

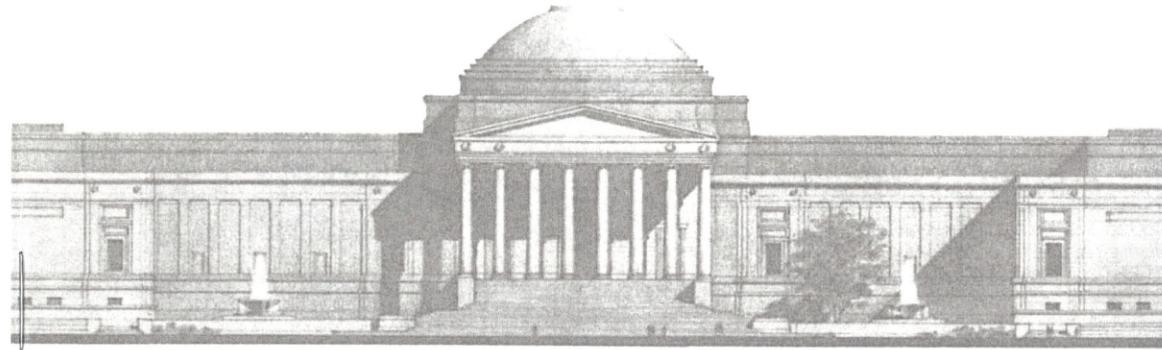
The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

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

For the convenience of concertgoers, the Garden Café remains open for light refreshments until 6:00 pm on Sundays.

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

www.nga.gov



The Seventieth Season of
The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin
Concerts

National Gallery of Art
2,892nd Concert

National Gallery of Art Resident Ensembles

May 6, 2012
Sunday, 6:30 pm
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

Program

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Piano Quartet in G Minor, K. 478 (1785)

Allegro

Andante

Rondo

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Sonata for Viola da Gamba and Keyboard in G Major, BWV 1027 (c. 1720)

Adagio

Allegro ma non tanto

Andante

Allegro moderato

Mozart

String Quartet in D Minor, K. 421 (1783)

Allegro moderato

Andante

Menuetto and Trio

Allegretto ma non troppo

This concert is the fourth in a series of chamber music concerts made possible by support from The Gottesman Fund in memory of Milton M. Gottesman.

The Musicians

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART PIANO TRIO

The newest of the Gallery's resident ensembles, the Piano Trio was formed in 2008 and has since played on several of the Gallery's Sunday concerts. In October 2009 the Trio performed a special program of music by Belgian composers at the residence of the Belgian Ambassador. The following year it played a complete program of music by early twentieth-century American composers in honor of the exhibition *American Modernism: The Shein Collection*.

LUKE WEDGE

Luke Wedge received a bachelor of music degree in English literature from the University of Kansas, and a master of music degree in violin performance from Northwestern University. His principal instructors included David Perry, Gerardo Ribeiro, and Ben Sayevich. A member of the Covington String Quartet from 2003–2009, Wedge has appeared as soloist and chamber musician in Chicago, Illinois; Lawrence, Kansas; and Washington, DC. A member of the United States Air Force Strings, he has also been engaged by the National Gallery of Art Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, and the Ravinia Festival Orchestra.

BENJAMIN R. WENSEL

As a founding member of the Tarab Cello Ensemble, Benjamin R. Wensel has performed in the premieres of more than twenty new works written for the group by established and emerging American composers. A graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Eastman School of Music, Wensel has participated in seminars and master classes conducted by members of the Cleveland, Guarneri, Juilliard, Miami, and Ying quartets. He studied chamber music with Peter Salaff and members of the Audubon and Cavani Quartets, and participated in solo master classes with Clemens Michael Hagen, Steven Isserlis, and Michel Strauss. Wensel has performed with

the National Symphony Orchestra, the ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra as well as with many local ensembles. He maintains a private studio in Fairfax, Virginia, and plays with the newly formed Messiaen Quartet.

DANIELLE DESWERT HAHN

Brussels-born pianist Danielle DeSwert Hahn is a freelance collaborative pianist and coach and the music program specialist at the National Gallery of Art. She has worked as a pianist and coach with the Ash Lawn Highland Opera Festival, Chautauqua Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Kentucky Opera, New Orleans Opera Association, Portland (Oregon) Opera, San Francisco Opera Center, Sarasota Opera, and Washington National Opera. From 2004–2006 she was the principal repetiteur with the Baltimore Opera Company and Washington Concert Opera.

Hahn performs regularly in chamber music and voice recitals, including performances at the Arts Club of Washington, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Mexican Institute of Culture, the National Gallery, the Russian Embassy, and the White House. A former apprentice coach under Placido Domingo at the Washington Opera, she is currently principal pianist with the Inscape Chamber Music Project. A graduate of the Music Academy of the West, where she studied with Warren Jones and Anne Epperson, she earned a master of music degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where she studied with Martin Katz, and a bachelor of music degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART STRING QUARTET

The National Gallery of Art 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 Concerts at the Beach in Delaware and the Davies Concert Series in Camp Springs, Maryland. In 2009 the quartet collaborated in concert with the renowned chamber musician and pianist Menahem Pressler, playing music by Mozart and Schumann, and in 2011 the ensemble appeared on the Millennium Stage of the Kennedy Center.

