

12-2-2001

Mostly Music: Dec. 2, 2001

Mostly Music Staff

Follow this and additional works at: <https://neiudc.neiu.edu/mostlymusic>

Recommended Citation

Staff, Mostly Music, "Mostly Music: Dec. 2, 2001" (2001). *Mostly Music*. 16.
<https://neiudc.neiu.edu/mostlymusic/16>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Publications at NEIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mostly Music by an authorized administrator of NEIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact neiudc@neiu.edu.

Mostly Music at Northeastern Illinois University

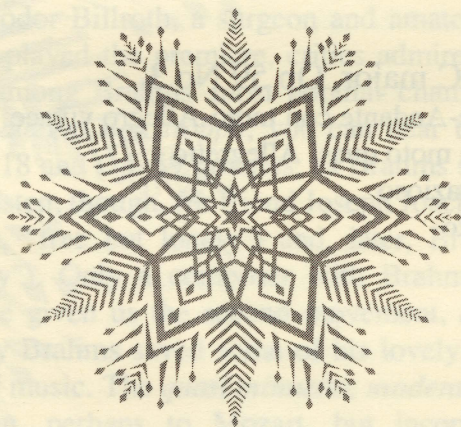
presents the

Burnham String Quartet

Sunday December 2, 2001

4:00PM

5490 South Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois



Program

Quartet No. 13, Kochel No. 157

Allegro
Andante
Presto

W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Quartet in A minor, Op. 51, No. 2

Allegro non troppo
Andante Moderato
Quasi Minuetto, moderato-Allegretto vivace
Finale-Allegro non assai

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Intermission

Quartet in C major, Op 59 No 3

Introduzione-Andante con moto-Allegro vivace
Andante con moto quasi Allegretto
Minuetto-Grazioso
Allegro molto

L. van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Composer Spotlight

JOHANNES BRAHMS (1833-1897)

String Quartet in A Minor, Op. 51, No. 2 (1873)

In the wake of a powerful ocean-going vessel, only a brave - or foolhardy - captain would dare navigate. Such were the prospects facing any composer considering the symphony or the string quartet after Beethoven's death in 1827. Turbulence from the Bonn Master's wake cautioned the young Johannes Brahms, already hailed in 1853 by Robert Schumann as "one of the elect," to proceed slowly. He avoided the symphony and, over the next 20 years, destroyed as many as 20 attempts at a string quartet, some evidently ready for performance. He was brave enough to continue where Beethoven had set such a high standard, but only when he felt he was ready to contribute something of his own. At last, in 1873, Brahms completed his first published quartets. The A Minor was probably composed during the summer at *Tutzing*, on the *Stamberger See* and, along with the C Minor, was dedicated to Theodor Billroth, a surgeon and amateur musician. The Joachim Quartet played the premiere, critics admired the work, but it has never been among Brahms' most popular chamber works. In the first movement, *allegro non troppo*, you can hear the heavy tread of Beethoven's Op. 18 and Op. 59 quartets, as Brahms serves up a perfect *sonata allegro*. Listen, though, for friend Joseph Joachim's motto, F-A-E (in German, "free but lonely") and, later, Brahms' own F-A-F ("free, but happy"). Only a composer with Brahms' gift for setting words could have given us the second movement, *andante moderato*. We can be happy Brahms saved some of his lovely, singing melodies for other types of music. The *quasi minuetto, moderato* takes us back to before Beethoven, perhaps to Mozart, but incorporates a skittish *scherzo, allegretto vivace*, before returning to the *quasi minuetto* proper. The fourth movement, *Finale: Allegro non assai*, opens with a fast *csárdás*. Just as you think Brahms will conclude joyously in a major key, he turns it back to A Minor at the end, concluding as he started. Arnold Schönberg, in "Brahms, the Progressive," compares its harmonic complexity to the hyperchromaticism of "Tristan und Isolde!"

The Performers

Catherine Brubaker

Viola

A member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra since 1989, Catherine Brubaker is a graduate of The Juilliard School, where she was a student of William Lincer. Other teachers include Karen Tuttle and Masao Kawasaki. Catherine is a former member of the Dallas and Seattle Symphony orchestras. She has served on the music faculty at Northwestern University teaching orchestral repertoire for viola.

An avid performer of chamber music, she appears annually on the CSO Chamber Music Series and has been a guest artist on radio broadcasts on WFMT, including the Dame Myra Hess Concert Series. Other recent appearances include performances with the Sheridan Chamber Players, North Park University Chamber Players, the Lake Winnepesaukee Chamber Music Festival, the Virgin Gorda Chamber Music Festival, and featured billing on Northwestern University's Brahms Centennial Festival held in January of 1997. Catherine has been the founding member of two string quartets, the Senora String Quartet based in Seattle, and the Tesoro String Quartet based in Dallas. Recent solo appearances include a performance of Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola with the Kenosha Symphony Orchestra.

