### December 1998

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Performer(s)</th>
<th>Works</th>
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| 6      | Nai-Yuan Hu, violinist  
Nelson Padgett, pianist | Mozart: Sonata, K. 377  
R. Strauss: Sonata, Op. 18  
Korngold: Much Ado About Nothing, Op. 11  
Mendelssohn: Sonata in F Major |
| 13     | Mia Chung, pianist  | Beethoven: Seven Bagatelles  
Lee Hyla: Riff and Transfiguration  
Chopin: Fantasy in F Minor |
| 20     | Washington Men's Camerata  
Thomas Beveridge, conductor | Christmas concert |

### January 1999

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| 3      | Brett Polegato, baritone  
Iain Burnside, pianist | Schumann: Four Songs, Op. 40  
Kilpinen: Songs of Death  
Selected songs by Beethoven, Finzi, Ives, and Copland |
| 10     | National Gallery Orchestra  
George Manos, conductor | Gala Viennese New Year Concert |

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The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed.

For the convenience of concertgoers, the Garden Café remains open until 6:30 p.m.
When pianist Stella Simakova gave a critically acclaimed recital on twenty-four hours' notice at the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts in Katona, New York, it triggered a chain reaction that launched her United States career. After the recital, Sir André Previn invited her to play Saint-Saëns' Second Piano Concerto with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s. Soon thereafter, she was invited to offer a recital in Avery Fisher Hall as part of Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. That performance led to a live recording at New York's classical radio station, WQXR, which was later broadcast.

Stella Simakova has performed as soloist with the St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Radio and Television Orchestra, the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra, and the New York Metamorphoses Orchestra. She has also performed at the Kennedy Center, Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and St. Petersburg's Bolshoi Philharmonic Hall and State Cappella Hall. Her concerts have been broadcast on WNYC and WQXR.

A first prize winner at the 1993 East and West Artists International Competition and the 1993 Gina Bachauer Piano Scholarship Competition, Simakova also took First prize at the 1989 Concerto Competition and the 1990 Chopin National Competition, both held in Russia. That same year, she went on to win the special prize in the International Chopin Competition in Poland.

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Stella Simakova received bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the St. Petersburg Conservatory. Upon winning the Vladimir Horowitz Scholarship, she attended the Juilliard School of Music, where she studied with Bella Davidovich. She received the master’s degree from Juilliard in 1995 and currently pursues her performance career in New York. Stella Simakova appears at the National Gallery by arrangement with Musicians' Corporate Management, Limited, of Millbrook, New York. The Gallery is grateful to her for agreeing to perform on short notice, replacing pianist João Carlos Martins, who was obliged to cut short his current United States recital tour due to illness.