

COMMEMORATING SHOSTAKOVICH
1906-1975

ALEXANDER KOBRIN,
PIANO

WITH **YOOJIN JANG**, VIOLIN
DAVID YING, CELLO
MASUMI PER ROSTAD, VIOLA

Tuesday, September 23, 2025
Kilbourn Hall
7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Piano Trio No. 1 in C Minor, Op. 8

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

YooJin Jang, violin
David Ying, cello
Alexander Kobrin, piano

Sonata for Cello and Piano in D Minor, Op. 40 (1934)

Dmitri Shostakovich

Allegro non troppo
Allegro
Largo
Allegro

David Ying, cello
Alexander Kobrin, piano

INTERMISSION

Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Major, Op. 134 (1968)

Dmitri Shostakovich

Andante
Allegretto
Largo

YooJin Jang, violin
Alexander Kobrin, piano

Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 147 (1975)

Dmitri Shostakovich

Moderato
Allegretto
Adagio

Masumi Per Rostad, viola
Alexander Kobrin, piano

MEET THE ARTISTS

Distinguished pianist **Alexander Kobrin** has received wide acclaim for his emotional, technically inspired performances, placing him at the forefront of today's performing musicians. Mr. Kobrin is an active guest soloist with the world's leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Orchestra Verdi, Russian National Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, Berliner Symphony, Swedish Radio Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra.



He has collaborated with such conductors as Mikhail Pletnev, Mikhail Jurowsky, Sir Mark Elder, Vassily Sinaisky, James Conlon, Claus Peter Flor, Vassily Petrenko and Bramwell Tovey. He appears in recitals at major halls worldwide, including Carnegie Zankel Hall and Avery Fisher Hall in New York, the Kennedy Centre in Washington, Albert Hall and Wigmore Hall in London, Louvre Auditorium, Salle Gaveau and Salle Cortot in Paris, Munich Herkulesaal and Berliner Filarmonia Hall in Germany, the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire, Sheung Wan Civic Centre in Hong Kong, as well as Sala Verdi in Milan and many others. Other past performances have included recitals at Bass Hall for the Cliburn Series, the Washington Performing Arts Society, La Roque d'Antheron, the Ravinia Festival, the Beethoven Easter Festival, Busoni Festival, the renowned Klavier-Festival Ruhr, the International Keyboard Institute & Festival, annual concert tours in Japan, China, and Taiwan.

Mr. Kobrin has recorded for Harmonia Mundi, Quartz, and Centaur labels, covering a wide swath of the piano literature, which have received rave reviews. Gramophone Magazine raved about his Cliburn Competition release on Harmonia Mundi, writing that “in [Rachmaninoff's] Second Sonata (played in the 1931 revision), despite firestorms of virtuosity, there is always room for everything to tell and Kobrin achieves a hypnotic sense of the music's dark necromancy.”

In addition to the Van Cliburn, Mr. Kobrin has garnered top prizes from numerous international piano competitions including the Busoni International Piano Competition (First Prize), Hamamatsu International Piano Competition (Top Prize), Scottish International Piano Competition in Glasgow (First Prize).

MEET THE ARTISTS

Mr. Kobrin frequently serves as a jury member for many international piano competitions, most recently, the First International Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli Competition in Brescia. Other competitions include the Van Cliburn in Fort Worth, TX, Busoni International Piano Competition in Bolzano, Hamamatsu International Piano Competition, the Blüthner International Piano Competition in Vienna, and the Neuhaus International Piano Festival in Moscow. Mr. Kobrin is a dedicated teacher and is passionate about his contributions to education both in the U.S. and abroad. Since 2017, Mr. Kobrin has served on the faculty of the renowned Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. From 2003 to 2010 he served on the faculty of the Russian State Gnessin's Academy of Music. In 2010 Alexander Kobrin was named the L. Rexford Distinguished Chair in Piano at the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University, and from 2013 until 2017, he was a member of the celebrated Artist Faculty of New York University's Steinhardt School. Mr. Kobrin has also given masterclasses in Europe and Asia, the International Piano Series, and at the Conservatories of Japan and China.

Mr. Kobrin is a Shigeru Kawai artist.

Applauded by *The Strad* for her “fiery virtuosity” and “consummate performances,” violinist **YooJin Jang** is a winner of the 2017 Concert Artists Guild Competition and First Prize winner of the 2016 Sendai International Music Competition. These successes have resulted in a busy itinerary of international recital and concerto engagements as well as the release of two new recordings. The dynamic young talent has been lauded by the *Boston Musical Intelligencer* as “a performer without fear or technical limitation.”



