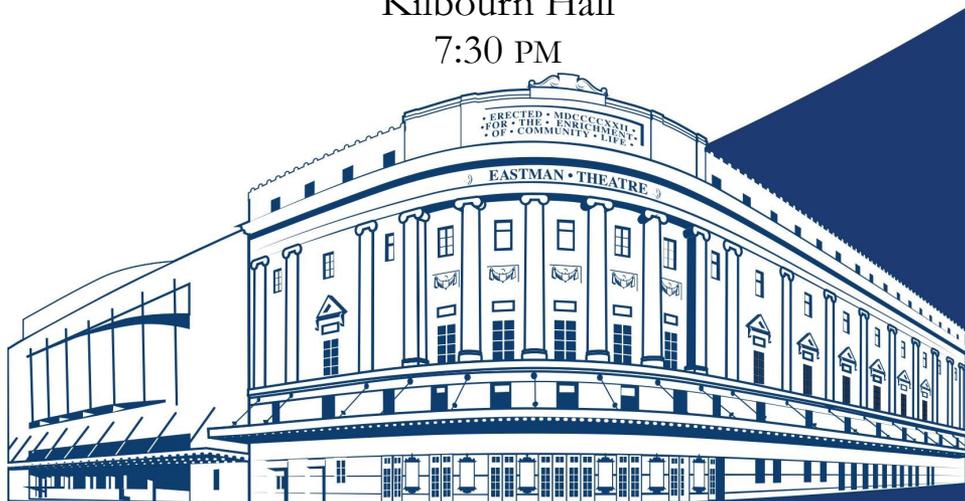


FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

MIKHAIL KOPELMAN,
VIOLIN

ANNA GOURFINKEL, PIANO
ELIZAVETA KOPELMAN, PIANO
JOSH NEWBURGER, VIOLA
AHRIM KIM, CELLO

Monday, February 17, 2025
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Scherzo from *F-A-E Sonata*

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Hungarian Fantasy, Op. 1

Jenő Hubay
(1858-1937)

Hungarian Dances, WoO 1

I. Allegro molto
XIII. Andantino grazioso
V. Allegro
IX. Allegro non troppo
X. Presto
XX. Poco allegretto
II. Allegro non assai

Johannes Brahms
arr. Joseph Joachim

Scènes de la Csárda, Op. 32, No. 4 (“Hejre Kati”)

Jenő Hubay

Mikhail Kopelman, violin
Anna Gourfinkel, piano

INTERMISSION

Piano Quartet No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 25

Johannes Brahms

Allegro
Intermezzo. Allegro ma non troppo
Andante con moto
Rondo alla Zingarese. Presto

Elizaveta Kopelman, piano
Mikhail Kopelman, violin
Josh Newburger, viola
Ahrim Kim, cello

PROGRAM NOTES

Scherzo from *F-A-E Sonata*

Johannes Brahms

Brahms' Scherzo was written in 1853 and dedicated to the famous violinist Joseph Joachim.

Hungarian Fantasy, Op. 1

Jenő Hubay

Jenő Hubay's Hungarian Fantasy Op. 1 was composed in the Romantic musical style, blending elements of Hungarian folk music with virtuosic technical solutions. This piece includes 3 Hungarian tunes, one of them the famous "Waves of Balaton."

Hungarian Dances, WoO 1

Johannes Brahms

The Hungarian Dances by Johannes Brahms are a set of 21 lovely dance tunes based mostly on Hungarian themes completed in 1879. It was Franz Liszt with his Hungarian Rhapsodies who inspired Brahms. In 1850 Brahms met Hungarian violinist Ede Reményi and accompanied him in a number of recitals over the next few years. This was his introduction to "gypsy-style" music such as *czárdás*.

Scènes de la Csárda, Op. 32, No. 4 ("Hejre Kati")

Jenő Hubay

Jenő Hubay's "Hejre Kati" is a popular Hungarian *Czárdás*. (*Czárdás* is a national dance of Hungary. It begins with a slow section (*lassu*) followed by a fast section (*friss*). The music is often played with a Gypsy orchestra.) The title character "Hejre Kati" represents a cheerful, spirited Hungarian girl.

—*Mikhail Kopelman*

PERFORMER'S NOTES

I was born in a place where Hungarian music sounded everywhere. Most of the tunes that are featured in these works I remember from my childhood, and that's where the idea for this program came to me from.

—*Mikhail Kopelman*

MEET THE ARTISTS

Violinist **Mikhail Kopelman**, renowned for his style of immense grace and beauty combined with a flawless technique, has performed in a dizzying array of venues throughout the world as first violin of the Borodin Quartet for two decades, and of the Tokyo String Quartet for six years. He now leads the Kopelman Quartet, a string quartet in the very best style and tradition of the old Russian School. During all these years, Kopelman has maintained a busy teaching schedule with professorships at Yale and the Moscow Conservatory, and he has given master classes at the Guildhall and Britten-Pears Schools of Music, the Hochschule in Hamburg and in Vienna, and at numerous festivals and universities in Europe and the US.



