

EASTMAN RANLET SERIES

YING QUARTET

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Kilbourn Hall

3:00 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Cypresses, B. 152

Antonín Dvořák

- IV. Never Will Love Lead Us to that Happy End (1841-1904)
II. Death Reigns in Many a Human Breast
III. When Thy Sweet Glances Fall on Me

String Quartet No. 2, Op. 17, Sz. 67

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

- Moderato
Allegro molto capriccioso
Lento

INTERMISSION

String Sextet, Op. 48

Antonín Dvořák

- Allegro moderato
Dumka (Elegie). Poco allegretto
Furiant. Presto
Finale. Tema con variazioni

YING QUARTET

Robin Scott, violin
Janet Ying, violin
Phillip Ying, viola
David Ying, cello

Masumi Per Rostad, viola
Ahrim Kim, cello

MEET THE ARTISTS

The Grammy Award-winning **Ying Quartet** occupies a position of unique prominence in the classical music world, combining brilliantly communicative performances with a fearlessly imaginative view of chamber music in today's world. Now in its third decade, the Quartet has established itself as an ensemble of the highest musical qualifications. The Quartet's performances regularly take place



in many of the world's most important concert halls; at the same time, the Ying's belief that concert music can also be a meaningful part of everyday life has drawn the foursome to perform in settings as diverse as the workplace, schools, juvenile prisons, and the White House.

The Ying Quartet first came to professional prominence in the early 1990s as the first recipient of an NEA Rural Residence Grant which led to it serving as the resident quartet of Jesup, Iowa, a farm town of 2,000 people. Playing before audiences of six to six hundred in homes, schools, churches, and banks, the Quartet had its first opportunities to use music and creative endeavor to help build community and authentic human connection. The Quartet considers its time in Jesup the foundation of its present musical life and goals.

The Quartet's 2023-24 season features performances for Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Chamber Music Society of Logan, Music Toronto, and Chamber Music Albuquerque. In Spring 2024, the Ying Quartet teams up with bassist and composer Xavier Foley for a collaboration built around their shared passion for Dvořák and the progressive approach that he demonstrated through his life and music.

The Ying's ongoing *LifeMusic* commissioning project, created in response to its commitment to expanding the rich string quartet repertoire, has already achieved an impressive history. Supported by the Institute for American Music, the Ying Quartet commissions both established and emerging composers to create music that reflects contemporary American life.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Recent works include Billy Childs' *Awakening*; Lera Auerbach's *Sylvia's Diary*; Lowell Liebermann's String Quartet No. 3, *To the Victims of War*; Sebastian Currier's *Next Atlantis*; and John Novacek's *Three Rags for String Quartet*. In August 2016, the Ying Quartet released a new Schumann/Beethoven recording on Sono Luminus with renowned cellist Zuill Bailey, and in that season the five toured with the Schumann Cello Concerto transcribed for cello and string quartet along with Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata," also reimagined for cello quintet.

The Ying Quartet's numerous other recordings reflect many of the group's wide-ranging musical interests and have generated consistent, enthusiastic acclaim. The group's CD "American Anthem" (Sono Luminus), heralding the music of Randall Thompson, Samuel Barber, and Howard Hanson, was released in 2013 to rave reviews; its 2007 Telarc release of the three Tchaikovsky Quartets and the *Souvenir de Florence* (with James Dunham and Paul Katz) was nominated for a Grammy Award in the Best Chamber Music Performance category.

As longtime quartet-in-residence at the prestigious Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, the Ying Quartet teaches in the string department and leads a rigorous, sequentially designed chamber music program. One cornerstone of chamber music activity at Eastman is the noted "Music for All" program, in which all students curate opportunities to perform in community settings beyond the concert hall. The Quartet is also the ensemble-in-residence at the Bowdoin International Music Festival, and from 2001-2008, the members of the Ying Quartet were the Blodgett Artists-in-Residence at Harvard University.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Praised for his “burnished sound” (*The New York Times*) and described as an “electrifying, poetic, and sensitive musician,” the GRAMMY Award-winning, Japanese-Norwegian violist **Masumi Per Rostad** hails from the gritty East Village of New York City. He was raised in an artist loft converted from a garage with a 1957 Chevy Belair as the remnant centerpiece in their living room. Masumi began his studies at the nearby Third Street Music School Settlement at age three and has gone on to become one of the most in demand soloists, chamber musicians, and teachers. In addition to maintaining an active performance schedule, he serves on the faculty of the prestigious Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY.



