



76TH SEASON OF CONCERTS

FEBRUARY 11, 2018 / NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Admission to the National Gallery of Art and all of its programs is free of charge, except as noted.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that all portable electronic devices are turned off.

The department of music produced these program notes. Copyright © 2018 Board of Trustees, National Gallery of Art, Washington

Concerts are made possible in part through the generosity of donors to the National Gallery of Art through The Circle. Reserved seating is available in recognition of their support. Please contact the development office at (202) 842-6450 or circle@nga.gov for more information.

Cover Keith Anden Achepohl, *Capriccio VII* (detail), 1995, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of the Artist

nga.gov/music





Zorá String Quartet with David Shifrin and Jiacheng Xiong. Photo by Pete Checchia

Program

Curtis on Tour

The Nina von Maltzahn Global Touring Initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music

David Shifrin, clarinet

Dominic Armstrong, tenor

Jiacheng Xiong, piano

Zorá String Quartet

Dechopol Kowintaweewat and Hsuan-Hao Hsu, violin

Pablo Muñoz Salido, viola

Zizai Ning, cello

FEBRUARY 11, 2018 / 3:30

WEST BUILDING, WEST GARDEN COURT

Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990)

Sonata for Clarinet and Piano

Grazioso—Un poco più mosso

Andantino—Vivace e leggiero

David Shifrin, clarinet

Jiacheng Xiong, piano

Leonard Bernstein

“Extinguish My Eyes,” from *Two Love Songs*

“I’ve Been Afraid” from *A Quiet Place*

“So Pretty”

“When My Soul Touches Yours,” from *Two Love Songs*

“My Twelve-Tone Melody”

“Dream with Me,” from *Peter Pan*

Dominic Armstrong, tenor

Jiacheng Xiong, piano

Aaron Copland (1900–1990)

Sextet for Piano, Clarinet, and String Quartet

Allegro vivace

Lento

Finale: Precise and rhythmic

David Shifrin, clarinet

Jiacheng Xiong, piano

Zorá String Quartet

Intermission

George Gershwin (1898–1937)

Lullaby

Zorá String Quartet

Leonard Bernstein

Songs and Dances (from *West Side Story*)*

Arr. John B. Hedges

“Something’s Coming”

“Dance at the Gym”

“Maria”

“Ballet Sequence—Somewhere”

This concert is generously supported by the Billy Rose Foundation.

**Songs and Dances* is commissioned by the Curtis Institute of Music for Curtis on Tour in celebration of Leonard Bernstein’s Centenary.

Program subject to change.

The Musicians

CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

Drawing upon ninety years of artistry, the Curtis Institute of Music pairs tradition and innovation, educating exceptionally gifted young musicians as artist-citizens who engage local and global communities through music-making of the highest caliber. Each year, 175 students come to Curtis, drawn by a tuition-free, performance-inspired learning culture that is nurtured by a celebrated faculty. The school’s distinctive “learn by doing” approach results in more than two hundred concerts each year in Philadelphia, as well as performances around the world through Curtis on Tour.

Known as one of the world’s finest music academies, Curtis reaches global audiences through Curtis Performs, the school’s dedicated HD performance video site. Online music courses and Curtis Summerfest programs offer lifelong learners other ways to listen, explore, and learn. Students also hone twenty-first-century skills through social entrepreneurship programs that bring arts access and education to the community.

The extraordinary young musicians of Curtis graduate to join 4,000 alumni who have long made music history. Each season, leading orchestras, opera houses, and chamber music series around the world feature Curtis alumni. They are in the front rank of soloists, composers, and conductors and hold principal chairs in every major American orchestra. Curtis graduates are musical leaders, making a profound impact on music, both onstage and in their communities.

CURTIS ON TOUR

Curtis on Tour is the Nina von Maltzahn Global Touring Initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music. An embodiment of the school’s “learn by doing” philosophy, the initiative offers students professional touring experience alongside celebrated alumni and faculty. In addition to performances, the tour offers master classes, interactive programs, and community engagement activities. Curtis on Tour also facilitates solo performances of Curtis students and alumni with professional orchestras and recital series. Since the program was established in 2008, students, faculty, and alumni have performed more than two hundred concerts in Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

DOMINIC ARMSTRONG

Dominic Armstrong, tenor, has quickly established himself as an artist of superb musicality and characterization. This season, Armstrong joins the Milwaukee Symphony for Bach's *Magnificat*, Curtis on Tour for its annual touring initiative, Hudson Hall as Jo the Loiterer in *The Mother of Us All*, and appears with both the Los Angeles Opera and the Center for Contemporary Opera in a double bill of two Gordon Getty one-act operas, *Usher House* and *The Canterville Ghost*, as both Edgar Allan Poe and Duke Cecil of Yorkshire.

