, and small ensemble works – were inspired by nature, Finnish folklore, and Nordic mythology. His most well-known composition is *Finlandia* (1899). The piece gave voice to the citizens of Finland in their struggle for independence from Russia. Patriotic lyrics were later given to its hymn-like conclusion. Today, English speakers may recognize it as the hymn tune “Be Still My Soul.” I am in the process of creating my own arrangement of the hymn for brass.

https://www.google.com/search?q=treorchy+male+choir+hymn+from+finlandia&biw=1280&bih=609&sxsrf=ALiCzsaIXQm1jaxK7IkGGy8AOA1PXd8pHQ%3A1672005909731&ei=FcmoY6SRLOWnqtsP6buM4AI&oq=hymn+from+finlandia&gs_lcp=Cgxnd3Mtd2l6LXNlcnAQARgCMgUILhCABDIGCAAQFhAeMgYIABAWEb46CggAEecQ1gQQsAM6BwgAELADEEM6DQgAEOQCENYEELADGAE6DwguENQCCEMgDELADEEMYAjoMCC4QyAMQsAMQOxgCOgcILhAnEOoEOgQIABBDOggILhDUAhCABDofCAAQgAQ6CggUEIAEEIcCEBQ6BAguEEM6BwgiEOoCEC6BwguEOoCEC6DAGAEoCELOCEEMYAzoMCC4Q6gIQtaIQOxgDOg8ILhDUAhDqAhC0AhBDGAM6BAgiEC6DgguEIAEELEDEMCBENEDogsILhCxAXCDARDUAjoICAAQsQMogwE6DgguELEDEIMBEMcBENEDoggIABCABBcxAzoHCAAQsQMogzoQCC4QhwIQ1AIQsQMogAQQFDolCC4Q1AIQsQMogAQ6BQgAEJECogILhCABBDqBDolCAAQFhAeEAo6BQgAEIYDSgOIQRgASgQIRhgBUJQIWPJKYPN5aANwAXgCgAFviAGGF5IBBDI5LjWYAQCgAQGwARTIARPAQAQHaAQYIARABGAnaAQYIAhABGAjaAQYIAxABGAE&scit=aws-wiz-serp - fpstate=ive&vld=cid:590480f4,vid:Ns2A5yUMZhU



The program continues with ‘Verdi.’ Like the above-mentioned rose, ‘Verdi’s semi-double blooms are mauve tinted with a white eye. In every other respect it is very similar to ‘Sibelius,’ although in warmer climates the plant may grow somewhat larger. It also was awarded a bronze medal in 1981 at the Baden-Baden Rose Trials. AND, it has the same parentage! ‘Verdi’ was introduced by Lens in 1984.

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901) was one of if not the preeminent Italian composer of opera. As a young man his music was somewhat associated with the movement to unify Italy as a nation. One of his first early successes was *Nabucco*, premiered in 1842. After being performed all

‘Verdi’ - Photo by Lens Roses



Continuing our program, the impresario – ‘Vivaldi.’ Bred in 1984, this Lens Shrub has raspberry red flowers with a sparkling white eye. Like our other “performers,” small blooms adorn the plant throughout the growing season in sizeable clusters followed by decorative orange hips. Its parents are *R. multiflora* x [unnamed seedling x ‘Robin Hood’].

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) was born in Venice. Although trained early in life to be a priest his virtuoso skills as a violinist led him to a different vocation. Hired initially as a violin teacher at a school in Venice, his compositional skills led to opportunities

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924) was born in Tuscany and raised in a family of church musicians. After seeing a performance of Verdi’s *Aida*, Puccini decided to dedicate himself to composing opera. He would eventually succeed Verdi as the champion of Italian opera. Three of his operas, *La bohème*, *Tosca*, and *Madame Butterfly*, are among the ten most performed operas of all time. His final opera, *Turandot*, was unfinished when he died in 1924, but was completed by a protégé. It contains an aria entitled “Nessun Dorma” that is regularly performed as a stand-alone aria. Recordings and performances by Luciano Pavarotti and Placido Domingo may be familiar to even non-opera lovers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUKgN-nC93c>



to perform and stage his musical works – sacred choral pieces, operas, and over five hundred instrumental concerti. His most well-known piece, the *Four Seasons*, is a series of four violin concertos each depicting a different season. Over one thousand recordings of the piece have been made! Many of his acquaintances referred to him as “the red priest” due to his red hair. Appropriately, Lens’ creation is red in color!

