

Chamber Music Amici

Next Performance Concert 4

Monday • April 11, 2011

Mozart Piano Quartet in G minor

Steinhardt Three Pieces for Oboe, Viola, and Cello

Schonfield Carolina Reveille, Quartet for piano and strings

Amici

Pilar Bradshaw violin • **Amy Goeser Kolb** oboe

Steven Pologe cello • **Sharon Schuman** violin

Victor Steinhardt piano

Guests

Fritz Gearhart viola

Andrew Kolb cello

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Chamber Music Amici

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A Blend of Classical and Jazz L. Talaba

Romantic Music 2009 Mark Logan



Concert 3 • Monday, February 28, 2011 • 7:30 pm

Richard E. Wildish Community Theater • 630 Main Street • Springfield, Oregon

Core Musicians

Steven Pologe **cello**

Sharon Schuman **violin**

Victor Steinhardt **piano**

Guest Musicians

Matthew Fuller **violin**

Fritz Gearhart **viola**

Kathryn Lucktenberg **violin**



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Program

Terzetto in C Major Op. 74 for two violins and viola (1887)

Antonin Dvořák

Allegro ma non troppo

Larghetto

Vivace (Scherzo)

Tema con variazioni.

Trio in E-flat major Op. 70, No. 2 for piano, violin and cello (1808)

Ludwig van Beethoven

Poco sostenuto—Allegro ma non troppo

Allegretto

Allegretto ma non troppo

Finale. Allegro

Concert Sponsor Amici Intimi

Fritz Gearhart is Professor of Violin at the University of Oregon School of Music and a member of the Columbia Trio and the Oregon String Quartet. He earned his Master's Degree and Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music where he studied with Donald Weilerstein. Earlier teachers at the Hartt School included Charles Treger and members of the Emerson Quartet. He has appeared in major halls around the country, including Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie, the Kennedy Center, the 92nd Street Y in New York City, and Alice Tully Hall. He has been heard frequently on National Public Radio, including live broadcasts on WFMT Chicago, WQXR in New York, as well as the syndicated program "Performance Today." First violinist of the Chester String Quartet in the early 90's, he has several discs to his credit, including two with the Oregon String Quartet on Koch Entertainment: The OSQ and All That Jazz and a disc containing music by African-American composer William Grant Still. His website, fritzgearhartmusic.com, features his latest activities and recordings as well as pedagogical materials.



Kathryn Lucktenberg is a fourth-generation violinist. She entered the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia at age 15, where she earned her Bachelor of Music degree in 1980, studying with Jascha Brodsky, Jaime Laredo, and Ivan Galamian. She made her professional debut playing the Barber Violin Concerto with the Philadelphia Orchestra. As a member of the Kasimir String Quartet she toured England, France, and Italy. She has also performed throughout the western United States and Asia with concerts in Taiwan, Thailand, Korea, New Zealand, and Hawaii. She has given recitals at Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center and performed on the popular Bargemusic series in Brooklyn. Concertmaster of the Honolulu Symphony for 11 seasons, she co-founded and co-directed the Honolulu Academy of Arts' "Academy Camerata" series. A regular participant in the Grand Teton Music Festival, the Oregon Bach Festival, and the Killington Music Festival, she joined the faculty of the UO School of Music in 1993, where she is a Professor of Violin. Concertmaster of the Eugene Symphony since 2005, she tours the Pacific Northwest with the Oregon String Quartet and Trio Pacifica. She has recorded for CRI, Koch, and Altarus labels.

Artistic Director Sharon Schuman

Executive Director Loi Heldt

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Welcome to our third concert of the season! Tonight we celebrate the finalists and winners of our second annual Art Contest. We hope you all enjoy listening to Dvořák's *Terzetto* and Beethoven's *Trio in Eb* as much as we enjoy playing them for you.

Sharon Schuman, Artistic Director



Victor Steinhardt comes from Los Angeles, California, where he studied with Aube Tzerko. He made his debut as piano soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at age 15. He studied composition with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco and Henri Lazarof and earned an M. A. in Composition at UCLA, which led to the creation of many works for chamber ensembles and for piano. From 1968 to 2007 he was a professor of piano at the University of Oregon. He has performed often as a soloist with Oregon Mozart Players and the Eugene Symphony. He has also been a featured artist at the Oregon Bach Festival, the Oregon Coast Music Festival, the Ernest Bloch Music Festival, the Grand Teton Music Festival in Wyoming, the Mohawk Trails Concerts in Massachusetts, the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival in California, Chamber Music Northwest in Oregon, and Bargemusic in Brooklyn. He has performed chamber music in Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, Hawaii, Taiwan, Germany and the Czech Republic. His recordings include Chamber Works by Jon Deak (CRI); David Schiff's Scenes from Adolescence (Delos); An American Sampler (Olympic), Songs of Bartok and Kodaly (Vox-Turnabout); and a disc of his own compositions, Sonata Boogie (TownHall Records). With his brother, violinist/violist Arnold Steinhardt, he has recorded music of Robert Fuchs (Biddulf) and "American Journey" (Naxos).

