

For the convenience of concertgoers
the Garden Café remains open until 6:00 pm.

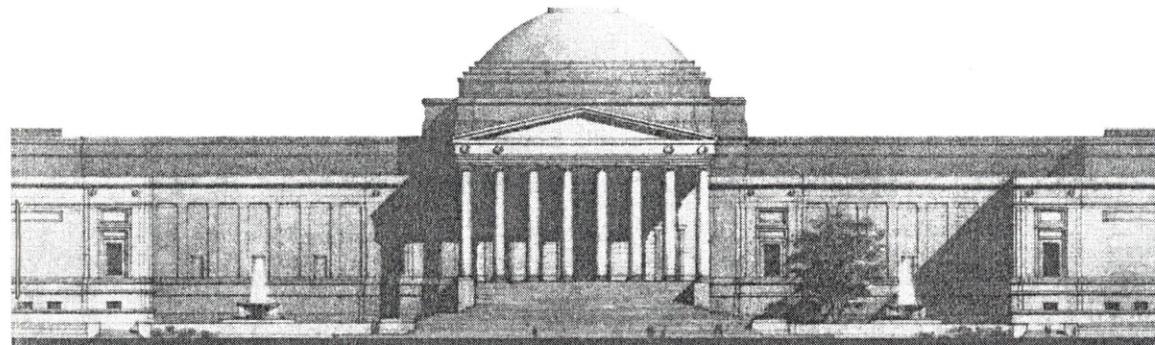
The use of cameras or recording equipment during the
performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones,
pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that late entry or reentry of
the West Building after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

Music Department
National Gallery of Art
Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC

Mailing address
2000B South Club Drive
Landover, MD 20785

www.nga.gov



The Sixty-fifth Season of
The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin
Concerts

National Gallery of Art
2,620th Concert

National Gallery Chamber Players String Quartet

Claudia Chudacoff and Teri Lazar, *violin*

Osman Kivrak, *viola*

Diana Fish, *cello*

with

Miceal O'Rourke, *pianist*

May 13, 2007
Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

Program

John Field (1782–1837)

Piano Sonata in E-flat Major, op. 1, no. 1 (1801)

Allegro moderato

Rondo allegretto

Field

Piano Quintet in A-flat Major (1816)

INTERMISSION

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Quintet in F Minor for Piano and Strings, op. 34 (1861–1864)

Allegro, non troppo

Andante, un poco adagio

Scherzo: Allegro

Finale: Poco sostenuto—Allegro non troppo—Presto, non troppo

The Musicians

NATIONAL GALLERY CHAMBER PLAYERS STRING QUARTET

The National Gallery Chamber Players String Quartet has performed regularly at the Gallery since its debut in 1995. In addition to standard quartet repertoire, the group presents rarely heard masterpieces of chamber music. The musicians also perform under the name Sunrise Quartet, and in that capacity they have been recognized with a Chamber Music America residency at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts as well as with residencies at the Concerts at the Beach in Delaware and the Davies Concert Series in Camp Springs, Maryland. With perfectly matched skills, the first and second violinists are able to change places, a practice that is rare among string quartets.

Violinist Claudia Chudacoff is the concertmaster of the National Gallery Orchestra and the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and the assistant concertmaster of the Marine Chamber Orchestra of “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band. An active chamber musician, she is a member of the Chamber Players of Washington and has performed frequently in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s chamber music series. Her experience as an orchestral soloist includes concerto performances with the Concert Artists of Baltimore, the National Gallery Orchestra, and the symphony orchestras of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Toledo, Ohio. The recipient of a master of music degree from the Eastman School of Music, Chudacoff has recorded chamber music for Albany Records.

Violinist Teri Lazar has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East. She is the concertmaster of the Virginia Chamber Orchestra and performs with the Richmond Chamber Players and in Currents, a chamber music series also based in Richmond. She earned a doctor of music degree from The Catholic University of America and teaches violin at American University, where she is a musician in residence. Lazar has recorded chamber music for the Albany, Centaur, Klavier, and North/South Consonance labels and has been heard on National Public Radio’s *Performance Today*.

Violist Osman Kivrak is a winner of the National Scholarship Competition in Turkey and the Baltimore Chamber Music Awards. He has performed at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, and has toured Italy and other parts of Europe as a chamber musician. He performs with the Richmond Chamber Players and in Currents, and teaches at American University as a musician in residence. A graduate of The Catholic University of America, where he earned a doctor of music degree, Kivrak is a composer as well as a performer. His compositions were recently recognized with awards from the Maryland State Arts Council and the Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission.

