75TH SEASON
OF CONCERTS
JANUARY 8, 2017 • NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
12:30 • West Building, West Garden Court

Curtis on Tour

Complete Violin Concertos of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

Concerto no. 1 in B-flat Major, K. 207
Allegro moderato
Adagio
Presto
Hsuan-Hao Hsu, violin

Concerto no. 3 in G Major, K. 216, Strassburg
Allegro
Adagio
Rondo: Allegro
Stephen Kim, violin

Intermission

Concerto no. 5 in A Major, K. 219, Turkish
Allegro aperto
Adagio
Rondo: Tempo di menuetto
Angela Sin Ying Chan, violin

Concerto no. 2 in D Major, K. 211
Allegro moderato
Andante
Rondo: Allegro
Abigail Fayette, violin

Concerto no. 4 in D Major, K. 218
Allegro
Andante cantabile
Rondeau: Andante grazioso; Allegro ma non troppo
Brandon Garbot, violin

Sinfonia Concertante in E-flat Major, K. 364
Allegro maestoso
Andante
Presto
Shmuel Ashkenasi, violin

Intermission

3:30 • West Building, West Garden Court

Curtis on Tour

Complete Violin Concertos of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)

Intermission

Sinfonia Concertante in E-flat Major, K. 364
Allegro maestoso
Andante
Presto
Shmuel Ashkenasi, violin

Angela Sin Ying Chan, violin

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 Summerfest programs offer lifelong learners further ways to listen, explore, and learn. And students 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 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, it offers students professional touring experience alongside celebrated alumni and faculty. In addition to performances, musicians offer master classes, interactive programs, and community engagement activities while on tour. 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.

Hsuan-Hao Hsu, violin

Hsuan-Hao Hsu, from Taipei, Taiwan, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2009 and studies with renowned violinist Pamela Frank. In recent seasons, Hsu has given solo recitals at the Macao Cultural Centre and Taipei’s National Theater and Concert Recital Hall. He has performed as a soloist with the Taipei Symphony Orchestra, as winner of its competition. He was a member of the Orchestra of the Affiliated Senior High School of National Taiwan Normal University for two years and previously studied with Juin-Ying Lee, director of National Chiao Tung University.

Angela Sin Ying Chan, violin

Angela Sin Ying Chan, from Hong Kong, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2013 and is a violin student of Shmuel Ashkenasi and Aaron Rosand. Chan was chosen as a 2012 junior competitor for the Yehudi Menuhin Competition Beijing. She recently was awarded first prize and a concerto prize in the senior division of the 8th International Louis Spohr Competition for young violinists.
Stephen Kim, violin
Stephen Kim, from Cupertino, California, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2013 and studies violin with Shmuel Ashkenasi and Aaron Rosand. He has performed as a soloist with several orchestras, including the Aspen, Sendai, and Suwon Philharmonic Orchestras; the Terre Haute, Carmel, Fremont, Prometheus, and San Francisco Youth Symphony Orchestras; and the San Francisco, Palo Alto, and Monta Vista Chamber Orchestras.

Kim was the winner of the Aspen Music Festival’s 2014 Violin Competition, the 2013 Dorothy DeLay Memorial Fellowship, and the 2011 American Academy of Conducting at Aspen’s Violin Competition. He has won prizes in numerous other competitions, including the Sendai, Yehudi Menuhin, and Seoul international music competitions.

Abigail Fayette, violin
Abigail Fayette, from Wading River, New York, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2012 and studies violin with Ida Kavafian. Fayette has performed as a soloist with the Sound Symphony, Massapequa Philharmonic, Juilliard Pre-College Chamber, and El Paso Symphony Youth Orchestras. She served as the concertmaster of the Curtis Symphony Orchestra for the 2015–2016 season and as associate principal violin for the 2014–2015 season.

Fayette was a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center in 2016 and has attended the Artsosphere Festival, the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music School and Festival, Greenwood Music Camp, Music from Angel Fire, the New York String Orchestra Seminar, the Hotchkiss School’s Summer Portals Program, and the Taos and Meadowmount Schools of Music.

Brandon Garbot, violin
Brandon Garbot, from Portland, Oregon, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2013 and studies violin with Ida Kavafian and Arnold Steinhardt. Garbot is a substitute violinist with the Philadelphia Orchestra and has been a guest artist at the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. He served as the concertmaster of the New York String Orchestra in 2014.

Garbot has performed as a soloist with several orchestras, including the Oregon and Meridian Symphonies, Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, and Brevard Music Center Festival Orchestra. He made his debut at the Kennedy Center in 2012 with the Conservatory Project. Garbot has performed as part of the Taos School of Music, Perelman Music Program, Music from Angel Fire, Chamber Music Northwest, and Festival Mozaic, and in the inaugural season of Chamber Music Encounters with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. He performs regularly as the violinist in Trio St. Bernard and has collaborated with members of Eighth Blackbird and the Cavani Quartet.

Shmuel Ashkenasi, violin
Born in Tel Aviv, Israel, Shmuel Ashkenasi attended the Musical Academy of Tel Aviv and gave his first public performance at the age of eight. After studying with Ilona Feher, he came to the United States to study with Efrem Zimbalist at the Curtis Institute of Music.