Guest Musicians

Matthew Fuller, a native of San Jose, California, began playing the violin at the age of 2. After several years of the Suzuki method, he entered the preparatory program at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music as a student of Isadore Tinkleman. He completed his Bachelor's degree at Rice University, where he was a student of Kathleen Winkler and Kenneth Goldsmith, and his Master's degree at Wichita State University, where he studied with John Harrison. In Wichita, he was concertmaster of the WSU Symphony Orchestra, first violinist of the Ozmodiar String Quartet, and a member of the Wichita Symphony. After moving to Oregon, Matthew joined the Eugene Symphony, where he now serves as Principal Second Violin. He is also a member of Oregon Mozart Players, and the Eugene Opera Orchestra. He performs regularly with the Portland Chamber Orchestra, the Oregon Bach Festival, the Ernest Bloch Festival, and the Oregon Coast Music Festival. He currently lives in Eugene with his wife, pianist Crystal Zimmerman, and his enormous cat Frankie.

Program Notes

In his *Terzetto*, **Antonin Dvořák** (1841-1904) takes on the challenge of writing for three high voices (string quartet minus cello). Practically through sleight of hand, he manages to create a full, rich sound, including bass line. The opening Allegro begins with a sweetly lyrical melody that becomes more excited as runs are traded through the strings. Rarely has a piece in C major sounded so wistful, thanks to the frequent minor inflections. This movement flows right into the second, a Larghetto. Its opening evokes Beethoven's spirit, with an almost prayerful melody that eventually gives way to agitated rhythms. The third movement Scherzo is a lively Bohemian dance. Here Dvořák's folk style comes to the fore, with exuberant cross-rhythms, followed by an almost Straussian waltz-like Trio. The fourth movement, a theme and variations, begins like an abandoned cadence from an unheard aria. This fragment supplies the material for multiple variations in contrasting moods, major and minor. The piece picks up speed and ends with a flourish of rapid notes that land in octaves.

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1828) composed his *Trio in Eb* major the same year he wrote his 5th and 6th symphonies. One of his most original creations, it begins with an almost melancholy solo cello immediately imitated by violin, then piano. In the Allegro that follows, Mozartean turns of phrase lead through harmonic changes to what musicologist Donald Tovey calls "perhaps the most unexpected return in all music": the cello begins the recapitulation in the wrong key of D-flat, but the piano immediately squelches this impertinence and engineers a hasty return to E-flat. In the second movement, Beethoven most strongly evokes Mozart and Haydn, with playful gestures and rustic peasant interludes. The third movement sounds almost like Mendelssohn, with the violin singing a tender melodic line, yielding to the piano only to follow in a canonic echo, with the cello gluing everything together. The finale is the most characteristic Beethoven—five distinct themes creating a heroic journey that ends in triumph.



Mark Logan of Springfield created “Romantic Music.” He says of this painting, “It’s an attempt to portray instruments--which after all are just bits of wood, horsehair, and metal—during the miraculous ‘moment of life’ when those who play them let us understand a composer’s deepest feelings and ideas.”

2011 Art Contest Finalists

Thomas Gilstrap, *Untitled*

L. Talaba, *Counterpoint*

Jeffrey Bemis, *The Color of Music*

Iraenah Garoutte, *Amici*

Renee Manford, *Let’s Do Music*

Ronald Raasch, *Chamber Solitaire*

Juliana Cichy, *The Perfect Note*

Ellen Morrow, *They Danced to a Haunting Melody*

Irene Henjum, *Vibrant Music*

Ellen de Werd, *Synchronicity*.

Art Contest Sponsors Vistra Framing Gallery, Beaudet Jewelry, Emerald Art Center

Core Musicians

Steven Polage earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Eastman School of Music and his Master’s degree from the Julliard School, where he was a three-year scholarship student. He is cellist with the Oregon String Quartet and Trio Pacifica. He has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Taiwan, Korea, Thailand, and New Zealand. Prior to moving to Oregon where he is now Professor of Cello at the UO School of Music, he served as principal cellist with the Honolulu Symphony, New York String Ensemble, Rome Festival Orchestra, the Aspen Chamber Orchestra, and the Philharmonic Symphony of Westchester. While in Hawaii, he co-founded and directed the Academy Camerata Chamber Music Series in Honolulu. Since joining the UO music faculty, he has appeared frequently as a concerto soloist throughout the northwest and has performed as Principal Cellist of the Oregon Bach Festival. With the Oregon String Quartet, he has released two CDs: String Quartets by William Grant Still, and Oregon String Quartet and All That Jazz. Other CDs include music by John Deak for Solo Cello and Piano Trio, and the Piano Trio by Lev Abeliovich.

Sharon Schuman grew up near San Francisco, where she studied violin with Carol Weston, a student of Leopold Auer. After a summer grant to the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, she won a full scholarship in music to Stanford University, where she graduated in English. She later completed a Ph.D. in English at the University of Chicago. She has been a concerto soloist with Oregon Mozart Players and the Salem Chamber Orchestra and acted as Concertmaster for the Eugene Opera, the Eugene Ballet, the Eugene Concert Choir, and the Oregon Mozart Players. She also performs with the Oregon Bach Festival and the Eugene Symphony. She co-founded the Chamber Music and Chocolate Series of Oregon Mozart Players, and she has organized and performed in over a decade of chamber concerts to raise more than \$200,000 for Fanconi anemia research. Her concerto and chamber music performances have been broadcast on KZSU (Palo Alto, California) and KWAX (Eugene). In addition to being a Core Musician and Artistic Director of Chamber Music Amici, she serves as Assistant Concertmaster of the Eugene Opera Orchestra.

