

4-9-1997

Guest Artist Recital: Guild Trio

Guild Trio

Patricia Tao

Janet Orenstein

Brooks Whitehouse

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*“It is
my plan
to build
a school
of music
second
to none.”*

—William
Grant Egbert
(1867–1928)
Founder,
Ithaca
Conservatory
of Music



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

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VISITING ARTISTS SERIES 1996-97

GUILD TRIO
Patricia Tao, piano
Janet Orenstein, violin
Brooks Whitehouse, violoncello

Trio in C Major, K. 548

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Allegro
Andante cantabile
Allegro

Four Movements for Piano Trio

Bright Sheng

I. Eighth note = 54
II. Quarter note = 66
III. Quarter note = 112
IV. Nostalgia

INTERMISSION

Trio No. 2 in E-Flat Major, op. 100

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo; allegro moderato
Allegro moderato

Ford Hall Auditorium
Wednesday, April 9, 1997
8:15 p.m.

The Guild Trio is managed by:
Joanne Rile Artists Management, Inc.
100 Old York Road, Suite 1206
Jenkintown, PA 19046
215/885-6400

PROGRAM NOTES

Bright Sheng immigrated from Shanghai to New York in 1982. He writes this of his *Four Movements for Piano Trio*:

Four Movements for Piano Trio is based on musical materials from *My Song*, a work for solo piano which I composed in 1988. In both works I sought to develop my own concept of "tonality" by unifying my mother tongue (Oriental classical and folk music) and father tongue (western classical music).

The folkloric style and prelude-like first movement is constructed through the use of heterophony (multiple voices doing disparate things at the same time), a device typical of Oriental music. The second movement is based on a humorous and joyful folk song from Se-Tsuan. In the third movement - a savage dance - the melody grows through a series of "Chinese Sequences" a term I use to describe a type of melodic development where each time a motive is repeated, its duration is lengthened and its range widened (listen to the cello in the third movement for this). The last movement evokes a lonely nostalgia.

THE GUILD TRIO

Since its formation in 1988, **The Guild Trio** has become one of the premier ensembles of its generation. Dedicated to both the celebration of the standard piano trio repertoire and the commissioning of new works, the ensemble's international performing career has spanned the globe from Turkey to Australia, and its North American schedule has recently brought these talented young players to San Diego, Los Angeles, Seattle, Vancouver, Toronto, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D. C.

Premieres by The Guild Trio include Harvey Sollberger's *From Winter's Frozen Stillness* in New York's Merkin Hall, Bradley Lubmans's *Time is of the Essence* at Tanglewood, and *To the Spirit Unconquered* by Sheila Silver, which they have just recorded for the C.R.I. label. The trio was invited to Germany in 1995 to perform Silver's work in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of World War II. This season they will premiere William Bolcom's *Spring Trio*, consisting of three new rags for piano trio.

Only three months after forming, The Guild Trio won the prestigious USIA Artistic Ambassador Competition, resulting in a seven country European tour. The following year they were awarded the position of Trio-in-Residence at Tanglewood Music Center. Their other summer festival credits include the Rutgers Summerfest, the Cape May Music Festival and Summer Serenades at the Staller Center. They also perform regularly as Artists -in-Residence at the Guild Hall in East Hampton, New York. The Guild Trio is a frequent feature on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" and has appeared on WNYC's "Around New York" and WQXR's "The Listening Room." They have also

appeared on the public television series "Premiere Performances" out of St. Louis.

In 1991 they won first prize in the Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, and in the same year were one of four groups nationwide to receive a matching grant from Chamber Music America for their unique Artists-in-Residence program at the Stony Brook University Medical Center. Since its inception, this residency has done much to foster a greater sense of community among faculty, students, staff and patients. In addition, with their educational *Illness and Inspiration* series and their *Frontiers* colloquium on creativity in science and art, The Guild Trio has become firmly established as a cultural and educational resource for the scientific and surrounding community.

As the Trio-in-Residence at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, The Guild Trio members perform regularly on the Faculty Artists Series, teach and coach chamber music.

Patricia Tao performs extensively both as a soloist and chamber musician. In 1990 she was reinvited as a USIA Artistic Ambassador to tour Europe, with recitals in Portugal, Spain, Italy, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. For two seasons, Ms. Tao toured the United States with Columbia Artists' Community Concert Series. Winner of numerous awards, including a top prize in the Frinna Awerbuch International Piano Competition, she was the recipient of the Leonard Bernstein Scholarship and the David McCord Arts Award upon graduation from Harvard/Radcliffe Colleges. In addition to her extensive work with The Guild Trio, Ms. Tao has collaborated with other chamber musicians at the International Musicians Seminar in Prussia Cove, England; the Rutgers Summerfest; Tanglewood; and Summer Serenades at the Staller Center. She received her master's degree from Indiana University and her doctorate from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Her principal teachers include Leonard Shure, Gyorgy Sebok, and Gilbert Kalish.

Violinist **Janet Orenstein** enjoys an active performing career both in the United States and abroad as a chamber musician, soloist, and advocate of contemporary music. Aside from her many performances with The Guild Trio, she has played chamber music in New York's Alice Tully and Merkin halls, and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D. C. Ms. Orenstein has performed at numerous summer festivals, including Tanglewood, Prussia Cove, Norfolk, and Rutgers, and has played in master classes of Nathan Milstein and Sandor Vegh. She recently returned from a six-week recital tour of eight countries in Africa as a winner of the 1996 USIA Artistic Ambassador Competition.

As soloist, Ms. Orenstein has appeared with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Salzburg Sinfonietta, the Stony Brook Symphony, the Juilliard PreCollege Orchestra, and the Palm Beach Symphony as a top prize winner in their Annual Invitational Violin Competition. A recipient of the Hanna and Leonard Stone Foundation Award from The Juilliard School, she received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from that prestigious institution. In 1996 she received her doctorate from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Her principal teachers include Joyce Robbins, Christine Dethier and Szymon Goldberg.

In addition to his international career with The Guild Trio, cellist **Brooks Whitehouse** has appeared as soloist with the New England Chamber Orchestra, the Stony Brook Symphony and the Nashua Symphony, and appears frequently in recital throughout the Northeast. As a proponent of contemporary music he has performed with the Twentieth Century Music Group, the New Millennium Ensemble, the Weisberg Contemporary Ensemble and the Stony Brook Contemporary Chamber Players. He has held fellowships at the Blossom and Bach Aria festivals and the Tanglewood Music Center, where he received the Cabot Prize for his outstanding contribution to the festival. Mr. Whitehouse's undergraduate studies as a Biology major at Harvard support his particular interest in interdisciplinary programs involving science and music. He received both his master's and doctoral degrees from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where he was awarded the Ackerman Prize for Excellence in Graduate Studies. His principal teachers were Timothy Eddy and Norman Fischer.