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Ithaca, June 6, 2014

Prof. Joseph Burns
Dean of Faculty
Day Hall, Cornell University

Dear Joe,

I became director of the committee in early 2014 replacing Prof. Mary Beth Norton. Prof. Norton has now stepped down from the committee. The two new members are Ms. Jenn Bassman, recently hired at the Cornell Concert Series (CCS) office, and starting fall 2014, Prof. Philip Lorenz from the Dept. of English.

During the 2013-2014 academic year the Faculty Committee on Music met three times: Oct. 1, 2013, Nov. 6, 2013 and Feb. 19, 2014. Our discussions at the meetings consisted of finalizing the schedule of performances for the Cornell Concert Series in 2014-2015 and exploring possible invitations to artists in 2015-2016. We also discussed various financial matters, concerns of low attendance at concerts and the ongoing re-branding effort of the CCS, part of which involves the development of a new insignia and website.

The artists invited during the 2013-2014 season represented a mix of the classical, jazz and world genres: Dafnis Prieto Trio, Mariinsky Orchestra, the Rose Ensemble, Midori, Alfredo Rodriguez, Tempesta di Mare, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and Roby Lakatos Ensemble. Master classes were offered by Dafnis Prieto and Tempesta di Mare.

We remain concerned about our allocation of \$152K in 2014-2015, the result of a 5% reduction (since 2009). Any reduction and uncertainty in funds imposes a constraint on our ability to plan, since artist contracts need to be finalized well in advance. We are pursuing the offering of more concerts in Barnes Hall to explore the presentation of high-profile artists in a high-impact space. Barnes Hall does offer such a high impact, although it limits us to reduced ticket sales, giving rise to additional financial concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "P. Diamessis", followed by a horizontal line.

Peter Diamessis