



AIRWAVES

WLRH PUBLIC RADIO 89.3 FM

THE QUARTERLY PROGRAM GUIDE · LATE WINTER/EARLY SPRING 2008

Held Over! Encore!! Extended Engagement!

Signs of a hit show – a smashing success that no one wants to end. With money rolling in from an appreciative audience, it wouldn't make sense to cut the run of a lucrative production – unless it's a public radio fund drive. Last year's fall fund drive exceeded the goal by some \$20,000, leading the staff to believe that just maybe we could shorten the drive a bit. So, on the heels of the most successful drive in WLRH history – NOT back by popular demand – it's the first weekend of the spring fund drive! We'll kick things off on a Monday and wrap up the following Saturday afternoon. You'll be able to hear your favorite weekend programs without pledge breaks and the WLRH staff can rest up for a busy week. We'll have six days instead of the usual eight to chat about the all-new premiums, offer exciting incentives, have fun with the volunteers and raise \$150,000 while we're at it. If this works, WLRH will make the 6-day pledge week a tradition.

Thanks so much to everyone who pledged in the fall – your generosity made this shortened drive possible. The spring drive begins Monday April 7th and ends Saturday the 12th. If you'd like to volunteer, call 895-9574 or send us an email at www.wlrh.org/contact.

"Echoes" Music, Like Elvis, Is Everywhere.

by John Diliberto

You may not be able to hear "Echoes" everywhere, but you can't go far without running into the music that we play. Take "The Truman Show." Not only do you hear Philip Glass's music, but look closely at one of the "command center" scenes, and you'll see the composer himself at a keyboard, orchestrating the sounds of Truman's life. Most "Echoes" artists don't get screen time, but more and more, their presence is being felt in film, TV, multi-media and the real world.

Walk into a Discovery, Nature Company, or Natural Wonders store, and instead of being bombarded by rock or put to sleep by Muzak® music, you're likely to be invigorated by the sounds heard on "Echoes." Notably, you don't hear "Echoes" music in supermarkets or elevators.

Pop on "Marketplace" or "ATC," and you'll hear buttons culled from "Echoes" staples Dead Can Dance, Billy McLaughlin, Edgar Meyer & Bela Fleck, Michael Hedges, Ottmar Liebert and Pierre Bensusan.

One of the core attractions for "Echoes" has been its evocative quality, its capacity to transport listeners to realms of the imagination. It's that same ability that draws advertisers and film directors to the music and musicians you hear on "Echoes." One of the most popular albums of the last three years on "Echoes" was "Songs of Sanctuary" by Adiemus. "Echoes" was playing it a full year before it popped up on a TV commercial for Delta Airlines, its original source point in Europe.

Countless sponsors can't get enough of that Ry Cooder Paris, Texas slow slide guitar, and recently, Mike "Tubular Bells" Oldfield's music has turned up in a beer ad, while The Orb has been ripped off for the Volkswagen Beetle. Credit the VW folks for their good taste. You'll recall a few years ago they used Clannad's "Theme from Harry's Game" in another spot.

This music immediately paints a picture in the mind. Just a few notes carries you to a butte in Arizona, a jet winging over the clouds, and a cold brew being guzzled. Okay, some of the connections even I don't get.

But it's in films that the sounds of "Echoes" have truly flowered. We frequently play film music on "Echoes" and a few times a year "Echoes" goes to the movies with special shows featuring nothing but soundtracks.

Heard a score that caught your ear lately? It's probably being played on "Echoes" including Mychael Danna's scores

for Atom Egoyan's "The Sweet Hereafter" and "The Ice Storm," any number of Thomas Newman scores such as "Oscar & Lucinda," "Unstrung Heroes" and "Shawshank Redemption," and compilation scores like "City of Angels."

Many of these composers have been featured on "Echoes." In recent years, we told you the musical secrets behind "The X-Files" and "Millennium" with Mark Snow, heard Mark Isham dissect a TV score, and listened to Elliott Goldenthal pull back the cape of Batman.

And of course, the cross-over goes the other way. It seems like every other film trailer and every third film uses Loreena McKennitt's "The Mummer's Dance," including the trailer for the hit, "Ever After." And if they don't use Loreena, there's always Enya. She hasn't composed for a film since her first album 12 years ago, but that hasn't stopped countless directors from using her music in their movies.

And when they can't get Enya, they get James Horner to compose a weak replication. If the "Titanic" soundtrack is any indication, imitation is the sincerest form of multi-platinum success.

