

Old Dominion University

F. Ludwig Diehn Concert Series



Photo by Darío Acosta

Photo by Glen McClure



Jasper String Quartet With the Norfolk Chamber Consort

Compare and Contrast: Schumann and Shostakovich

J Freivogel, first violin
Sam Quintal, viola

Sae Chonabayashi, second violin
Rachel Henderson Freivogel, cello

Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano
Artistic Co-Directors, Norfolk Chamber Consort

Concert: October 23, 8 p.m.
Master Class: October 24, 12:30 p.m.

Wilson G. Chandler Recital Hall
F. Ludwig Diehn Center for the Performing Arts

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Program

Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, Op. 44 (1842)

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

I. Allegro brillante

II. In modo d'un marcia. Un poco largamente

III. Scherzo: Molto vivace

IV. Allegro ma non troppo

Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano

INTERMISSION

Piano Quintet in G Minor, Op. 57 (1940)

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

I. Prelude: Lento

II. Fugue: Adagio

III. Scherzo: Allegretto

IV. Intermezzo: Lento

V. Finale: Allegretto

Andrey Kasparov, piano



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Biographies

Jasper String Quartet

Winner of the prestigious CMA Cleveland Quartet Award, Philadelphia's Jasper String Quartet is the Professional Quartet in Residence at Temple University's Center for Gifted Young Musicians. The Jaspers have been hailed as "sonically delightful and expressively compelling" (The Strad) and "powerful" (New York Times). "The Jaspers... match their sounds perfectly, as if each swelling chord were coming out of a single, impossibly well-tuned organ, instead of four distinct instruments." (New Haven Advocate)

The quartet records exclusively for Sono Luminus and have released three highly acclaimed albums: Beethoven Op. 131, The Kernis Project: Schubert, and The Kernis Project: Beethoven. They have commissioned Aaron Jay Kernis' 3rd String Quartet "River" for the 2015-17 seasons with a remarkable consortium of presenters. In past seasons, they have performed the work in recital for each consortium member: Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Chamber Music Northwest, Chamber Music Monterey Bay, Classic Chamber Concerts, and Chamber Music America. Highlights for the 2017-18 season will include performances at the Friday Musicale, Inc., Friends of Music Brookings, Wigmore Hall, Howland Chamber Music Circle, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts: Great Performers Series, American Music Festival Concert Series, Rockport Music, Inc., Maverick Concerts, Market Square Concerts, and more.

In addition to their concert schedule next season, they will continue their work in the Philadelphia Public Schools through Astral Artists' Colors of Classical Music, a project funded through a monumental grant from the William Penn Foundation. The Jasper String Quartet has brought well over 100 outreach programs into schools and enjoys educational work of all types. In their Melba and Orville Roleffson Residency at the Banff Centre they embarked on "guerrilla chamber music," performing concerts in unusual settings around Alberta, Canada. The Quartet was the 2010-12 Ensemble-in-Residence at Oberlin Conservatory and, in conjunction with Astral Artists, was awarded a 2012 Chamber Music America grant through its Residency Partnership Program for work in Philadelphia schools. From 2009-2011, the Jaspers were the Ernst C. Stiefel String Quartet-in-Residence at the Caramoor

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Center for Music and Arts (Katonah, NY). They were the first ensemble to be invited for a second year as such.

In 2008, the Jaspers swept through the competition circuit, winning the Grand Prize and the Audience Prize in the Plowman Chamber Music Competition, the Grand Prize at the Coleman Competition, First Prize at Chamber Music Yellow Springs, and the Silver Medal at the 2008 and 2009 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competitions. They were also the first ensemble honored with Yale School of Music's Horatio Parker Memorial Prize, an award established in 1945 and selected by the faculty for "best fulfilling... lofty musical ideals." In 2010, they joined the roster of Astral Artists after winning their national auditions.

The Jaspers perform pieces emotionally significant to its members ranging from Haydn and Beethoven through Berg, Ligeti, and living composers. They have commissioned string quartets from some of today's best composers, including Aaron Jay Kernis, Andrew Norman, Nicholas Omiccioli, Conrad Tao and Annie Gosfield. Critics and audiences commend the Jasper String Quartet's "programming savvy" (clevelandclassical.com) and they have performed throughout the United States and in Canada, England, Italy, Japan, Korea, Norway and Panama.

