

9-26-2008

The Biava Quartet

Jason Calloway

Austin Hartman

Hyunso Ko

Mary Persin

Grace Fong

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Recommended Citation

Calloway, Jason; Hartman, Austin; Ko, Hyunso; Persin, Mary; and Fong, Grace, "The Biava Quartet" (2008). *Printed Performance Programs (PDF Format)*. Paper 1325.

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MUSIC:

Guest Artists in Concert: Biava Quartet Sept 26
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Chapman University Wind Symphony.....Nov 21
University Choirs in Concert.....Nov 21
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DANCE:

Fall Dance Concert.....Nov 19 – 22

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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Conservatory of Music

presents

The Biava Quartet

Jason Calloway, cello
Austin Hartman, violin
Hyunsu Ko, violin
Mary Persin, viola

with Chapman Faculty Artist
Grace Fong, piano

September 26, 2008 • 8:00 P.M.
Salmon Recital Hall

THE BIAVA QUARTET

Program

Quartet in C-major, Op. 54, no. 2

Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809)

Vivace
Adagio
Menuetto (Allegretto)
Finale (Adagio-Presto-Adagio)

Quartet No. 1 "Kreutzer Sonata"

Leos Janacek
(1854-1928)

Adagio. Con Moto
Con Moto
Con Moto. Vivace. Andante. Tempo I
Con Moto

Intermission

Piano Quintet in c minor, op. 1

Ernst von Dohnanyi
(1877-1960)

Allegro
Scherzo: Allegro vivace
Adagio, quasi andante
Finale: Allegro animato

The Biava Quartet is recognized as one of today's most exciting young American string quartets. Winner of the Naumburg Chamber Music Award and top prizes at the Premio Borciani and London International Competitions, the Quartet has established an enthusiastic following in the United States and abroad, impressing audiences with its sensitive artistry and communicative powers. Formed in 1998 at the Cleveland Institute of Music, the Quartet takes its name from Maestro Luis Biava, a mentor since its inception.

The members of the Biava Quartet, violinists Austin Hartman and Hyunsu Ko, violist Mary Persin, and cellist Jason Calloway, hold the Lisa Arnhold-Quartet Residency at the Juilliard School, serving as graduate quartet in residence and teaching assistants to the Juilliard Quartet. The Quartet previously held the same position with the Tokyo Quartet at Yale University and was the first ensemble to complete the Training Program in the Art of the String Quartet at the New England Conservatory under the direction of Paul Katz.

The Biava Quartet has performed to acclaim in important venues throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, including Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Library of Congress, the Kennedy Center, Wigmore Hall, and the Baroque Art Hall in Seoul. Other highlights from recent seasons include appearances at the Mostly Mozart and Aspen Music Festivals, Chautauqua Institution, and Pacific Music Festival in Japan.

In addition to its performance of the classical repertoire, the Biava Quartet also dedicates much of its efforts to the creation and performance of contemporary works. The Quartet has championed the music of American composers Mason Bates, William Bolcom, John Harbison, Ezra Laderman, and Stacy Garrop, whose Second String Quartet it has premiered and recorded. As ensemble in residence at the Pittsburgh Chamber Music Society this season, the Biava Quartet is as well involved in an ambitious commissioning project which will yield four new works written expressly for the ensemble. The Quartet is equally devoted to interdisciplinary work, including a dramatization of the life of Emily Dickinson set to the music of Amy Beach with Ensemble for the Romantic Century, as well as the inaugural concerts in Washington, D.C. of Pro Musica Hebraica, a new organization founded for the dissemination of Jewish art music.

The Biava Quartet is committed to educating and inspiring audiences of all ages and is frequently invited to give masterclasses and lead community and educational programs at schools and conservatories around the country. The Quartet has served as ensemble in residence and faculty members at the Indiana University Summer String Academy, the Innsbrook Institute, San Diego Chamber Music Festival, the David Einfeldt Chamber Music Institute, the Heifetz International Music Institute, and the Luzerne Music Center. As recipients of a 2006 Chamber Music America grant in collaboration with the Hill and Hollow Chamber Music Series, the members of the Quartet have invested in the growth of the arts in communities.

The Biava Quartet has recorded for the Naxos and Cedille labels and has been heard on London's BBC Radio 3 and NPR as well as in frequent national broadcasts. The Quartet has been featured in Strings and Strad magazines and is the subject of an upcoming PBS documentary film.

