

FROM THE DESK OF JOHN SAMPEN

Happiness is taking a sabbatical! Since August I have been on faculty improvement leave and have reacquainted myself with the saxophone by practicing 3-5 hours daily. As much as I love to teach, it is essential to retool, refuel and renew one's musical skills. We can easily become lost in the "business" of teaching and performing; special moments are needed to re-focus on the "art" of music making.

I am fortunate to have two outstanding replacements for fall semester—former BGSU graduate assistants Marco Albonetti and Shannon Ford. Both have carried on the grand saxophone tradition at BGSU and I am proud of their mature teaching skills and their devotion to our students and college.

My past professional year has been exciting. Special concerts included solos with the Toledo Symphony (Milhaud), the United States Navy Band (Shrude & Carmichael) and the University of Dayton Band (Shrude & Carmichael). Mark Bunce and I toured five universities in the Carolinas last April. During early summer, Marilyn and I spent a marvelous six weeks in Italy, where we organized a workshop for BGSU students called "Music and Art in Florence." In late June I returned to Italy for Marco Albonetti's Faenza Estate saxophone workshop. Finally, I spent one week in Taiwan as a teacher, recitalist and soloist with the Sirens Concert Band.

It's always delightful to see Bowling Green alumni during my travels—you are everywhere! To name just a few: Adrienne Welker Carter and Liz Carroll in Washington D.C., Jeff Bair in North Carolina, Linda Hartley in Dayton, Theresa Witmer in Potsdam, Joe Murphy in Mansfield, Kenny Tsai and Shyen Lee (along with Jimmy Lee, Ku and Wu) in Taiwan; I even ran into Claudia Schaetzle in Florence. The list goes on and on.

I wish you the best of health and happiness in these troubled political times. Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,



John Sampen



John Sampen in Florence

MUSIC AND ART IN FLORENCE

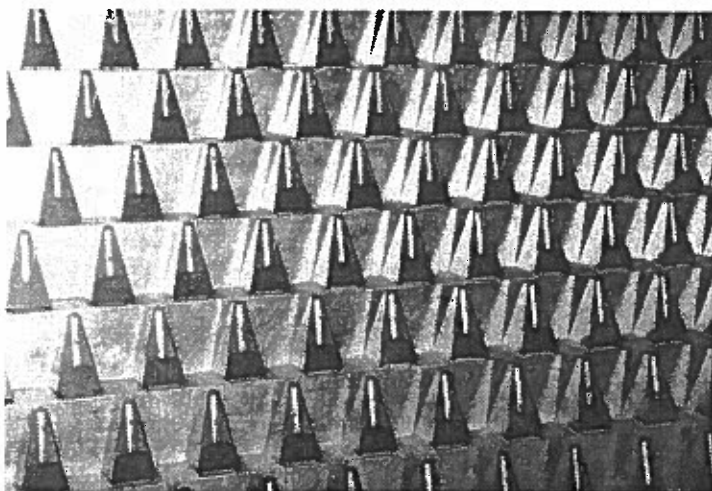
During May and June of 2001, four BGSU saxophonists and five student composers joined Dr. Sampen and Dr. Shrude in a special workshop entitled "Music and Art in Florence." The BGSU music students participated in intensive lesson and chamber music coaching as well as analysis classes, group discussions and performances. Their study also included Renaissance art history (taught by Studio Art Centers International or SACI) with visits to historical sites in Florence and the surrounding cities of Pisa, Sienna, Fiesole and Lucca.

Most of the saxophone sessions were held in the SACI "dungeon" with our friendly art skeleton. (L-R Greg Cornelius, Jeff Price, Kelli Pence, Dr. Sampen, Jeff McLemore).



"Making Friends" in Florence

ULTIMATE NIGHTMARE



Metronome Exhibit for Ligeti's ONE HUNDRED METRONOMES

If you consider the metronome your enemy, then this photo probably represents the "ultimate nightmare." While teaching at the Paris Conservatory in the winter of 2000, Drs. Sampen and Shrude attended a performance of Ligeti's ONE HUNDRED METRONOMES. The music consists of the metronome's "ticks" and "clicks" as the machines work through their individual wind-up cycles. Imagine all the scale permutations with this configuration.

THE TAIWAN CONNECTION

Since 1996, BGSU has enjoyed the residence and talents of five Taiwanese saxophonists. Each continues to pursue different stages of career development, but all are making important cultural statements. They will most certainly be responsible for shaping the future of the concert saxophone in Taiwan.