2023-24 Season highlights are concerto performances with LA Chamber Orchestra, Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, and The Knights. Festival appearances include La Jolla SummerFest, Beare’s Premiere Performances Hong Kong, Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, SpoletoUSA, and Music In the Vineyards. Masumi recently commissioned his childhood friend Jessie Montgomery to compose a *Viola Concerto* based on the experience they shared of growing up in NYC. He has previously appeared as soloist with the Virginia Symphony, Orlando Philharmonic, Juilliard Orchestra, New York Youth Symphony, and Sinfonia da Camera among others.

Masumi regularly tours internationally and has performed at many of the most prominent festivals, including Marlboro, Spoleto USA, Music@Menlo, Caramoor, Music in the Vineyards, Bowdoin, and the Aspen Music Festival. His guest violist collaborations include programs with the St Lawrence, Ying, Pavel Haas, Miró, Calidore, Verona, Rolston, and Emerson String Quartets, as well as with the Horszowski, Gryphon, and Claremont Trios. He toured and recorded extensively as a former member of the International Sejong Soloists. He can be heard on the Cedille Records, Naxos, Hyperion, Musical Observations, Bridge, and Tzadik record labels.

MEET THE ARTISTS

As a member of the Pacifica Quartet for almost two decades (2001-2017), Masumi regularly performed in the world's greatest halls including Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Tokyo's Suntory Hall, Sydney's City Hall, New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, London's Wigmore Hall, Vienna's Konzerthaus and Musikverein, Munich's Herkuleshaal, Paris' Louvre and Cité de la Musique, and Berlin's Konzerthaus among many others. He was full professor of viola and chamber music as quartet-in-residence at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. In 2006, the ensemble was awarded the coveted Cleveland Quartet Award, Avery Fisher Career Grant, and they were also named Musical America's 2009 Ensemble of the Year.

Masumi is an ardent advocate for the arts, and sought after as a contributing writer to such publications as the *Huffington Post*, *Strings* and *Gramophone* magazines as well as *The Guardian*. He also actively maintains a YouTube channel where he regularly publishes videos dealing with all sorts of musical topics. He produces a video series called Sound Post, released in conjunction with The Violin Channel, which are interviews with his friends and colleagues about their instruments.

Passionate about breaking down barriers that prevent people from enjoying classical music, Masumi was the founder of DoCha, a chamber music festival in Champaign, Illinois that produced innovative events with a focus on engaging new audiences through fun and inventive programming. DoCha-hosted events featured unique collaborations between members of the University and multi-genre presentations from classical chamber music to contemporary dance, the spoken word, and much more. All programs were free of charge and took place at a beautiful former community opera house. Other activities of DoCha included 'in-reach' performances for elementary school students as well as master classes, competitions and performance opportunities for local music students.

Masumi has served on the faculties of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, The University of Chicago, Longy School of Music, University of Toronto, and Northwestern University.

MEET THE ARTISTS

He received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from The Juilliard School. There, he studied with legendary violist and pedagogue Karen Tuttle from the age of 17 and was made her teaching assistant just three years later at the age of 20. At Juilliard, he was awarded the 'Lillian Fuchs Award' for the most outstanding graduating violist. He also won the Juilliard School Concerto Competition and performed the world premiere of Michael White's *Viola Concerto* in Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall with conductor James DePreist. That same year he gave the New York premiere of Paul Schoenfield's *Viola Concerto* with the Juilliard Symphony to critical acclaim. In 2008 he was awarded the 'Rising Star Award' by the Third Street Music School Settlement for his musical achievements.

Masumi is a D'Addario Artist and has used their strings since 1999. He is currently serving as co-chair of the University of Rochester Faculty Senate. His Brothers Amati viola was crafted in Cremona, Italy in 1619.

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.



MEET THE ARTISTS

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

Holocaust Remembrance Concert

Kilbourn Hall

Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 7:30 PM

This series of annual concerts was launched in 2014 by Wegman Family Professor of Violin Renée Jolles in honor of her father, Jerome Jolles, who buried bodies as part of a work detail in Romania during the Nazi occupation. He survived and came to the United States, where he finished his studies at Juilliard in music performance and composition. A virtuoso accordion player, piano teacher, and composer, Mr. Jolles died in January 2014.

*This concert does not require tickets and is free to attend.

DISTINGUISHED VISITING ARTIST

Jeff Beal – New York Études

Hatch Recital Hall

Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:30 PM

The *New York Études*, ten new works for solo piano, were composed in the months after Beal relocated to New York City in 2021. Meditative, rich, and complex, each piece develops reflective melodies and harmonic gestures that reveal a master's understanding of voice leading and harmony. These works showcase Beal's compositional gift like never before.

*This concert does not require tickets and is free to attend.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Jessie Kneisel Lieder Competition Winner's Concert

Kilbourn Hall

Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 7:30 PM



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