

Canadian Museum of Rail Travel

March 12, 2005

The 1864 “*John Broadwood & Sons*” Concert Grand Piano
in the “Royal Alexandra Hall”

PIANO USE POLICY

PREAMBLE

* The 1864 Broadwood concert grand piano was donated to the Museum in 2003 on the understanding that it would be cared for and used appropriately. We wish to respect the donor’s wishes as far as possible in this regard, and have therefore established this policy for use.

* It is stored in a special environmentally-controlled and secure room in the Palm Court accessible through a set of double French Doors from the Royal Alexandra Hall, where the piano can be used for performances, background/reception music, rehearsals, and workshops, etc. by qualified users.

* It had its first public use at the Royal Alexandra Hall with performances by the Donors Prof. Helmut Brauss and his wife, Mezzo-Soprano, Kuniko-Furuhata Bruass, which occurred at the grand opening of the new museum site and facilities, Sept.4/2004

* While the piano is a sturdy instrument, it does have only a single repetition action, which will not allow quick repetitions on one note. For this reason we suggest that a wide variety of repertoire be prepared by any pianist hired to or requesting to play the piano, and that some rehearsal time be allowed for the pianist to get accustomed to its idiosyncratic action. A sensitive player should recognize that the sound and action are more appropriate for some music than for others.

* As a very general rule, music from the 18th to the mid-19th century (Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann) is more suited to this piano than later classical music such as Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev, Debussy, etc. In the more popular vein, the sound of the piano is more suited to ballad than heavy rock playing.

* On no account should the piano be used for more avant-garde pieces in which the strings are strummed or plucked directly by the performer. This could damage the instrument significantly. This is a heritage instrument, and if it is to continue to perform for future generations, its use must be necessarily monitored on a rigorous basis as noted. The Museum hopes someday to obtain a more modern Steinway or other make of concert grand piano, for more generalized use.

RULES OF USE:

* The Piano must be brought out of storage, placed, and returned only by Museum staff.

* No ornaments (flowers etc), food or drink, or pencils/ pens should be placed anywhere on the piano, the keys

or music rack.

- * Do not use the lid as a table to unpack music or cases.
- * Ask Museum staff to open the top for you if needed. Do not touch the strings.
- * Please wash hands before use. Short fingernails are recommended. Please remove watches and rings.
- * Please ensure that the soles of shoes are clean before playing the piano.
- * Only Museum staff are to clean the piano. If cleaning is required, please notify staff.
- * Use caution with microphones and music stands, as they can significantly damage the piano if knocked over.
- * The pianist, or a registered delegate, will be required to stay with the piano at all times if used for receptions or other functions involving the service of food and beverages in the Royal Alexandra Hall. *The piano is never to be left unattended at these types of public functions.*

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The 1864 John Broadwood & Sons Concert Grand Piano

** Please note that all applicants must have experience on an acoustic (non-electric) piano.*

APPLICATION FOR PIANO USE

1) DATE(s) DAY(s)..... 200.....

2) Pianist name

3) Address

4) Phone # Fax.....Email

5) Pianist experience - length of time, education, certificates,
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6) List the types of pianos that the pianist has had experience on
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7) List work(s) to be played, including the Composer(s) and approximate length of each piece.

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8) What type of function will you be part of.

.....

9) Who is the alternate who will oversee the piano should you be leaving it alone at any time during the public use ?

..... phone

(CONTINUED OVER)

10) If applicable, please name the group using the Royal Alexandra Hall for the piano use.

.....

address

contact name phone #

12) The pianist agreement to conditions of use:

Name (print)

Signature. X.....

13) The "alternate" agreement to conditions of use (*if applicable*)

Name (print)

Signature. X.....

14) **FEES (payable before the event).**

Please fill appropriate categories and total

* Piano Use Fee \$ 40 \$

* Tuning Fee (*if required*) \$ 150.00 \$.....

* Damage deposit - (*if applicable*) \$ 200 \$..... (for refund after final condition report)

TOTAL DEPOSIT \$ (AMOUNT ENCLOSED)

10) A condition report is required, which the applicant and museum staff will sign before and after use. (See attached)

Thank you for your adherence to these conditions that will see this heritage instrument continue in use for future generations. Please sign and bring this application to the Museum at your earliest convenience for forwarding to the

East Kootenay Music Teachers Association (EKMTA)

**** Applications will be reviewed by the EKMTA. Please apply early enough for this review process. You will be contacted within 10 days of application.***

Garry W. Anderson

Executive Director

The Canadian Museum of Rail Travel

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