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Charles W. Bolen Faculty Recital Series: Duo MemDi: Igor Kalnin, Violin; Rochelle Sennet, Piano; September 23, 2023

Igor Kalnin Violin

Rochelle Sennet Piano

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**Illinois State University
Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts
School of Music**

Charles W. Bolen Faculty Recital Series

Duo MemDi

Igor Kalnin, *violin*

with Guest Artist

Rochelle Sennet, *piano*

**Kemp Recital Hall
September 23, 2023
Saturday Evening
7:00 p.m.**

Program

Please silence all electronics for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

Souvenir d'un lieu cher, Op. 42

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)

Meditation
Scherzo
Melodie

Sonata for Violin and Piano (1947)

Irene Britton Smith
(1907-1999)

Intermission

Sonata for Violin and Piano (1961)

H. Leslie Adams
(born 1932)

Moderato
Lento
Allegro

Valse-Scherzo for Violin and Piano, Op. 34

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

This is the ninth program of the 2023-2024 season.



Award-winning **Duo MemDi** was founded by violinist Igor Kalnin and pianist Rochelle Sennet in the summer of 2010, when they served on the faculty at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan. The objective of Duo MemDi is to perform music that embraces the diversity of world cultures. Particularly, they focus on commissioning and performing music of composers from underrepresented groups. They believe that classical music should be an integral part of the diversity, inclusivity and equality movement, and serve as an indispensable tool in promoting social justice. All of the Duo's live performances are from memory – a rare feat in the world of chamber music. They feel that it allows for a connection to composers' ideas in a more holistic, insightful way. These ideals inspired the name of the duo: Mem[ory] and Di[versity] = MemDi.

Violinist **Igor Kalnin** has performed internationally as a soloist, chamber musician, and an orchestra leader, including solo engagements at Carnegie Hall in New York and Musikverein in Vienna, Austria. Currently, he is Artist-Teacher of Violin/Assistant Professor at Illinois State University. During the summer season, he is teaching and conducting at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan, where he also serves as Concertmaster of Blue Lake Festival Orchestra. A native of Russia, he started his professional career as a faculty member at Glinka State Conservatory in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, and later joined Russian String Orchestra in Moscow. After relocating to the United States in 2004, he served as Violin Instructor at Yale University, Assistant Professor of Violin at Luther College, and a leader for several orchestras on the East Coast and in the Midwest

Pianist **Rochelle Sennet** has established herself as a well-known performer, teacher, and scholar. Her recital programs showcase her versatility at the keyboard, with frequent performances of works by J.S. Bach and Black composers such as Leslie Adams, Jeffrey Mumford, and Pulitzer-Prize winning composer George Walker. She was co-winner for the Krannert Center Debut Artist Competition, national finalist at the MTNA Steinway & Sons Young Artist piano competition, and a prize winner in numerous competitions such as the Kingsville International Piano competition, and the US Open Music Piano Concerto Competition. She is the inaugural Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she also serves as Associate Professor of Piano in the School of Music. Dr. Sennet is a Yamaha Artist and a voting member of the Recording Academy.