CLAUDIA CHUDACOFF

In addition to serving as concertmaster of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, the National Gallery of Art Orchestra, and the United States Marine Band White House Chamber Orchestra, violinist Claudia Chudacoff appears frequently as a soloist and chamber musician in the Washington and Baltimore areas. A member of both the Sunrise Quartet and the National Gallery of Art String Quartet, she has also performed with the Contemporary Music Forum and National Musical Arts as well as in the Embassy Series and at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She is featured on a recording of chamber music by Erich Korngold released by Albany Records, and has been heard a number of times on American Public Media's *Performance Today*.

TERI LAZAR

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 *Performance Today*.

OSMAN KIVRAK

With numerous concert tours of Europe to his credit, including performances at the Spoleto Festivals in the United States and Italy, violist Osman Kivrak brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the National Gallery of Art String Quartet. He also performs with the Sunrise Quartet, the Richmond Chamber Players, and Currents and serves as artistic director of Concerts at the Beach in Delaware and the Davies Concert Series in Camp Springs, Maryland. A viola instructor in the applied music program at American University, Kivrak received master of music and doctor of music degrees from the Catholic University of America. Before coming to the United States, he studied at Gazi University in Turkey and the Guildhall School of Music in London. He has recorded chamber music for the Amerimusic, Arizona University Recordings, Klavier, and Living Music labels. His compositions for viola and other instruments have been heard at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Kennedy Center, and the Library of Congress.

DIANA FISH

A resident of Washington, DC, since 1994 when she became a member of the Marine Chamber Orchestra of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band, cellist Diana Fish currently serves as assistant principal cellist of that ensemble. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Orlando Cole, Fish continued her work at the graduate level at Indiana University, where her teacher was Janos Starker. Fish has been the principal cellist of Concert Artists of Baltimore, with whom she performed as soloist in Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* for piano, violin, and cello. A founding member of both the Sunrise Quartet and the National Gallery of Art String Quartet, she has also appeared as soloist with the Marine Chamber Orchestra in Victor Herbert's *Cello Concerto in E Minor*.

STEPHEN ACKERT

Now in his eighth year as head of the music department at the National Gallery of Art, Stephen Ackert studied the organ at Oberlin College; Northwestern University; the Hochschule für Musik in Frankfurt am Main, Germany; and the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where he completed his doctoral studies in 1974. A resident of the Washington area since 1979, he has performed at the Kennedy Center, the National Cathedral, and the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. In 2008 he undertook his ninth recital tour of historic concert halls and churches in Germany, and in 2010 he played for the national convention of the American Liszt Society.

In addition to his administrative duties at the Gallery, Ackert presents lectures and preconcert talks on the interrelationships between music and art. His lectures and recitals on organ, piano, and harpsichord have also been heard at the Amalfi Coast Music and Art Festival in Italy; the Austrian, German, and Italian embassies in Washington; the Kennedy Center; and the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore.

Program Notes

In 1785 Mozart was commissioned by his publisher and friend Franz Anton Hoffmeister (1754–1812) to write three quartets for piano and strings. In itself the form was unusual, the piano trio being the preferred chamber music idiom in Vienna at the time. Also without precedent was Mozart's treatment of the piano as an equal partner in the music—contemporary works with similar instrumentation generally assigned an accompanying role to the keyboard player. Mozart's first response to the commission, the *Piano Quartet in G Minor*, K. 478, did not sell well. Amateur musicians—the principal clientele for published scores—found it entirely too difficult, due in equal measure to its revolutionary style and the challenging nature of the piano part. Hoffmeister, sensing a losing proposition, released Mozart from the obligation to compose any more piano quartets. Fortunately for posterity, the composer proceeded to write another one anyway. He submitted his *Quartet in E-flat Major*, K. 493, to Artaria, a Viennese publisher who was already famous as the source for works by Joseph Haydn.

Two of the members of the viol family (*viola* in Italian) are named for the manner in which they are held by the player. The tenor of the family, the *viola da gamba*, is held between the legs, while the alto, the *viola da braccia*, is supported by the arm. With its frets, six strings, and restrained tone, the viol was seen to be too limited to match the expressive demands of late classical and romantic music, and was replaced in the course of the mid- to late eighteenth century by the more flexible violoncello. The date of composition of Bach's sonatas for the *viola da gamba* is uncertain, but some scholars date them around 1720, when he was the Kapellmeister to the Prince of Anhalt-Cöthen, who played the instrument.

Completed in 1783, Mozart's *String Quartet in D Minor*, K. 421, is the second in the series of six quartets that Mozart eventually dedicated to Haydn. Arguably the greatest string quartets by any composer up to that time, all six are noteworthy for their breadth of expression and diversity of technical means. The only mature Mozart string quartet in a minor key, K. 421 stands out even among this extraordinary group as one of Mozart's most intense works. It served as a model for quartet composers throughout the nineteenth century.

Program notes by Danielle DeSwert Hahn

Upcoming concerts at the National Gallery of Art

Charlotte de Rothschild, soprano
Danielle Perret, harpist

Music by Montsalvatge, Poulenc, Satie,
and other composers

Presented in honor of
Joan Miró: The Ladder of Escape

May 13, 2012
Sunday, 6:30 pm
West Building, West Garden Court



Ciné-concert:
A Suitcase Full of Chocolate

Music by Chopin and Rachmaninoff
performed by Lincoln Mayorga, pianist

May 16, 2012
Wednesday, 12:10 pm
East Building, Auditorium