Top Left: ‘Puccini’ - Photo by Lens Roses

Middle Right: ‘Vivaldi’ - Photo from Wikipedia

Bottom Left: ‘Robin Hood’ - Photo from Flicker



Next, we present, 'Ravel.' Much in the same vein as those already mentioned, 'Ravel,' bred in 1986, is a five to seven petaled variety with rose red petals. The blooms, which are nicely fragrant, are a little larger than an inch in diameter and appear in good sized sprays. The parentage of this four foot tall Hybrid Musk is *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta* x 'Ballerina.' Lens used it to produce a number of seedlings and recommended it as a good seed parent.



'Ravel' - Photo from Flickr

Maurice Ravel (1875-1935) was born in the Basque town of Ciboure, France.

Having received training in piano from a young age he was accepted into the Paris Conservatory. Ravel wrote several

symphonic pieces, including the hauntingly

beautiful *Pavanne pour une enfant défunte*, opera, solo piano works, and two ballets. He was also well-known for having orchestrated Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. *Bolero*, his last composition, was premiered in 1928. For us trombonists, it has one of most exposed and challenging solos in the orchestra literature.

https://www.google.com/search?tbm=vid&sxsrf=ALiCzsYuxU5qqzec28ddwwU1QGSKhP36Gg:1672165551317&q=Trombone+solo+from+Bolero&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi_hcSNtr8AhUhlmoFHQRgAX8Q8ccDegQIDBAH&biw=1280&bih=609&dpr=1.5-fpstate=ive&vld=cid:78324d5a,vid:eVbKG_MNEII



'Paganini' - Photo from a Russian source

celebrated violinist of his time, noted for his unparalleled virtuosity and uncanny ability to memorize every piece he performed. At one time or another Paganini played violins made by Guarneri, Stradivarius, and Amati (instruments worth millions of dollars today!). One of the pieces he popularized, *Variations on Carnival of Venice*, has become a virtuosic challenge for every instrumentalist.

Now for a solo by the maestro 'Paganini' (in the US). Abundant clusters of blooms adorn this red hued Hybrid Musk. Its small five petaled flowers are carmine red with darker red edges and a contrasting white eye. The code name is LENPag, but Lens could not register it as 'Paganini' because the Meilland family had already used the name for a dark red Hybrid Tea. On their webpage it is listed as 'Harley.' Introduced in 1989, its parentage is 'Running Maid' (a Lens Shrub) x *R. multiflora* 'Nana.' Awards include a bronze medal from the Orléans Rose Trials and a certificate of merit from the Hague Rose Trials.

Niccoló Paganini (1782-1840) was born in the port city of Genoa. After learning to play the mandolin, guitar, and violin as a young man, he became the most

To conclude the program, we present ‘Richard Strauss.’ The impact of Len’s Hybrid Musk breeding can be seen in this Werner Noack Shrub. Resulting from a cross of ‘Immensee’ (a healthy Kordes’ groundcover rose also known as ‘Grouse’) x ‘Mozart,’ its one inch flowers are light pink with a white eye. Like those already featured, it blooms in large clusters and has an arching habit of growth. German hybridizer Werner Noack released it in 1989.



‘Richard Strauss’ - Photo from a Russian source

features the trombones quite prominently and, he and I have the same birthday!

<https://www.google.com/search?q=opening+of+also+sprach+zarathustra&oq=opening+of+Also&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0i22i30l2j0i390l4.9729j1j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8 - fpstate=ive&vld=cid:10cc417e.vid:SLuW-GBaJ8k>

German hybridizer Werner Noack opened Noack Rosen in 1953. The nursery is famous for breeding healthy garden roses that have serious flower power. International fame came with the introduction of ‘Flower Carpet Pink’/‘Heidetraum’ in 1988.