During August of 2001, Shyen Lee and Chia-Hsiu Tsai organized a saxophone camp in Taipei for more than 50 Taiwanese students. The setting presented a perfect opportunity for a Taiwanese reunion. Chia-Hsiu ("Kenny") Tsai (1998 MC & 2000 MM), and Shyen Lee (1998 MM) are pursuing professional teaching careers in Taipei. Cheng-Yu "Jimmy" Lee (2001 MC) is a current master's candidate at the University of North Texas. Po-Yuan Ku (1999 MC) is completing his master's degree at BGSU and Chih-Huan Wu is a certificate student at BGSU.



(L-R) Chia-Hsiu Tsai, Dr. Sampen, Shyen Lee, Cheng-Yu Lee, Po-Yuan Ku, and Chih-Huan Wu

CURRENT EVENTS

BGSU saxophone ensembles performed at least sixteen concerts in fall semester alone, including a live broadcast for Toledo morning television, a "Saxophobia" young audience presentation, various party receptions, and guest concerts in nearby public schools and colleges. Many in the saxophone studio also traveled to Dayton, Ohio in February as participants in the Regional North American Saxophone Alliance meeting. There were also trips overseas, including our four students who traveled to Italy for the Florence workshop. Additionally, Kelli Pence and Greg Cornelius spent time in France and Germany, Eva Egolf participated in a workshop in Bali, Carey Valente and Erik Rönmark visited France and Sweden, and Ku and Jimmy Lee returned to Taiwan.

Special campus guests included Claude Delangle (Paris Conservatory), Frank Bongiorno (UNC-Wilmington) and Jean-Michel Goury (CNR de Boulogne Billancourt).

There were, of course, the spirited saxophone parties such as our croquet outing at Rachel Clark's house. We continued morning basketball activities as well as informal student meetings on the third floor around the mushroom couch, often with Steve Leffue sound asleep following his all-night practice sessions. Steve officially graduated in the summer of 2001 and is planning to live in Amsterdam where he will study with Arno Bornkamp. Other recent graduates include Cheng-Yu Lee (Jimmy) who finished the certificate program and is pursuing a master's degree at University of North Texas. Erik Rönmark completed his masters and has moved to Ann Arbor as a doctoral assistant with Donald Sinta. Kelli Pence and Jessica Maxfield finished their degrees and are now graduate candidates at Northwestern where they study with Fred Hemke. And finally David Born joined the employed ranks with his new teaching position in Elyria.

As already mentioned, our 2001/2002 class has been nobly led by Marco Albonetti and Shannon Ford while Sampen completes his leave of absence. The studio itself is one of largest ever with eight new freshmen and eight graduate/music certificate students for a total of thirty-one saxophonists. They hail from the states of Illinois, Michigan, Georgia, Florida, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, Tennessee, Missouri, Virginia, Ohio, and the countries of Canada and Taiwan.



"Cut throat" Croquet

Our competition award winners for 2001/2002 include:

5 th Generation Sax Qt	Winner of Coleman Chamber Music Competition—Special performance and \$4000 (Jeff Price, Erik Rönmark, Kollister Williams, Steve Leffue)
Absolut Zero Sax Qt	MTNA State Winners-WW Division (Chris Blossom, Erik Rönmark, Jessica Maxfield, Kollister Williams)
Christopher Blossom	BGSU Competitions in Music Concerto Winner
Michael Ibrahim	2 nd Place at the National Music Festival of Canada
Steve Leffue	Semi-finalist-International Competition of Popular Music for Saxophone (France)
Dusty Maroon	Mark S. Kelly University Band Scholarship

Jessica Maxfield	4 th Place winner—Ukraine International Saxophone Competition; BGSU Competitions in Music Finalist
Lee Morrison	Agnes Fowler Competition—Ohio Federation of Music Clubs (soloist with Central Ohio Symphony orchestra)
Kelli Pence	BGSU Competitions in Music Finalist
Jeff Price	Winner 2001 Woodwind Orchestral Division of National Federation of Music Clubs (Ohio)
Erik Rönmark	BGSU Competitions in Music Finalist
Kollister Williams	BGSU Competitions in Music Finalist
David Vitale	Music Education Teaching Award