Ashkenasi won the Merriweather Post Competition, was a finalist in Belgium’s Queen Elisabeth Competition, and received second prize in the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. In 1969, he formed the Vermeer Quartet and remained its first violinist throughout the quartet’s thirty-nine-year career, gaining a reputation as one of the world’s outstanding chamber musicians.

Ashkenasi has toured the former Soviet Union twice and concertized extensively in Europe, Israel, the Far East, and the United States; and he has collaborated with Rudolf Serkin, Thomas Hampson, Murray Perahia, Peter Serkin, and Menahem Pressler. He has performed as soloist with many leading orchestras, including those in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, Berlin, London, Moscow, and Tokyo. Ashkenasi joined the faculty of the Curtis Institute of Music in 2007 and also teaches at Bard College.

Roberto Díaz, viola
A violist of international reputation, Roberto Díaz is president and CEO of the Curtis Institute of Music. As a soloist, Díaz collaborates with leading conductors of our time on stages throughout the world. He also has worked directly with important twentieth- and twenty-first-century composers, most notably Krzysztof Penderecki — whose viola concerto he has performed numerous times with the composer on the podium and whose double concerto he premiered in the United States.

A frequent recitalist, Díaz enjoys collaborating with young musicians, bringing a fresh approach to the repertoire. Díaz has performed with major string quartets and pianists in chamber music series and festivals worldwide and is a member of the Díaz Trio. His recordings include a Grammy-nominated disc of viola transcriptions by William Primrose for Naxos, as well as releases on the Artek, Bridge Records, Dorian, Nimbus, and New World labels.

In addition to his decade-long tenure as principal viola of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Díaz was also principal viola of the National Symphony under Mstislav Rostropovich and a member of the Boston Symphony and the Minnesota Orchestras. He is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and the Curtis Institute of Music, where he continues to serve on the faculty, holding the James and Betty Matarase Chair in Viola Studies and the Nina von Maltzahn President’s Chair. Díaz plays the ex-Primrose Amati viola.
Program Notes

We think of Mozart as a composer first and foremost, but in his day he was also renowned as a musical performer. He was acknowledged as one of the finest keyboard virtuosos of his era, and he was also an accomplished string player, having been tutored in the violin by his father, whose extensive violin treatise (published the year of Wolfgang’s birth) stands as a monument of eighteenth-century pedagogy. The young Mozart became adept enough to serve as a court violinist — eventually as concertmaster — in his native Salzburg, and he never relinquished the ability to demonstrate musical ideas convincingly with violin in hand.

Mozart’s catalog of works for solo string player includes thirty-three, full-scale sonatas, two sets of stand-alone variations for violin and piano (more than half of these dating from his maturity), and five concertos for violin and orchestra. His Concertone for Two Violins and Orchestra and his famous Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola round out the list of his extant concerted string works (not counting some serenades in which the violin is spotlighted as an occasional soloist); and among his chamber music works we find two finely crafted duos for violin and viola. There also survive three stand-alone movements for violin and orchestra: the Adagio in E Major, K. 261; Rondo in B-flat Major, K. 269; and Rondo in C Major, K. 373.

Mozart may have composed his concertos for his own use, but other musicians soon mastered them as well. Apparently the first virtuoso to pick them up was Antonio Brunetti, a Neapolitan who was appointed Court Music Director in Salzburg on March 1, 1776. He succeeded Mozart as concertmaster the following year, after Mozart had a falling-out with Archbishop Colloredo. All five concertos follow the same basic pattern. The first movements are in sonata-allegro form with a double exposition (the first taken by the orchestra and the second by the soloist). The soloist is expected to perform an improvised or composed cadenza at the end of the recapitulation. The second movement of each concerto is in a contrasting key from the outer movements and also in sonata-allegro form with a featured cadenza just before the concluding phrase. With the exception of Concerto no. 1, the last movement of each concerto is in rondo form. Concerto no. 1 features the sonata-allegro form, though Mozart also wrote an alternate Rondo in Bb Major, K. 269, which remains in the repertoire as a stand-alone piece.

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

Carlos Rodriguez, piano
Peter Burroughs, tenor
“Washingtonians on Wednesdays”
Musical Migration
January 18, 12:10
West Building, West Garden Court

Noah Getz, saxophone
Osman Kivrak, viola
Danielle DeSwert Hahn, piano
“Washingtonians on Wednesdays”
American works for saxophone, viola, and piano
January 25, 12:10
East Building Auditorium

Cuarteto Latinoamericano
Music by Leo Brouwer, Aaron Copland, Alberto Ginastera, George Gershwin, and Dan Roman
January 29, 3:30
West Building, West Garden Court

Marcolivia, violin and viola duo
“Washingtonians on Wednesdays”
From Bartók to Bebop
February 1, 12:10
West Building, Lecture Hall

The Chamber Ensemble of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras
Music by Samuel Barber
February 4, 2:00
West Building, West Garden Court

General Information

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.

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