Before joining the string quartet world, Kopelman was a member of the Bolshoi Theater Orchestra and was concertmaster of the Moscow Philharmonic. For over 15 years Kopelman was closely associated with Sviatoslav Richter in numerous performances and recordings. He has also collaborated with Mstislav Rostropovich, Vladimir Spivakov, Gidon Kremer, Natalia Gutman, Eliso Virsaladze, Elisabeth Leonskaya, Alicia de Larrocha, Yuri Bashmet, Christoph Eschenbach and Emanuel Ax, Andras Schiff, Evgeny Kissin and among others. His recordings, which number about 40, are issued by Melodia, EMI, Virgin Classics, Teldec, Philips, Nimbus, and Wigmore Life.

Kopelman has performed in many international festivals including: Edinburgh, Hong Kong, Schleswig-Holstein, Florence, Salzburg, Tours, Moscow, Zurich, Prague Spring, Ravinia Festival, Santa Fe, Caramoor, Norfolk, Bowdoin, the Mostly Mozart Festival in New York City and Verbier Festival in Swiss.

Mikhail Kopelman has also served as a jury member of several international competitions. These have included: Evian, Beijing and ARD Munich String Quartet Competitions, Bartok String Quartet Competition as well as the Indianapolis, Queen Elisabeth, Tchaikovsky, Enescu, Yankelevich, and Spivakov International Violin Competitions.

Born in the city of Uzhgorod in the former Soviet Union, Kopelman began his violin studies at age six, and later studied with Maya Glezarova and Yuri Yankelevich at the Moscow Conservatory. In 1973 he won Second Prize at the Jacques Thibaud International Competition in Paris.

As a member of the Borodin Quartet, he was awarded the State Prize of the Soviet Union, and was named a People's Artist of the Russian Federation. In 1995 he received the Royal Philharmonic Society Award and the Concertgebouw Silver Medal of Honor.

MEET THE ARTISTS

In 1993 he has lived in the United States with his family, and in 2002, with the purpose of continuing the rich traditions of the Russian school of quartet playing, he founded the Kopelman Quartet together with some of his contemporaries from the Moscow Conservatoire. He was in the same year appointed Professor of Violin at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, USA, a position he continues to hold.

Anna Gourfinkel is a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory. She has accompanied young Russian musicians at several international competitions, and has performed with members of the Borodin Quartet at the Britten/Shostakovich Festival in England, at the Shostakovich Festival in Venice, Italy, and at the Moscow Conservatory Halls.

Anna has given numerous concerts throughout England, Italy, France, Russia, Holland and the USA, and has recorded for the Melodya label.

She has participated in many festivals in the USA such as Summit Music Festival, Bowdoin International Music Festival, Academy of Music Festival and has collaborated with musicians such as Nathaniel Rosen, Emanuel Borok, Nina Beilina, Misha Quint, as well as with her husband, violinist Mikhail Kopelman. Her New York appearances include Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, and SUNY Purchase Recital Hall.

Ms. Gourfinkel has worked as an accompanist at the Manhattan School of Music and the Mannes College, New York.

In the fall of 2004, she was appointed an Assistant Professor of Chamber Music and Accompanying at the Eastman School of Music.

Elizaveta Kopelman was born in Moscow into a family of musicians. She studied at the Central School of Music in Moscow with Dina Parakhina, and started her performing career from an early age.

She later moved to England to study with Arnaldo Cohen at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, where she earned her Bachelor and Master Degrees, as well as the Performance Certificate Diploma with Distinction.



MEET THE ARTISTS

In 1995 Elizaveta won the prestigious Young Concert Artist Trust Competition in London, and since then appeared as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the UK, Europe, Canada, USA, South America, Asia, and the Middle East. She performed recitals and concerti at the Purcell Room, Wigmore Hall, Royal Opera House, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Barbican Centre, Le Salle Cortot, Concertgebouw, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and Alice Tully Hall with such orchestras as the London Philharmonic, London Chamber Orchestra, and New York Chamber Symphony.

Her chamber music collaborations include violinist Shmuel Ashkenasi, cellists Julia Lichten, Nathaniel Rosen and Alexander Chausian, the Leopold String Trio, Ying Quartet, Jupiter Chamber Players, and members of the Vermeer String Quartet, New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestras. Elizaveta also performs regularly with her father, violinist Mikhail Kopelman, former leader of the Borodin String Quartet. She has been a guest artist at many festivals around the world, including the Mozarteum Argentino, Flanders, Pharos, Mecklenburgh, Bowdoin, and Summit.

For the past 20 years, Elizaveta Kopelman has taught many talented piano students in Europe and in the United States and has given piano master classes around the world, most recently in Athens, University of Georgia, and in Changsha, China.

Elizaveta has given live broadcasts for BBC Radio 3, Classic FM, made many TV appearances worldwide and recorded for Naxos and Nimbus labels.

