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STRING QUARTETS

Argus Quartet
Formosa Quartet

PIANO TRIO

Horszowski Trio

PIANO / CLARINET / CELLO

Polonsky-Shifrin-Wiley Trio

WOODWINDS

New Century Saxophone Quartet

GUITAR

William Kanengiser

SPECIAL PROJECTS

British Invasion —
William Kanengiser and
the Alexander String Quartet

Viva Tango —
starring Cho-Liang Lin
and David Shifrin

2024-2025 Programs



When you are angling
for a full house . . .

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Program 1 – Fantasy: Personal Thoughts & Adventure

- 1. Smetana***: Trio in G minor, Op. 15
* The 200th anniversary of the composer’s birth in 2024
- 2. Fantasiestücke Project - Homage to Robert Schumann** (15-17’ total)
* written for the Horszowski Trio
 - **Derek Bermel**: “Remembrance” (2022)
 - **David Fulmer**: “Eldorado” (2022)
 - **Paul Chihara**: “Fantasy Little Red Dragonfly” (2022)

OR: Elliott Carter: Selections from Epigrams (5-8’ total)
- 3. Ravel**: Trio in A minor
OR: Mendelssohn: Trio No. 2 in C major, Op. 66
OR: Saint-Saëns: Piano Quartet in B-flat major, Op. 41
(Masumi Rostad, viola)

Smetana wrote his trio just after his young daughter died. His expression of pain is clear. Yet in the meantime, we can hear peaceful memories of his daughter, as he recalls some of the tunes they had sung together. In the Horszowski

Horszowski Trio

Trio's *Fantasiestücke Project*, these three American composers from different generations create their own fantasy world, taking inspiration from the music of Robert Schumann. The result is a remarkably diverse set, each work uniquely reflecting the personal story of each composer. **Ravel** was one of the most adventurous and colorful composers. In this work, he brings us on a magical journey from ancient times and into the future, using his French colors with Asian influences.

(Alternative works: Epigrams is **Carter**'s very last work -- he was 103-years-old when he composed it. Each movement is a vignette, about a minute long, picturesque yet expressive and colorful; some are dramatic and others are humorous. The Jewish-then-Christian-convert composer, **Mendelssohn**, features a Lutheran hymn in this work. It builds to a heartfelt climax with much emotion and wit.)

Program 2 – Voices from Vienna

1. **Brahms**: Trio No. 3 in C minor, Op. 101
2. **William Bolcom**: Introduction and Rondo “Haydn Go Seek” (2008)
3. **Schubert**: Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, Op. 100

Featuring **Brahms** and **Schubert**, who both spent much of their lifetimes in Vienna. American composer **Bolcom** channels another Vienna-based composer, **Haydn**, in a most imaginative and clever way, as if Haydn wanders about in search of Mozart and Beethoven...

Program 3 – Tunes from Home

1. **Haydn**: Trio in E minor, Hob. XV:12
OR: Grieg: Andante con moto for Piano Trio
2. **Chen Yi**: “Tunes from My Home” (2007)
3. **Dvořák**: Trio in F minor, Op. 65

Chen Yi's “Tunes from My Home” is a dynamic and personal work through which the composer mesmerizes the listener as she conjures the sound of Chinese

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Horszowski Trio

traditional instruments from time to time while bringing Chinese percussive rhythms as well. **Dvořák** and **Grieg** were also known for featuring folk tunes and dances from their home countries in their compositions. **Haydn** is always elegant and surprising, and here he displays a Gypsy spirit in the finale.

Program 4 – Peace in Troubled Times

1. **Robert Schumann:** Trio No. 2 in F major, Op.80
2. **Rebecca Clarke:** Piano Trio

OR: Fantasiestücke Project - Homage to Robert Schumann (15-17' total)

* written for the Horszowski Trio

- **Derek Bermel:** “Remembrance” (2022)
- **David Fulmer:** “Eldorado” (2022)
- **Paul Chihara:** “Fantasy Little Red Dragonfly” (2022)

3. **Shostakovich:** Trio No. 2 in E minor, Op. 67

Robert Schumann suffered deep mental anguish throughout much of his life, but he wrote this most cheerful, glorious work during an otherwise difficult year, 1847, and his body of music has continued to inspire musicians and composers for nearly two centuries. **Rebecca Clarke**'s piano trio is one of her signature works, however she endured many obstacles in order to succeed as a woman composer. Many years after **Shostakovich** wrote this trio facing despair during the Second World War, sadly, our world today still exhibits similar tragedies. We are grateful to Shostakovich who left us this important work, a powerful artistic statement which reminds us to stay humane and to pray for peace.