Last season, Armstrong returned to the Dayton Opera as Don José in Bizet's *Carmen* and to the Lansing Symphony for Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. In January, he joined the Beth Morrison Projects for the New York City performances of *Breaking the Waves*. Previously, Armstrong traveled to Russia to perform Britten's *War Requiem* with the Russian National Orchestra and subsequently performed in a series of concerts, collaborating with Craig Rutenberg. Armstrong also made his company debut with Opera Colorado as Arthur Dimmesdale in the anticipated world premiere of Lori Laidman's *The Scarlet Letter*, sang the Second Jew in Strauss's *Salome* with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and performed in recital with the Brooklyn Art Song Society. During the summer of 2016, Armstrong performed the role of Alfredo in Verdi's *La traviata* with Chautauqua Opera.

DAVID SHIFRIN

Clarinetist David Shifrin is one of only two wind players to have been awarded the Avery Fisher Prize since its inception in 1974. He is in constant demand as an orchestral soloist, recitalist, and chamber music collaborator, and has appeared with the Philadelphia and Minnesota Orchestras and the Dallas, Seattle, Houston, Milwaukee, Detroit, and Phoenix Symphonies. He has performed internationally with orchestras in Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan, and has been principal clarinetist with the Cleveland Orchestra, the American Symphony Orchestra (under Leopold Stokowski), the Honolulu and Dallas Symphonies, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and the New York Chamber Symphony. As a recitalist, he has received critical acclaim, appearing at such venues as Carnegie Hall and the Library of Congress. A much sought-after chamber musician, he has collaborated frequently with such distinguished ensembles and artists as the Tokyo and Emerson String Quartets, Wynton Marsalis, and pianists Emanuel Ax and André Watts.

An artist member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMSLC) since 1989, Shifrin served as its artistic director from 1992 to 2004. He has toured extensively with CMSLC and hosted and performed in several national television broadcasts on PBS's *Live from Lincoln Center*. He has been the artistic director of Chamber Music Northwest in Portland, Oregon, since 1981 and is also the artistic director of the Phoenix Chamber Music Festival.

In 1987, Shifrin joined the faculty at the Yale School of Music and was appointed artistic director of its Chamber Music Society in 2008. He has served on the faculties of the Juilliard School, the University of Southern California, the University of Michigan, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and the University of Hawaii. In 2007, he was awarded an honorary professorship at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing.

Shifrin's recordings have consistently garnered praise and awards, receiving three Grammy nominations. His recording of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto with the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra was named Record of the Year by *Stereo Review*. His latest recordings are *Shifrin Plays Schifrin* (Aleph Records)—a collection of clarinet works by composer/conductor Lalo Schifrin—and the Clarinet Trios of Beethoven, Bruch, and Brahms with cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han (ArtistLed). Shifrin also continues to commission and champion the works of twentieth- and twenty-first-century American composers, including John Adams, Joan Tower, Bruce Adolphe, Ezra Laderman, John Corigliano, Bright Sheng, and Ellen Zwilich. In addition to the Avery Fisher Prize, Shifrin has received a Solo Recitalist Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, an Avery Fisher Career Grant, the 2016 Concert Artist Guild Virtuoso Award, and an honorary membership by the International Clarinet Association in 2014 in recognition of lifetime achievement.

JIACHENG XIONG

Jiacheng Xiong, from Beijing, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2011 and is the Wike Family Fellow, studying piano with Robert McDonald. During the 2014–2015 season, Xiong performed Chopin's Piano Concerto no. 2 with the Des Moines Symphony. He won first prize at the 2014 Korea International Competition for Young Pianists in Seoul, the American International Piano Competition in Asia Pacific Macau, and the Xiamen National Youth Piano Competition. Xiong was also awarded second prize and audience favorite at the Viseu International Piano Competition and second prize at the Cleveland International Piano Competition. Most recently he was awarded third prize at the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation's New York International Piano Competition.