The members of the Biava Quartet hold advanced degrees from the New England Conservatory, University of Southern California, Yale University, and the Juilliard School.

Austin Hartman, Violin

Violinist Austin Hartman of Columbia, Pennsylvania, has traveled worldwide presenting concerts and masterclasses for audiences of all ages. As a founding member of the Biava Quartet, Mr. Hartman celebrates this season ten years of performance with the ensemble.

Austin Hartman has earned much recognition as soloist and recitalist. He was awarded the Gold Medal Prize at the Julius and Esther Stulberg International String Competition in Michigan and, as winner of the Albert Greenfield and the Mann Music Center Concerto Competitions, Mr. Hartman has twice appeared as soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Luis Biava, for whom the quartet is named. Mr. Hartman has also been heard with the Kennett Symphony, the Lansdowne Symphony, the Temple University Orchestra, the Lancaster Symphony, and the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra as winner of the annual concerto competition.

Mr. Hartman has as well been featured in recitals, including a performance at a state dinner for former Governor Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania. In 1998, he received a first prize scholarship for musical excellence from the National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts and was most recently awarded a grant from Chamber Music America for continued work in community outreach.

Austin Hartman has received degrees from the New England Conservatory and Cleveland Institute of Music where he was a student of Donald Weilerstein. His other teachers have included Yumi Scott, Choong-Jin Chang, Ronda Cole, Carolyn Moyer and the late Jascha Brodsky.

Outside of his life in the Biava Quartet, Mr. Hartman also enjoys using his music for community service and outreach. In 2003, he traveled with a group of musicians to share music in Zambia as part of a mission's outreach. Austin Hartman has also recently piloted a concert initiative called the "Vivaldi Project," the goal of which is to unite professional and community musicians in performances of Vivaldi's "Four Seasons".

Hyunsu Ko, Violin

Violinist Hyunsu Ko began her violin studies at the age of four in her native South Korea. Before transferring to the Cleveland Institute of Music to study with Donald Weilerstein, Ms. Ko attended Seoul National University as a student of Min Kim, Dean of the College of Music and Director of the Korea Chamber Ensemble. While in Korea, Ms. Ko won numerous musical awards, including the grand prize at the Jeju-Korea Broadcasting System Music Competition; first prize at the Chosun Newspaper Music Competition; second prize at the Ewha Kyounghyang Music Competition; and the gold medal prize at the Hankook Newspaper Music Competition. She was also awarded the grand prize at the Ahn Ik-Tae Music Competition, named in honor of the composer of the Korean national anthem, resulting in her debut performance with the Seoul City Philharmonic Orchestra at the Sejong Music Hall. In January 2006, Ms. Ko performed at the Seoul Arts Center as a soloist with the Korean Symphony Orchestra in the Bartok Symphonic Series performing the Bartok Violin Concerto No. 2.

Ms. Ko has performed concertos with the Bucheon Philharmonic Orchestra, Jeju City Symphony Orchestra, the Korea Chamber Ensemble, New Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Seoul Arts High School Orchestra. Additionally, Ms. Ko has given many recitals in Seoul, Cleveland, and Boston, including appearances in Seoul at the Young Musicians Festival and the Korea-Russia Young Musicians Friendship concert.

Ms. Ko earned both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees studying with Donald Weilerstein at the Cleveland Institute of Music and subsequently at the New England Conservatory of Music. Ms. Ko received an Artist Diploma from Yale University in May 2006, where she also served as a teaching assistant to the Tokyo String Quartet from 2004 to 2006.

Mary Persin, Viola

Mary Persin, founding member and violist of the Biava Quartet, has distinguished herself with performances throughout the United States and abroad. A native of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, Ms. Persin is a recent Artist Diploma recipient and graduate of Yale University, where she also served as a teaching assistant to the Tokyo Quartet.

Ms. Persin has received numerous awards and was featured in a live radio broadcast on the Performance Pittsburgh Series as winner of the Pittsburgh Concert Society Major Auditions. She was the winner of the Duquesne University, Westmoreland Symphony, and Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Concerto Competitions, as well as the PADESTA Solo Competition and Duquesne Young Artist Competition. Ms. Persin made her solo debut with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in Heinz Hall in 1997. In addition, she has also appeared with the Pittsburgh and Westmoreland Youth Symphonies and was most recently invited to perform as soloist with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra, performing Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante in collaboration with Austin Hartman. Among her engagements next season are appearances with the Erie Philharmonic and cellist Zuill Bailey in Strauss' Don Quixote.

