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Guest Artist Recital: Peter Rovit, violin and Wesley Baldwin, cello

Peter Rovit

Wesley Baldwin

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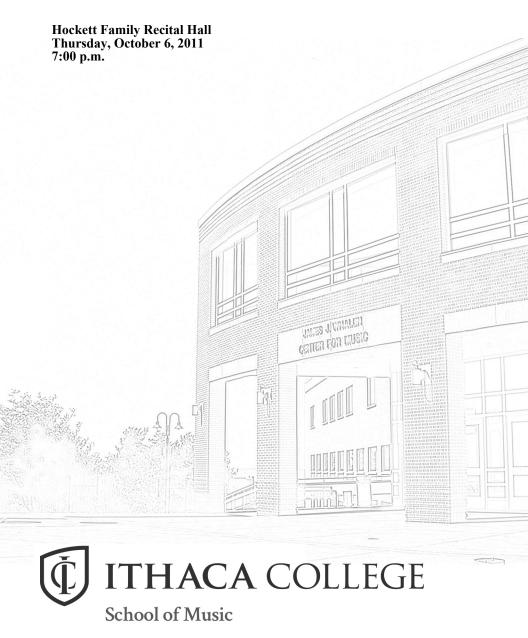
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Program

Tom (2008) Marc Mellits (b. 1966)

Suite for Violin and Violoncello (1997) William Bolcom (b. 1938)

I Prelude

II. With energy III. Stately, slow

IV. Very fast and skittish

V. Street Dances

Rumi Settings (2001) Augusta Read Thomas

(b. 1964) Movement I(see notes for text to all movements)

Movement II Movement III Movement IV

Intermission

Christopher Theofanides The World is Aflame (2006)

(b. 1967)

Duo for Violin and Cello (1965)

I. Allegro giocoso

II Intermezzo

III. March

IV. Finale

Two as One as Two to One (2011)

I. Frantic

II. Verses

III. Whisper

IV Collision

Alan Shulman

(1915-2002)

Nicolas Scherzinger

(b. 1968)

Biographies

Peter Rovit

Peter Rovit (BM with High Distinction, Indiana University; MM, Hartt School; Professional Studies, Juilliard; DMA, SUNY at Stony Brook) was among the last students of Josef Gingold at Indiana University where he also studied Baroque violin with Stanley Ritchie. His other teachers have included Mitchell Stern, Philip Setzer, Cho-Liang Lin, Paul Kantor and Donald Weilerstein. Mr. Rovit has been the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships including the Kuttner Scholarship at Indiana University, the C.V. Starr Scholarship at the Juilliard School, and the Aspen Music Festival's String Fellowship. As a chamber musician, recitalist, and soloist he has performed throughout the United States and at the Spring in Saint Petersburg Festival in Russia. Performances have included concert appearances on the Aspen Music Festival's Young Artist Concert series, with the International Sejong Soloists, and on Baroque violin with the Rebel Ensemble and the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra. He has been a recipient of the prestigious Montgomery Symphony Fellowship in Alabama which involved performing as concertmaster and soloist with the symphony and giving numerous concert appearances throughout the area. He has performed as a chamber musician with such musicians as Andrew Jennings, Felicia Moye, Volkan Orhon, Christina Jennings, Ricardo Morales, Larry Combs, and the Emerson Quartet. A concerto competition winner at both the Hartt School and at SUNY Stony Brook, Mr. Rovit has also performed as a soloist with the Montgomery Symphony, the Fort Smith Symphony, the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, and the Tuscaloosa Symphony. Rovit has been on the string faculty of the University of Oklahoma and the University of Alabama, a member of the Quartet Oklahoma, Associate Concertmaster of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic, and Concertmaster of the Tuscaloosa Symphony. He is currently Assistant Professor of Violin at Syracuse University.

Wesley Baldwin

Cellist Wesley Baldwin performs throughout the United States and Europe as soloist and chamber musician. As a soloist he has appeared with conductors including Dan Allcott, James Fellenbaum, Serge Fournier, Cyrus Ginwala, Francis Graffeo, Adrian McDonnell, Daniel Meyer, Jorge Richter, Richard Rosenberg, Brendan Townsend, Kirk Trevor, and David Wiley, with the Laredo Philharmonic, the Oregon Mozart Players, the Symphony of the Mountains, the Bryan Symphony, the Oak Ridge Symphony, and the Wintergreen and Hot Springs Festival Orchestras, among others. Concerts this year include concerto performances with the Oak Ridge, Wintergreen Festival, New River Valley, Salisbury, and Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestras, and solo and chamber recitals Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. An advocate for great music from all eras, Mr. Baldwin is one of the only performers of several little known and new concerti for cello, including recently those by Wagenseil, Jacob T.V., Behzad Ranjbaran, and Alan Shulman. His recording of Shulman cello music, released by Albany records in 2010, enjoys widespread critical acclaim. He has also recorded for the Naxos, Zyode, Centaur, and Innova labels. Wesley was the founder of the Plymouth String Quartet, with whom he was a top prizewinner in the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and a finalist in the Paolo Borciani International String Quartet Competition. Other performing honors Baldwin has received include the Prix Mercure and Homer Ulrich Awards. Most recently, Wesley is a 2011 recipient of a Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Performing Artist Fellowship. As a member and principal cellist of the New World Symphony, Baldwin performed with many of the world's great conductors, and toured Japan, Scotland, England, Argentina, and Brazil. His orchestral colleagues there selected him as the recipient of the New World Symphony's Community Board Award

for artistic integrity and leadership. Dr. Baldwin has performed chamber music at the Aspen, Cazenovia, Hot Springs, Ojai, Sandpoint, Mainly Mozart, May in Miami, Skaneateles, and Subtropics Music Festivals, and internationally in Italy, France, Monte Carlo, Spain, Austria, Brazil, Argentina, the United Kingdom and Costa Rica. Wesley is now cellist of the James Piano Quartet, the resident ensemble at Sweet Briar College and the Wintergreen Festival. In the summers he performs and teaches at the Michigan City Chamber Music Festival, the ARIA academy, and at the Wintergreen Festival, where he serves on the faculty of the Wintergreen Academy and holds the Leonard Rose Memorial chair as principal cellist of the Wintergreen Festival Orchestra. A passionate teacher, Wesley serves as the youngest full Professor in the School of Music at the University of Tennessee, where he received the Chancellor's Award for Professional Promise. His former students play and teach throughout the United States. Dr. Baldwin founded and directs the Tennessee Cello Workshop, an annual three-day gathering of roughly 100 cellists of all ages from throughout the United States held each February. Mr. Baldwin plays on a cello by J.B. Vuillaume. He lives in Knoxville with his wife (soprano Melisa Barrick), three great children, and three dogs.

Notes

Rumi Settings

Movement I Don't worry about saving these songs! And if one of our instruments breaks, it doesn't matter. We have fallen into the place where everything is music.

Movement II

that we can't see

The strumming and the flute notes rise into the atmosphere, and even if the whole world's harp should burn up, there will still be hidden instruments playing. So the candle flickers and goes out. We have a piece of flint, and a spark.

Movement III This singing art is sea foam. The graceful movements come from a pearl somewhere on the ocean floor. Poems reach up like spindrift and the edge of driftwood along the beach, wanting! They derive from a slow and powerful root

Movement IV Stop the words now. Open the window in the center of your chest, and let the spirits fly in and out.