Xiong has attended the Aspen Music Festival and School, was featured on National Public Radio's *From the Top*, and has performed at Carnegie Hall and at Cortot Hall in Paris. At age twelve, Xiong was invited to perform at the Luxembourg and Norway embassies in China. Xiong previously studied at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing.

ZORÁ STRING QUARTET

The Zorá String Quartet is in its second season as quartet-in-residence at the Curtis Institute of Music. During the 2016–2017 season, the quartet debuted with Curtis on Tour, gave recitals in New York and Washington, DC, and performed nationwide. This season, the ensemble's highlights include a US tour with clarinetist David Shifrin and tenor Dominic Armstrong as part of Curtis on Tour; debuts at London's Wigmore Hall and Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum; and performances with violist Roberto Díaz and cellist Peter Wiley on the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society series.

The Zorá String Quartet won the grand prize and gold medal at the 2015 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition; first prize and several concert prizes at the 2015 Young Concert Artists International Auditions; and the Coleman National Chamber Music Competition. In 2016, the quartet participated in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Encounters program, concluding with a performance at Alice Tully Hall, and also appeared at Chamber Music Northwest and the Oregon Music Festival. The group has participated in chamber music residencies at the Banff Centre (Canada); in the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival (Connecticut); and in the Advanced Quartet Studies program of the Aspen Music Festival, where the musicians worked intensively with Earl Carlyss, the Takács Quartet, the Pacifica Quartet, and the American String Quartet.

The Zorá String Quartet previously served as graduate quartet-in-residence at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University and at the Beethoven-Haus in Bonn, Germany, in 2014. The name "Zorá" means "sunrise" in Bulgarian.

Program Notes

Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, and George Gershwin composed some of America's most iconic and beloved music. Each told a distinctly American story: the Tin Pan Alley songs of Gershwin, the open spaces of the frontier as expressed by Copland, and the bustling jazz-flavored urbanity of Bernstein. With this program, Curtis joins the worldwide centenary celebrations of Leonard Bernstein, a 1941 conducting graduate, who studied at Curtis in his early twenties just before launching his meteoric career. In addition to Curtis on Tour performances in Arizona, California, Florida, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Washington, DC, the Curtis Opera Theatre presents Bernstein's *A Quiet Place*, the American premiere of the chamber arrangement by Garth Edwin Sunderland, in New York and Philadelphia. The Curtis Archives also shares its collection with the public, including photos, letters, and programs, with more items available online.

Upcoming Events of the Seventy-Sixth Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin Concerts

Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place in the West Building, West Garden Court.

—
Trio con Brio Copenhagen
To Travel Is to Live
Music by Grieg, Gade, Mendelssohn, and Tchaikovsky
February 18, 3:30

—
Narek Hakhnazaryan, cello
Noreen Cassidy-Polera, piano
Music by Albéniz, Brahms, Schumann, and others
February 25, 3:30

—
ETHEL
Blue Dress for String Quartet
Music by contemporary women composers
March 4, 3:30

—
Janoska Ensemble
Classical music with jazz, gypsy, tango, Latin, and a dash of pop
March 11, 3:30

—
The Canales Project
Hear Her Song
A celebration of the choices of extraordinary women
March 18, 3:30

Benedetto Lupo, piano
Featuring solo piano works by Debussy
Celebrating *Cézanne Portraits*
March 25, 3:30

—
Richard Stoltzman, clarinet
Mika Stoltzman, marimba
Duo Cantando
Music by Bill Douglas, Chick Corea, Toru Takemitsu, and John Zorn
April 1, 3:30

—
Heinavanker Ensemble
Featuring ancient Estonian songs and folk hymns
Celebrating *Michel Sittow: Estonian Painter at the Courts of Renaissance Europe*
April 8, 3:30

—
Fretwork
Johann Sebastian Bach, *Art of Fugue*
“Fretwork is the finest viol consort on the planet.”—Stephen Pettitt, *London Evening Standard*
April 15, 3:30

—
Inscape Chamber Orchestra
Saint-Saëns, *Carnival*
Mahler, Symphony no. 4, chamber version
April 22, 3:30

—
The Westerlies
The Songs We Sang: American Vocal Music of the 20th Century
In celebration of International Jazz Day
April 29, 3:30