Josh Newburger is the principal violist of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and assistant professor of orchestral repertoire at the Eastman School of Music. Originally from Austin, TX, Josh was encouraged early in his musical studies to explore a multitude of genres and styles.

At one time equally at home playing jazz manouche, indie pop, or the music of the Romani people in the bars and clubs of downtown Austin, he was a member of the locally-adored indie pop orchestra Mother Falcon and a frequent guest of iconic Austin performer Oliver Rajamani.



MEET THE ARTISTS

In more recent years he has served as the assistant principal violist of the Pacific Symphony and performed as a guest principal for the Santa Barbara Symphony and the Fresno Philharmonic. He has also had the privilege of subbing with the sections of the Cleveland Orchestra, LA Phil, San Diego Symphony, Colorado Symphony, and Buffalo Philharmonic, and has been a featured soloist with the Rochester Philharmonic twice in Bach's Sixth Brandenburg Concerto and the Schulhoff Concerto for String Quartet and Winds.

During his time in the Los Angeles area Josh recorded for numerous feature films and television productions, working with a star-studded slate of contemporary composers including John Williams, James Newton Howard, and Ludwig Göransson. Among other credits, he can be heard on the soundtracks for movies from the Star Wars, Lego Movie, Creed, Charlie's Angels, and IT franchises, and TV series including The Mandalorian, The Orville, and American Dad.

Josh has toured extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia as a member of the Verbier Festival Chamber orchestra, and a guest musician with Ivan Fischer's Budapest Festival Orchestra. He was twice selected as the assistant principal violist of the New York String Orchestra and studied as a fellow at the Music Academy of the West and the Verbier Festival.

During graduate school, Josh had the privilege of picking up a baroque viola with Yale's Schola Cantorum, and has continued to perform music of the baroque era on both modern and baroque instruments with the Colorado Bach Ensemble and Rochester's Publick Musick.

He has also frequently been heard locally on the Chamber Music Rochester series and in various Eastman series, and was a guest artist at the Geneva (NY) Music Festival in 2024.

Josh received his Bachelor's degree in violin from the New England Conservatory as a student of Nicholas Kitchen. Under the guidance of Rochester native Michael Klotz, Josh found his voice with the viola and ultimately obtained his Master's degree in viola from Yale, where he studied with Ettore Causa.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Ahrim Kim is an accomplished soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral leader who joined the RPO as principal cellist in the fall of 2015. She was awarded the Cassado Prize at the Gaspar Cassado international Cello Competition in Japan and top prizes in numerous other competitions, including the Houston Symphony's Ima Hogg Young Artists Competition, the Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition, the Five Towns Music Competition, and the Corpus Christi International Competition. She has performed solo and chamber repertoire at Boston's Symphony Hall, The Juilliard School, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, the Sarasota Music Festival, Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory, the Kennedy Center, and the Salzburg Mozarteum. As a soloist, she has appeared with the Boston Pops, Houston Symphony Orchestra, Hudson Valley Philharmonic Orchestra, and others. She was a member of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for the 2014-15 season as acting principal cellist, and she has also played in the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.



Since 2016, she has been teaching orchestral repertoire for cello at the Eastman School of Music and coaching chamber music at the Bowdoin International Music Festival.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Kim began her cello studies at the age of six. She moved to the U.S. in 2002 and studied cello through Juilliard's Pre-College Division for young musicians. She holds a master's degree in cello performance from the New England Conservatory of Music, where she also earned her bachelor's degree under the tutelage of Laurence Lesser and Natasha Brofsky.

Kim was awarded the Arthur Foote Award from the Harvard Musical Association as the cellist of the Klimt Trio. As a chamber musician, she has participated in festivals such as Bowdoin, Yellow Barn, Chesapeake Chamber Music, and Marlboro.

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the "Great Hill People" and "Keepers of the Western Door" of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.

UPCOMING EASTMAN SERIES CONCERTS

Tickets for all series concerts can be purchased at EastmanTheatre.org

KODAK HALL SERIES

Titanic Live

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Friday, February 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Nominated for 14 Academy Awards, *Titanic* is still globally one of the most loved films ever made. The event will see the film screened in high definition, as James Horner's timeless score is played live on stage by a live Orchestra, conducted by Mark Watters, accompanied by Eric Rigler playing Uilleann Pipes and Whistles and vocal soloist Alice Zawadzki.

EASTMAN PIANO SERIES

Haochen Zhang

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Since his gold medal win at the Thirteenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2009, Haochen Zhang has captivated audiences in the United States, Europe, and Asia with a unique combination of deep musical sensitivity, fearless imagination, and spectacular virtuosity. In 2017, Haochen received the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, which recognizes talented musicians with the potential for a major career in music.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman New Jazz Ensemble

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Black History Month Showcase

Kilbourn Hall

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Friends of Eastman Opera Competition

Kilbourn Hall

Friday, February 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM



For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.



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