Some film composers have an ear for the "Echoes" landscape. Peter Gabriel's score for Martin Scorsese's "The Last Temptation of Christ" was a virtual template of "Echoes." It's also the most often cited influence by artists you hear on "Echoes" Michael Mann could've taken half his soundtrack for "Heat" right off an "Echoes" show.

Now, several "Echoes" artists are composing for film, including Michael Brook ("Albino Alligator"), Daniel Lanois ("Slingblade"), and Stewart Copeland ("Little Boy Blue").

What's been most gratifying is when a director like Ric Burns (PBS's "The Way West") actually hears "Echoes." Driving late at night in Idaho, he tuned in to "Echoes" and heard a piece from Steve Roach.

"It really exemplified just what I was trying to say, so powerfully," recalled the director in an "Echoes" interview. "It was just that sense of the kind of the infinite unfolding of the American landscape. As soon as we got to a telephone, I called New York, to find out where this piece of music comes from."

Ric Burns had the experience that listeners to "Echoes" have every night.



King's Singers: WLRH welcomed one third of the *King's Singers* to our studios on November 30th, 2007. The baritone section, Philip Lawson and Christopher Gabbitas, dropped by during *Morning Blend* to chat with Judy Watters about the holiday program they were performing that evening as part of the Huntsville Chamber Music Guild's Celebrity Series. We learned some of the Lawson and Gabbitas family history, including a short stint by Christopher as a "solicitor," and Philip's pre-King's Singers career teaching music. Both baritones expressed their continuing delight in being a part of the group they had admired since their childhood days as choristers.

Left to Right: Philip Lawson, Lisa Schneider, Christopher Gabbitas

Honorary president of the King's Singers fan club, Lisa Schneider, savors the moment!

Celebrating 20 Years of on NPR (and Not Getting Towed Outta Boston)

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, American motorists have been involved in an estimated 120 million fender benders since the Tappet brothers first hit the airwaves. [I've been telling Ray to drive less!] While most of the affected bumpers are replaceable, Tom and Ray Magliozzi, hosts of NPR's award-winning program *Car Talk*, certainly are not. [Actually, we just hired a chimp to fill in for us.]

Twenty years and thousands of phone calls later, *Car Talk* is still cruising [sputtering] in the fast lane. WBUR's magazine *Airwaves* (AW) recently had a chance to sit down with the irrepressible [reprehensible] duo to discuss their anniversary, their feature on *60 Minutes* and their plans for the future. [Or lack thereof!]

AW: This year marks *Car Talk*'s 20th anniversary. How did you celebrate [commiserate]?

Ray: Well, the first thing we did was to hide all the lamp shades. We didn't want my brother repeating his performance from our 10th anniversary.

Tom: Right. At first, we thought about just going out to a nice restaurant to celebrate. But then we remembered that my brother has been banned from all the nice restaurants around here. So we went to Plan B.

Ray: Actually, we decided to celebrate with our listeners. We invited them to a big party at the Charles Hotel courtyard. One of my guys at the garage has a band—*The Blue Suede Boppers*—so they played swing music and old rock and roll. And WBUR and a bunch of local restaurants put on a great feast for us.

Tom: Just for the record, we've been on WBUR for 30 years, and NPR for 20 years. After we made a mess of things at 'BUR, and finally figured out which end of the microphone was up, NPR started distributing us nationally in '87.

AW: You were recently featured [sandwiched between real news stories] on *60 Minutes*. How does it feel to know that your once small-time radio show has grown into a program worthy of recognition on TV's top-rated newsmagazine?

Ray: Well, some of the top criminals and sleaze balls of our age have been caught by *60 Minutes*, so we felt right at home.

Tom: When they came knocking, we assumed it was a sting operation and they finally caught us impersonating a radio show.

AW: You were the voices of Rusty and Dusty Rust-Eze in the hit movie *Cars*. What was it like being part

of an all-star voice cast? [We're still waiting for Paul Newman to send us our case of salad dressing!]

Tom: Well, we never met any of the real stars. We did our part right here at WBUR. The folks from Pixar came out and we spend a few hours in the studio doing our lines and improvising some stuff. They took away the tapes, and next thing we know, two years later, we're in the movie.

Ray: We did a private screening for WBUR listeners at the Brattle Theater when it came out, and my brother almost got a date out of it, so we considered the project a success overall.

AW: Global warming is a hot topic [pun intended?] in the news. Assuming that not all of our readers can spring for a new hybrid, what tips do you have for them to lower their car emissions?

Tom: Drive less. The fewer gallons of gasoline you use, the less carbon dioxide you create. So if you drive a hybrid, or a high mileage car, that's great. But if you walk, take the train, or ride a bike, you're really helping, too.