Her recent concerto performances include appearances with the symphony orchestras of Chautauqua, Dubuque, and Roswell. In recital, highlights include YooJin's recent Carnegie Hall debut and concerts at Jordan Hall and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston and the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert series in Chicago. A passionate chamber musician, YooJin has performed with Caramoor's Rising Stars and toured with Musicians from Ravinia's Steans Music Institute and Musicians From Marlboro.

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Internationally, YooJin has performed with the KBS Symphony Orchestra and Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as with the Budapest Festival Orchestra led by Ivan Fischer, the Bulgaria National Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and Spain's Extremadura Orchestra. She has also given recitals in Japan at Sendai, Nagoya, and at Hamarikyū Asahi Hall in Tokyo.

In 2017, YooJin released two albums: live performances of the Mendelssohn and Stravinsky Violin Concertos with the Sendai Philharmonic Orchestra and Junichi Hirokami and a recital disc featuring music of Mendelssohn, Stravinsky, Grieg, and Sibelius with pianist Kae Ozawa. Her first album, *Korean Young Musicians*, was released on the KBS (Korean Broadcast System) label, in cooperation with Aulos media & KBS Classic FM. She is also regularly heard on the radio, including a recent appearance on WQXR's McGraw Hill Young Artists Showcase.

YooJin's latest victories at CAG and Sendai continue a long line of international competition success. In 2013, she won Japan's 4th International Munetsugu Violin Competition, which included the loan of the 1697 'Rainville' Stradivari violin. She was also a top prize winner at the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, the Michael Hill International Violin Competition (including the Audience Prize and Best Performance of the New Zealand Commission Work), and the Yehudi Menuhin Competition.

YooJin is a co-founder of The Kallaci String Quartet, which made its international debut at the Kumho Art Hall in Seoul, Korea and the Seoul Spring Festival of Chamber Music. Recognized for her creative work in chamber music, she won the 2011 Borromeo String Quartet Guest Artist Award, and in 2009 she was awarded the Schloss Weikersheim Scholarship as part of the London String Quartet Competition. YooJin has also participated in the Marlboro and Ravinia Festivals, where she worked with artists such as Menahem Pressler, Dénes Várjón, and Peter Wiley.

YooJin holds a Bachelor of Music from The Korean National University of Arts, where she studied under Nam Yun Kim. She also earned a Master of Music, Graduate Diploma, Artist Diploma, and Doctor of Musical Arts from New England Conservatory, as a student of Miriam Fried. Since 2020 she has been an Assistant Professor of Violin on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music.

MEET THE ARTISTS

David Ying, as cellist of the Ying Quartet and faculty member of the Eastman School of Music, has had the good fortune of a life of musical adventure and opportunity. The Ying Quartet has performed extensively, both in well-known concert spaces from Carnegie Hall to the Sydney Opera House, and in non-traditional venues from hospitals and factories to the White House. Their recordings range from the classic repertoire of Schumann and Beethoven to new works commissioned by the quartet, and have earned the quartet wide recognition and awards including a Grammy award and four Grammy nominations.



As a teacher, Mr. Ying serves on the cello and chamber music faculty of the Eastman School of Music. He is also co-artistic director and faculty member at the Bowdoin International Music Festival. He is privileged to have shared in the growth and achievements of many students over the years, including those who are now teachers themselves in universities, community schools, and private studios; chamber musicians; orchestral musicians in the New York Philharmonic, Utah Symphony, Arkansas Symphony and others; the solo cellist Alisa Weilerstein; as well as others in artistic administration, and the legal profession. With the Ying Quartet he has also held artist-in-residence positions at Harvard University and Northwestern University.

As a solo cellist, Mr. Ying was prizewinner in the Naumburg International Cello Competition, and the Washington International Competition. His studies were at the Eastman School of Music and the Juilliard School, and his teachers have included Leonard Rose, Channing Robbins, Ardyth Alton, Paul Katz, Steven Doane and Robert Sylvester.

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.



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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, 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, The Knights, and festival appearances including 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.

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

MEET THE ARTISTS

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.

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.

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 SERIES AND STUDENT CONCERTS

COMMEMORATING SHOSTAKOVICH

1906-1975

Monday, September 22 — Saturday, September 27

Eastman School Symphony Orchestra

Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Music of Mozart, Rimsky-Korsakov & Shostakovich

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Mikhail Kopelman, violin

Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Eastman Virtuosi

Saturday, September 27, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall



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