Members of the 2001 Saxophone Class with Claude Delangle

5TH GENERATION QUARTET WINS THE COLEMAN

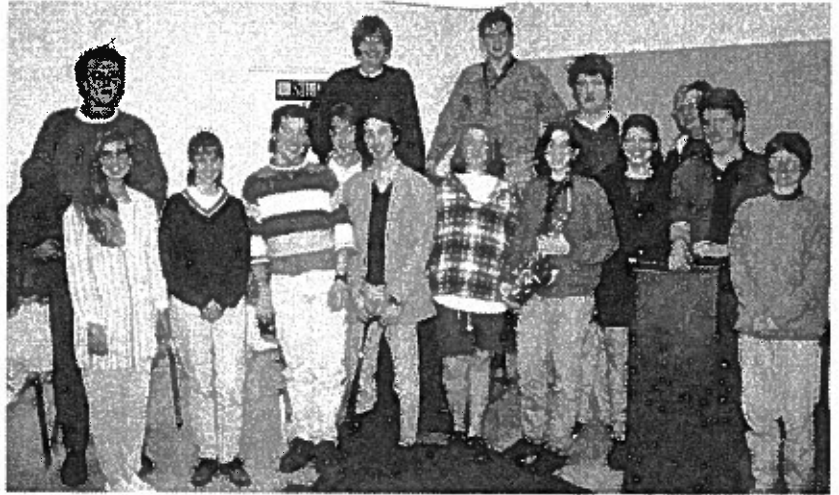
Congratulations to the 5th Generation Quartet on their first place finish at the National Coleman Auditions in Pasadena, California. This competition is one of the premiere chamber music contests in the USA and the honor marks the first Coleman win for a BGSU ensemble. The winner's concert and \$4000 in prize money were awarded to Jeff Price (soprano), Erik Rönmark (alto), Kollister Williams (tenor) and Steve Leffue (baritone).



L-R Kollister Williams, Jeff Price, Steve Leffue, Erik Rönmark

ALUMNI UPDATE

Yiannis Miralis (1995 MM) is the new professor of saxophone and music education at the University of Idaho (Moscow). **Scotty Stepp** (1999 MM) won a Fulbright Scholarship for studies in France with Jean-Yves Forneau. Scotty is also nearing completion of his doctorate from the University of Illinois. **Russell Peterson** (1995 MM) released a new CD entitled "American Breath" which features Maslanka's SONATA, Bell's BLUE LIGHT and Peterson's own CONCERTO for alto sax and percussion orchestra. (Order on line with www.barkingdogrecords.com). **Marco Albonetti** (1994 MC & 1996 MM) is teaching at BGSU as one of Sampen's replacements during the fall of 2001. Albonetti also continues his lectureship at the Lawrence Conservatory and is director of the Faenza Estate saxophone summer workshop in Italy. **The Transcontinental Saxophone Quartet** (Miralis, Stepp, Peterson & Albonetti) released a new CD entitled "Mountain Roads" with music of Maslanka, Stock and Peck (order from Albany Records). **Wesley Miller** (1989 BM) is co-owner of the Columbus Music Academy in Columbus, Ohio which provides lessons to 2000 private students as well as instrumental music classes to many of the area Catholic schools. **Susan Cook** (1992 BM) is director of the music program at the Meritt School of Music in Chicago as well as saxophone instructor at DePaul University. **Claudia Schaeztle** (1997 MC) has moved to Montreal and she will soon be married to her friend Ronnie. **Lisa Fiorelli** (1997 BM) has accepted a graduate assistantship in saxophone at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.



Master class of 1995

Lisa Rider (1988 BM) has adopted a baby boy from Russia (age 3). **Todd Gentzel** (1998 MM) writes that he is adjunct saxophone teacher at Stephen F. Austin State University with 8 students and a quartet. Todd was married last year to Cynthia. **Bill Budai** (1995 MM) has moved to Indianapolis where he is teaching at Indiana University and is directing the IUPUI Music Academy preparatory program. **Sandy Bowman Bennett** (1987 BM) and her husband Bill enjoy summer excursions on their Harley motorcycles. Sandy continues teaching at Norwalk, OH. **Linda Hartley** (1979 BM) has started "New Horizons," a band program for senior citizens at the University of Dayton. She is past editor of the OMEA TRIAD journal. **Chris Scinto** (1997 MM) is the new professor of music at Paradise College in Arizona. **Shannon Ford** (1995 MM) is serving as sabbatical replacement for Dr. Sampen during fall of 2001. She also maintains a large private studio in Toledo, plays with Sax 4th Ave and is clarinetist with the Lima Symphony Orchestra. **Richard Will** (1986 BM) is past president of OMEA's District 1. **Bryan Polacek** and **Chris Blossom** (both continuing BM degree candidates) played hundreds of concerts in Selma, Alabama last spring as part of Chamber Music America's Rural Residency Program. A freelance teacher and musician, Bryan now lives in Chicago with alumni **John Pehlke** (1997 BM) and **David Lichtman** (1999 BM). **Brian Bair** (1982*) reports that he has started Bair Ware, a new business in Encino, CA which specializes in designing, building and servicing professional music recording studios. His clients include Eddie Van Halen and Mike Post (TV music composer for NYPD Blue and Law and Order). Brian will soon be married to his friend Debora.