Ms. Persin has performed solo recitals in Cleveland, Boston and Pittsburgh and has been invited to perform as a guest artist at both the Chautauqua Institution and the Rockport Chamber Music Festival. She has participated as a scholarship recipient at the Aspen Music Festival, the Chautauqua Institution and the Encore School for Strings, where she spent four summers and was twice awarded the Kay Logan Chamber Music Award for excellence in chamber music performance.

In addition to her international concertizing and teaching as violist of the Biava Quartet, Ms. Persin maintains a keen interest in the business aspect of music and arts advocacy. She serves as the operations coordinator for the Biava Quartet and has been invited to be a guest lecturer and presenter at a variety of schools throughout Ohio and Pennsylvania as a music educator.

Ms. Persin is a graduate with highest honors from the Cleveland Institute of Music where she was a student of Robert Vernon. She then attended the New England Conservatory, earning a Master's Degree in Chamber Music and Viola Performance as a student of Martha Katz. Her other teachers and coaches have included Thomas Dumm, James Dunham, Jeffrey Irvine, Stephanie Tretick and Hong-Guang Jia, and members of the Emerson, Guarneri and Juilliard Quartets.

Jason Calloway, Cello

Cellist Jason Calloway has performed to acclaim throughout North America, the Caribbean, Europe, and the Middle East as soloist and chamber musician. He has appeared at festivals including Lucerne, Spoleto USA, Darmstadt, Klangspuren (Austria), Acanthes (France), Perpignan, Valencia, Citta' della Pieve (Italy), Jerash (Jordan), Casals (Puerto Rico), Sarasota, Blossom, Music Academy of the West, the New York String Seminar, and Encore. Mr. Calloway appears around the world as cellist of the Naumburg award-winning Biava Quartet, in residence at the Juilliard School, and has collaborated in chamber music with members of the Curtis, Juilliard, Miami, and Tokyo quartets and with principal players of most of the world's leading orchestras.

He has also travelled widely as a member of 'In Freundschaft,' a duo with trombonist, Steve Parker, and with Animato!, a duo with pianist Christopher Weldon. He gave his Carnegie Hall recital debut under the auspices of Artists International and has also been heard in New York at Alice Tully Hall, Steinway Hall, the Museum of Modern Art, the Kosciuszko Foundation, the 92nd Street Y, and the Polish Consulate; in Los Angeles at Disney Hall, the Bing Theatre, the Skirball Center and Pepperdine University; in Washington, D.C. at the Kennedy Center; in San Francisco at Hoover Auditorium; in Philadelphia at the Academy of Music and the Ethical Society; and live on WQXR (NYC), KMZT (Los Angeles), WFLN (Philadelphia), and on RAI television (Italy).

A devoted advocate of new music, Mr. Calloway has performed with leading ensembles on both coasts and with the New Juilliard Ensemble both in New York and abroad, in addition to frequent appearances in Philadelphia with Bowerbird, Soundfield, and Network for New Music. Among the hundreds of premieres he has presented are solo and ensemble works of Berio, Knussen, Lachenmann, and Pintscher, and he has collaborated intensively with some of today's most important composers including Birtwistle, Carter, Davidovsky, Dusapin, Henze, Hosokawa, Husa, Franke, and Rihm. As a dedicated supporter of young composers, he has for several seasons presented a series of concerts of solo cello works newly composed for him, most recently at Harvard and Temple universities, and in a return to Spoleto USA gave the public premiere of Yanov-Yanovsky's 'Hearing Solutions' for cello and ensemble.

Mr. Calloway prizes his work with Pierre Boulez and the Ensemble InterContemporain, both at the Lucerne Festival and at the Zug (Switzerland) Kunsthaus in Schoenberg's 'Serenade' as part of a major Kandinsky/Gerstl exhibit, in addition to his collaborations with the violinist Gilles Apap; with tap dancer Savion Glover; and with Eduard Schmieder and iPalpiti. He is also artistic director of Shir Ami, an ensemble dedicated to promoting the music of Holocaust composers, and X-band, a newly formed ensemble based in Boston. A native of Philadelphia, Jason Calloway is a recent graduate of the Juilliard School and the University of Southern California. His teachers have included Ronald Leonard, Rohan de Saram, Lynn Harrell, Fred Sherry, Orlando Cole, Robert Cafaro, Joel Sachs, Felix Galimir, Luis Biava, and Seymour Lipkin. Mr. Calloway is grateful for the assistance of the Maestro Foundation.