Ray: For my part, I'm trying to get my brother to shut up more often. He produces more hot air per mile than a Chevy Suburban.

AW: More than anything else, what do you want your audience to drive away with after listening to [grinning and bearing through] your program?

Ray: That it's only a car. Life's short. Don't let something as unimportant as a car ruin your day.

Tom: And don't drive like my brother.

AW: Where do you see *Car Talk* in 5 years? 10 years? How about your own careers outside of the show? [If Shatner isn't doing those commercials anymore, then we hope to take his spot!]

Ray: I see *Car Talk* in syndication. Like *I Love Lucy*.

Tom: While we're sitting on the beach at Wai Ki Ki.

Ray: Of course, we said that at the 10th Anniversary.

Car Talk can be heard on WLRH Saturday mornings at nine and Sundays at noon. Podcasts are available for download at cartalk.com.

And to get a date with Tom, email him at sgtpepperslonelysparkplugman@cartalk.com!

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Tote Bags, Travel Mugs and Snappy Red T's – New Stuff for WLRH Supporters

Just in time for an early spring... fresh new premiums for members of WLRH. From the Naxos USA Classics at the Movies series it's Adventure featuring over an hour's worth of classic and classical themes from such films as *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Goldfinger*, and *Batman* with music composed by contemporary film composers John Williams, John Barry and Danny Elfman as well as selections from our old friends Mozart, Bach and Johann Strauss, Jr. Fans of the CD series *I Heard it on NPR* will enjoy *Singers, Songs and Sessions*, an all-acoustic offering featuring artists like

The Jayhawks, Rosanne Cash and Randy Newman. You don't have to sit in your car to enjoy NPR's *Driveway Moments – All About Animals*. Relive – or hear for the first time – the amazing stories of the deer that ran middle school track and the parrot that imitates the voice of its owner's deceased mother.

Got enough CDs? Well, you can never have enough T-shirts, especially snappy red ones with the *Morning Edition* logo on it.

Remember the red coffee mugs we offered a while back? It's the same color and design, but you wear it instead of drink out of it. Now, if you're needing something to drink from, WLRH can help you out with a stainless steel *All Things Considered* travel mug. OK, we have CDs, T-shirts, travel mugs... what are we leaving out? Oh yeah, the tote bag, can't forget that. The pledge levels for this assortment of goodies are listed on the back of this program guide and on our website, wlrh.org.



New grandmother, Judy Watters with Harry Baughman Watters "little Harry," born New Year's Day, 2008 at Bethesda Naval Hospital, and weighing in at 7 lbs, 4 oz. Little Harry's parents, SFC Harry Watters and SSG Holly Watters, are members of the Army Band/Orchestra based at Ft. Myer, VA. Grandma Judy will no doubt be commuting from Huntsville to Washington, D. C. on a regular basis!

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WLRH, Alabama's first full-service Public Radio Station, is a member of Public Radio International and National Public Radio. Offices and studios are located on the University of Alabama in Huntsville campus.

Radio Reading Service

WLRH transmits special programming for the blind and visually handicapped Monday through Friday. Eligible listeners can obtain free receivers to pick up the special signal enabling them to hear interviews, local newspapers, books, and other daily features. To join our present listeners or to learn more about this program, contact the Radio Reading Service department.

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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5:00 am					
6:00					
7:00			Morning Edition		
8:00					
9:00					
10:00			Morning Blend		
11:00					
12:00 N					
1:00					
2:00			Among Friends		
3:00					
4:00			All Things Considered		
5:00					
6:00			Marketplace		
7:00			Fresh Air		Democracy Now!
8:00			Classical Evening		World Café
9:00					
10:00			Echoes		Reelin' in the Years

Partial Schedule: 5 am – 10 pm. For full overnight schedule: www.wlrh.org

	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
5:00 am		
6:00	Classical Morning	
7:00		
8:00	Weekend Edition	
9:00		
10:00	Car Talk	
11:00	Whad' Ya Know?	St. Paul Sunday
		Sound and Spirit
12:00 N		
1:00	Brass, Reeds & Percussion	Car Talk
2:00	From The Top	A Prairie Home Companion
3:00	The Splendid Table	
4:00	Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me	Thistle & Shamrock
		Weekend ATC
5:00		
6:00	A Prairie Home Companion	This American Life
7:00		City Arts & Lectures
8:00	Folk Sampler	Alternative Radio
9:00	Talkin' the Blues	Living On Earth
10:00	Riverwalk	Classical Evening

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