Formed at Oberlin Conservatory, the Jasper String Quartet began pursuing a professional career in 2006 while studying with James Dunham, Norman Fischer, and Kenneth Goldsmith as Rice University's Graduate Quartet-in-Residence. In 2008, the quartet continued its training with the Tokyo String Quartet as Yale University's Graduate Quartet-in-Residence. The Jasper String Quartet is named after Jasper National Park in Alberta, Canada. The quartet receives Career Development support from Astral Artists and is represented exclusively by Dispeker Artists.

Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn **Artistic Co-Directors, Norfolk Chamber Consort**

Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn have won critical acclaim around the world for their compelling interpretations of diverse and adventurous repertoire. Describing the duo's performances music critics have praised them as "flawless," "dazzling," "electrifying" and "authoritative."

Hailing from Armenian and Ukrainian families, Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn were educated at the Moscow State Conservatory and came to the United States in the 1990s to pursue advanced studies at Indiana University in Bloomington. They presently teach at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Additionally, they are Artistic Co-Directors of the Norfolk Chamber Consort and co-founders of the Invenia Piano Duo, which won in the Best Classical Category of the 2014 Veer Magazine Music Awards.

The musicians are active as soloists and collaborators as well, having performed with such renowned artists as violinist Joshua Bell, tenor James King, tubist Harvey Phillips, and choreographer Jelon Vieira, among many others. In 1994, Kasparov premiered the newly discovered edition of Béla Bartók's Piano Concerto No. 3, revised by the composer himself.

Both members of the duo are the recipients of prestigious awards. Lutsyshyn won Second Prize at the Vienna Modern Masters Third International Performers' Recording Awards Competition. She was also a prizewinner at the William Kapell International Piano Competition in College Park, Maryland. As a result of the latter award she debuted in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Kasparov won the Albert Roussel Prize at the Orléans International Piano Competition for 20th-Century Music.

In addition to his career as a pianist, Kasparov is an active composer. His compositions have been performed at various festivals and other venues in Moscow, New York, Paris, Buenos Aires, Darmstadt, Yerevan, Ottawa, Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and many other cities in the former Soviet Union, Europe, and the Americas. He was awarded the Second Prize at the Sergei Prokofiev International Composition Competition in Moscow, Russia, for his Piano Sonata No. 2. His compositions and articles have been published

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by the Kompozitor Publishing House in Moscow and Hungarian Music Quarterly in Budapest

Kasparov and Lutsyshyn are prolific and internationally acclaimed recording artists. Their chamber and solo performances, as well as Kasparov's compositions, are featured on labels such as Naxos Records, Albany Records, CRS and VMM. Lutsyshyn has also made a recording with violinist Joshua Bell for the BBC. They have recently recorded four CDs with the complete works by Florent Schmitt for piano duet and duo on Naxos Grand Piano. This set has gathered accolades such as "an interpretation as perfect as the music itself" (Michel Fleury, *Classica*, France), "elegance and telepathic sense of timing" (Byzantion, MusicWeb International, UK), "a refined and mellifluous interpretation" (Jonathan Sánchez Hernández, *Ritmo*, Spain), "an exceptional pair of musicians" (James Harrington, *American Record Guide*, USA) and "An outstanding production!" (Burkhard Schäffer, *Piano News*, Germany). In May 2013, CD 1 of the Schmitt series was chosen as Recording of the Month and Critics' Choice by MusicWeb International and Naxos, respectively. Kasparov and Lutsyshyn have recently released a two CD set with the complete works by Paul Bowles for piano solo and duo on Naxos American Classics. Having received an unconditional endorsement by the Gramophone magazine, CD 1 of this series was included by Naxos in Critics' Choice for July 2016.

Kasparov presently serves as Organist at Freemason Street Baptist Church in Norfolk while Lutsyshyn is currently Music Director and Organist at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and Organist at Chalice Christian Church in Virginia Beach.



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with the Norfolk Chamber Consort**

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