As with music, it’s likely we all have our favorite “genre” of roses. Their colors, flower forms, fragrances, growth habits, seasons of bloom, and adaptability uniquely entwine to engage us in unique ways. And yet where would we be if our gardens, like our records, tapes, cd’s, and digitally streamed play lists only had one song? Let us all have a diversity of melodies, harmonies, rhythms, and timbres . . . let us all have more ROSES!



Hybrid Musk
spring flush at
the home of rose
collector
extraordinaire
Cliff Orent.



Above: 'Ravel' - Photo by Cliff Orent

Below: 'Sibelius' - Photo by Cliff Orent



Encore!! (Some beautiful double-flowered roses named for composers)



Left: 'Benjamin Britten'
20th Century British Composer
Bred by David Austin



Middle: Buxtehude
17th Century Danish Composer
Breeder unknown

Right: 'Clara Schumann'
19th Century German Composer
Bred by Christian Schultheis



Middle: 'Sir Edward Elgar'
20th Century British Composer
Bred by David Austin



Left: 'Frederyk Chopin'
19th Century Polish Composer
Bred by Stanislaw Zyla



Middle: 'Johann Strauss'
19th Century Austrian Composer
Bred by Alain Meilland

Right: 'Tchaikovsky'/in US
20th Century Russian Composer
Bred by Meilland International



Middle: 'Handel'
18th Century German Composer
Bred by Sam McGredy TD



From the Editor

Although I have been growing roses for over forty years, I have been a trombonist for fifty-seven years. The moment I decided to follow music as a career remains a vivid one – a concert directed by then Capt. (USAF) Arnold Gabriel in 1968. Performing continues to be an experience that sparks something that is often unexplainable to people. One year during my career as an USAF band trombonist my unit played over two hundred concerts! I hope you enjoyed the “program notes” version of this issue’s feature – a throwback to a responsibility I had years ago with the Ocmulgee Symphony.

One of the wonderful things about growing roses is the anticipation of a new season and the new plants being added to the garden. I am adding several new varieties as well as new plants of older cultivars. Particularly exciting is the acquisition of: the red single-flowered HT, ‘Vesuvius,’ ‘Kathleen Mills, a very fragrant lightly petaled HT, ‘Allen Chandler,’ a bright red single to semi-double CIHT, and ‘Nancy Hayward,’ a rose-red single-flowered LCI.

Here in Georgia rose pruning will begin in earnest shortly after Valentine’s Day. One of the challenges Georgia rose growers face is the broad swing of temperatures have been the norm for the last decade or so. On Christmas day we experienced 19°F/-7°C. One week later our temps reached 72°F/22°C. Time to sharpen the pruning shears and tape up the holes in my gloves.

Lastly, a big thank you to Cliff Orent for his generous contribution of photos. Keep in mind he gardens in California!



Sources and Contact Information

‘Mozart’ – Angel Gardens, Burlington Rose Nursery, Rogue Valley Roses, Rose Petals Nursery, Roses

Unlimited, widely available in Europe

‘Paganini’ – Angel Gardens, available in Europe

‘Puccini’ – available in Europe

‘Ravel’ – available in Europe

‘Richard Strauss’ – available in Europe

‘Schubert’ – available in Europe

‘Sibelius’ – Freedom Gardens, available in Europe

‘Verdi’ – Rogue Valley Roses, available in Europe

‘Vivaldi’ – available in Europe

Contact Information

Singularly Beautiful Roses

Editor: Stephen Hoy - Warner Robins, GA - hoy127@cox.net

Please feel free to share this newsletter!



R. multiflora 'Nana'
Photo by Patricia Routley

used by Louis Lens in the
breeding of 'Paganini'

R. multiflora adenochaeta
Photo by Cass Bernstein

Used by Louis Lens in the breeding
of 'Ravel'