Grace Fong, piano

Praised as a "true musical colourist with enormous style and taste," an artist of "rare eloquence and grace," American pianist, Grace Fong's performances have been hailed as "positively magical." Her piano festivities have gained critical acclaim in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia, making appearances at major venues around the world, including Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Phillips Collection, Great Hall in Leeds, UK, Reinberger Hall at Severance Hall, and the Liszt Academy in Budapest, among others. Radio/television broadcasts have included British Broadcasting Company, WCLV-FM 104.9, KUSC 91.5 FM in Los Angeles, the "Emerging Young Artists" series in New York, and "Performance Today" on National Public Radio. Performances with orchestras have included the Halle Orchestra in the United Kingdom, Music Academy of the West Festival Orchestra, the Olympia Philharmonic Orchestra, The Shreveport Symphony, the Peninsula Symphony, the Musica de Camera Orchestra, the Los Angeles Debut Orchestra, and the Chamber Orchestra of Southwest Virginia, and the New Hampshire Music Festival Orchestra.

Dr. Fong is a prizewinner of numerous international competitions, including the prestigious Leeds International Piano Competition in the United Kingdom, 2007 Bosendorfer International Piano Competition, San Antonio International Piano Competition, Viardo International Piano Competition, and the Cleveland International Piano Competition. Most recently, Dr. Fong has been named a finalist of the 2008-2009 Classical Fellowship Awards of the American Pianists Association, and has been invited to perform a series of concerts in the next season. Dr. Fong won the Grand Prize in piano from the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts and was thereafter named a "Presidential Scholar in the Arts", and was presented a medallion by former President Clinton at the White House. Other prizes include Gold Medalist for the Wideman International Piano Competition, the winner of the Music Academy of the West Concerto Competition, the winner of the Cleveland Institute of Music Concerto Competition, 1st Prize in the Los Angeles Liszt Competition, 1st Prize in the Edith Knox Performance Competition.

Dr. Fong is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music where she studied with Sergei Babayan who describes Dr. Fong as "not only a true artist and an exciting virtuoso, but a sensitive poet who can speak about the most important of subjects through the craft of her hands." During the course of her undergraduate studies at the University of Southern California, Dr. Fong completed a double major and minor; she was awarded the prestigious Renaissance Scholar Prize, and was named "The USC Thornton School of Music Keyboard Department's — Most Outstanding Student – B.M." Former teachers include Sergei Babayan, John Perry, Louise Lepley, Paulina Drake, and Norberto Cappone.

Dr. Fong is currently the Director of Keyboard Studies at Chapman University Conservatory of Music where she was recently awarded the 2008 faculty excellence award at the Conservatory of Music. An enthusiastic supporter of the education of young musicians, Dr. Fong has served as guest artist and teacher at the New Hampshire Music Festival and the first Salt Spring Piano Festival, and has been faculty and performer at the Montecito Summer Festival 2008 and the Sitka Chamber Music Festivals. Dr. Fong first and foremost continues an active solo and chamber music career, and highlights in the 2008-2009 season include a debut with the Polish Chamber Orchestra, soloist with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, chamber performances with the Biava and Parker Quartets, performance at the Liszt Academy in Budapest, and performances with her piano trio, the Selvaggi Trio.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tony Cho, Faculty Recital, Piano Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music	September 27 8:00 P.M. General Admission \$10, Seniors and Students \$5
Ruby Cheng Goya, Faculty Recital, Piano Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music	September 28 5:00 P.M. General Admission \$10, Seniors and Students \$5
Piano Faculty Scholarship Concert Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music	October 18 5:00 P.M. General Admission \$15, Seniors and Students \$10
Opera Chapman Salmon Recital Hall, Conservatory of Music	October 24-25 8:00 P.M. October 26 3:00 P.M. General Admission \$15, Seniors and Students \$10
Chamber Orchestra Concert Memorial Auditorium	October 25 5:00 P.M. General Admission \$10, Seniors and Students \$5
Wind Symphony Concert Memorial Auditorium	November 21 8:00 P.M. General Admission \$10, Seniors and Students \$5
University Choir Concert St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Newport Beach	November 21 8:00 P.M. General Admission \$10, Seniors and Students \$5
Annual Wassail Concert Reception – Dinner - Concert	December 5 & 6 6:00 P.M. \$65 per person

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