Cellist Diana Fish came to Washington, DC, in 1994 to become a member of the Marine Chamber Orchestra of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band, in which she currently serves as assistant principal cellist. She graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Orlando Cole, and continued her work at the graduate level at Indiana University, where she studied with Janos Starker. Fish has been the principal cellist of the Concert Artists of Baltimore, with whom she performed as a soloist in Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* for piano, violin, and cello. She has also appeared as soloist with the Marine Chamber Orchestra in Victor Herbert's *Cello Concerto in E Minor*. A charter member of the Sunrise Quartet and the National Gallery Chamber Players String Quartet, Fish has been performing with both ensembles for the past twelve years.

MICEAL O'ROURKE

Regarded as an artist of exceptional poetic and musical insight, the distinguished Irish pianist Miceal O'Rourke has widespread experience as both a guest soloist with major orchestras and a solo recitalist. Besides performing the standard repertoire for piano and orchestra, he has played rarely heard concerti by Benjamin Britten, Witold Lutoslawski, Ottorino Respighi, Fyodorovich Stravinsky, and Karol Szymanowski. Recognized as a proponent of John Field's piano concerti, he has performed them with orchestras in France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, and the United States.

O'Rourke has appeared at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Great Hall of the Moscow P. I. Tchaikovsky Conservatory, the Kennedy Center, the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Royal Festival Hall in London, the Saint Petersburg Philharmonia Great Hall, Salle Pleyel in Paris, Symphony Hall in Boston, and many other major venues. He has had several highly successful concert tours of Poland, playing works by Chopin. In 1994 the Frederick Chopin Society in Warsaw awarded him the Frederick Chopin Medal. O'Rourke's series of eight best-selling CDs featuring the music of John Field has won a number of honors and awards, among them the Classic CD Award (Great Britain), a spot on *Le Monde de la musique* magazine's list of the best "Disques de l'année" (France), and Penguin Awards (United States and Great Britain). His other CD recordings on the Chandos label include solo recitals of works by Chopin, Claude Debussy, George Frederick Pinto, and Robert Schumann. O'Rourke's recording of works by Pinto was the *Gramophone* magazine Critics' Choice for the year 2000.

Program Notes

Born into a musical family, John Field was a child prodigy. He began piano lessons with his grandfather, who was a professional organist, and performed with his father, a professional violinist. In 1793, when Field was eleven years old, the family moved to London, where he was apprenticed to the famous composer and teacher Muzio Clementi (1752–1832). This association secured the young musician's future as a virtuoso performer, teacher, composer, and prominent figure in the arts scene in London as well as in Europe at large. Field was among a group of composer-pianists who led advances in both the actual mechanics of the piano and the writing for it. His characteristic style includes melismatic melodies in the right hand and lush, sonorous harmonies in the left hand accompaniment. He is credited with inventing the nocturne, which was later popularized and perfected by Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849). Field's *Piano Quintet in A-flat Major* consists of a single movement, marked *Andante*. Reflecting the contemporary practice of rehearsing piano concerti with string quartets (and occasionally performing them this way), the writing gives the dominant role to the piano, while the strings serve primarily as accompaniment.

Although Johannes Brahms composed only twenty-four pieces of chamber music, he is considered a major contributor to the genre due to their importance. The *Quintet in F Minor for Piano and Strings*, op. 34, had several different incarnations before Brahms finally decided on this instrumentation. Originally, it was conceived as a string quintet, with two violins, viola, and two cellos. Brahms then reset it as a sonata for two pianos, destroying the original setting. Another version of the string quintet, with two violas, appeared in a British publication, but the composer eventually chose the version performed this evening for publication in Germany.

Program notes by Danielle DeSwert

Next Week at the National Gallery of Art

Marta Felcman, *pianist*

Music by Chopin, Debussy, Guastavino, and Scarlatti

Presented in honor of the centenary of Paul Mellon's birth,
performed on the Ailsa Mellon Bruce Steinway,
and made possible by a generous grant from the Billy Rose Foundation

May 16, 2007

Wednesday Afternoon, 12:10 pm

East Building Auditorium



Inscape Chamber Music Project

Sarah D'Angelo, *violin*

Evan Solomon, *clarinet*

Kacy Clopton, *cello*

Danielle DeSwert, *piano*

Music by Beethoven, Hindemith, and Khachaturian

May 20, 2007

Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm

West Building, West Garden Court