

Who Knew In NWO?

Tonight, I joined Megs to partake in a concert performed by The Black Swamp Strings of which CC is a cellist. I remember learning a month or so ago that the concert was this weekend but I was not sure of the date, thank heaven my friend invited me to come on my SATURDAY OFF!

The music was phenomenal! It ranged from Bach's *Jesu. Joy of Man's Desiring* (one of the most beautiful pieces EVER written) to more contemporary fare such as theme from *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Schindler's List*, and "All I Ask of You" from *The Phantom of the Opera*. Another favorite of mine... Brahms's *Hungarian Dance No. 5* was also presented. I know that almost everyone has heard this piece somewhere.

I was particularly impressed with the age range of the musicians. There were several who had just or were about to graduate high school who started with the group at age 14 back in its "garage days." There were also the seasoned veterans. I don't know how long it takes to become even close to being proficient enough on a stringed instrument to perform with a group of this talent, but it seems like you would have to start at birth!

One of our neighboring audience members has a nephew who was a member of the group who is now a professional musician. He will soon be heard on the scores of two of this summer's sure-fire hits: Steven Spielberg's *Super 8* and *Cars 2*. He is also in the Santa Barbara Orchestra. I guess it is possible to achieve a life-long dream no matter where you grow up. The audience member told me to congratulate "my wife" on a great job! Sorry, she only plays my wife on stage. ☐

THANKS MEGS...Had lots of fun! And great job, wife ☐ Until next time.

Here is Brahms's Hungarian Dance for those of you who think

they have never hear it!

But It WAS A Productive Rehearsal!

The last two rehearsals have been dedicated to blocking the entire show... preliminary blocking anyway. You just know that it is going to change, particularly when we get our two weeks (of rehearsal) time on the stage. But even to get that little idea in your head as to what you will be doing on stage is a big help. It was like the blind leading the blind but when aren't first blockings like that. We did get to see "Eve's" development of her big moment and the rest of us think she is off to a good start!

I am pleased with where I am at this point! The memorization is coming. Although, I do find myself running over "Kate's" lines at times which at times seems appropriate since most of our moments end dramatically. However, I will focus a bit more on the cue lines.

One of the highlights last night did not involve any blocking or scripts. In the middle of a scene, we heard the thrilling refrain of John Williams' "Superman March." I should have ignored it and kept the others guessing. I was as surprised as them because I am usually careful to turn the cell phone off at inopportune times. I did silence it after I read the text. I did get HOMEWORK! I'm to find my recording of the instrumental "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" which is an important part of the show. It is in my itunes library. I wonder if there is a way to send it to Beth via email. I'll see.

All in all.. a successful rehearsal with less than [4 weeks to go](#)?!