

2006: NST Year In Review

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Dianne Stromfeld

From Bd. Critic to Bd. Director



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Musings & Perusings

A Delightful Musical Evening

Matthew Weissman, an exceptionally fine pianist of extraordinary talent, came to the Towers Monday, November 20th to perform beautiful music on our baby grand piano. The evening was certainly a perfect way to start everyone's Thanksgiving holiday.

Matthew, the 25 year old, handsome, sensitive, aesthetic looking artist, came dressed comfortably in casual clothes, and that was one of the first surprises. The second was the setting up of the screen and camera to record his playing throughout the performance, a very special added treat for everyone. We could watch his every movement, as his skilled, graceful fingers danced across the keys, while at the same time, carefully observe his intense dedication to his work. The

third surprise was Matthew's warning that we wait with applause until each selection was completed. The reason for that was that though the program included varied works by Mozart, Liszt, Chopin and Debussy, most of the selections were less familiar choices. Some of us were actually too quick and did applaud too soon once or twice—but all was forgiven.



Harriet Epstein

Weissman didn't start studying until he was nine, which is comparatively young for a serious musician. But his tal-

ents are not limited to music, for he also performed on the stage since he was five, and was a member of the International Thespian Society and an honorary member of the American Liszt Society.

He has already played at many, many outstanding concert halls, including Steinway Hall, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall, Greenfield Hall, and the Brooklyn Center for Performing Arts, to name a few. He has won many prizes, including the Los Angeles Liszt Competition and the International Web Concert Hall Competition, as well as a host of others. At 25, he has already accumulated more than enough material to fill his biography, which someone will surely write some day soon.

Everyone quickly surrounded Weissman to offer their thanks and appreciation, with hopes that he'll return some time soon. Residents here all love good music and are delighted when they have such talented people perform. We'll all look forward to his next concert here.

The concert was also another opportunity for Anne Brady to remind us to again be grateful to Sidney Young for the VIP Room piano, his generous gift to North Shore Towers some years ago.



Pianist Matthew Weissman

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