A resident of Evanston for more than eight years, Catherine and her husband, Dileep Gangolli, have two young children, Asha Sophia and Samir Alexander. Raised in a musical family, Catherine has siblings in the symphony orchestras of Houston, and Tucson. Both her parents were active music educators in Arizona, where she was raised. When not involved in her musical endeavors, Catherine enjoys gardening, pottery, and participating in her children's activities.

David Sanders

Cello

Considering his busy schedule with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, which he joined in 1974, and his passionate efforts on behalf of the Chicago Cello Society, David Sanders is "the complete cellist." Founder and president for nineteen years of the Chicago Cello Society, he also is the editor of its newsletter, The Cello Scroll. In addition, he has organized and performed in concerts sponsored by the Society including the complete cello Sonatas of Beethoven and the complete etudes of David Popper. David's enthusiasm for his chosen instrument even extends to organizing cello choirs and giving master classes and seminars on orchestral playing.

He began playing cello at the age of fourteen in high school in Miami, Florida, and made his solo debut eighteen months later with the Miami Symphonic Society Orchestra. He was a scholarship student at the University of Miami and Florida State University summer orchestra festivals, the Eastern Music Festival, and the London Symphony Institute. His teachers include Bernice Schwartz, Dudley Powers, Frank Miller, Channing Robbins, and Raya Garbousova, and he has participated in master classes with Janos Starker, Zara Nelsova, and Lynn Harrell.

David has held principal cello positions with the Northwestern University concert and chamber orchestras, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Lake Forest Symphony, and the Florida Symphony. He also has played with the Lyric Opera of Chicago Orchestra, the Grant Park Symphony, and the Milwaukee Symphony, and he has appeared as soloist with orchestras throughout the Midwest. David maintains an active interest in chamber music; he played with the Montagnana Trio for twenty-five years, and is the cellist of the Burnham String Quartet.

David has one dog, a sheltie. He owns one of the largest collections of rare books and autographs relating to string instruments in the world. Montagnana Books, his international company with customers as close as Chicago and as far away as Australia and Japan, deals in books and autographs pertaining to the string player.

Florence Schwartz

Violin

Florence Schwartz, who joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1989, began her musical studies at the age of five with Margaret Randall at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she later studied with David Cerone. She received a bachelor's degree from the Eastman School of Music as a student of Felix Galimir. Her other teachers include Angel Reyes, Arnold Steinhardt, and David Arben.

She has won numerous competitions and awards. She has performed as soloist with several orchestras, including the World Youth and University orchestras at the National Music Camp, the Aspen Sinfonia, the Cleveland Philharmonic, the Mannes Orchestra, and the Rochester Philharmonic. Florence has performed chamber music with the Bronx Arts Ensemble and as a member of the Marlboro Music Festival. She has appeared as soloist at Bach Week in Evanston and with the Kenosha Symphony with fellow orchestra member Catherine Brubaker. She also performs on the CSO chamber music series. Florence met her husband, Joe Bass, at Interlochen National Music Camp in 1973. They have three children—Max, Solomon, and Sally.

Susan Synnestvedt

Violin

Susan Synnestvedt joined the first violin section of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1986. Born in New York City, she grew up in Royal Oak, Michigan; her father plays jazz trombone

and her mother is a classical pianist. When Susan was four, an aunt suggested that she and her younger brother study violin through the Suzuki method. Susan continued lessons even after her brother retired a few years later.

At twelve, she won first prize in a local violin competition—a solo performance with the Detroit Symphony. For this, her orchestral debut, she played the first movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto under Richard Hayman. Her association with the Detroit Symphony continued with a tour of Michigan schools and concerts in the Ford Auditorium. That same year, she began studying with David Cerone of the Cleveland Institute of Music, flying between Detroit and Cleveland twice a month until she was eighteen.

In 1981, Susan entered the Curtis Institute of Music, where she continued studies with Cerone and coaching in chamber music with Felix Galimir, Karen Tuttle, and Mischa Schneider. She participated in the 1983 Taos Chamber Music Festival and, in 1983-1984, she was concertmaster of the Curtis Orchestra under Max Rudolf, Leonard Bernstein, and Sergiu Celibidache. She received a bachelor's degree in 1985. Since then, she has participated in the Marlboro Chamber Music Festival, with the Concerto Soloists of Philadelphia, and on the CSO chamber music series. In 1987, she toured the East Coast with a Music from Marlboro quintet and she has performed in Florida with a Chicago Symphony chamber ensemble.

Susan and her mother play recitals together in the Philadelphia area as well as in Chicago. In 1989, she married John V. Muntean, a research chemist at Argonne National Laboratory, and they honeymooned in Japan on tour with the Chicago Symphony Chamber Players. They returned to Japan in 1991 when Susan taught and performed at the Affinis Arts Seminar. Susan and John moved to historic Riverside in 1993; they have two children, Madeline and Alex. They enjoy the beauty of the changing seasons in their Frederick Olmsted designed village, as well as nature walks, biking, and sledding.

DISCOVER

chamber music at northeastern

Whether you live in Hyde Park, the north side of Chicago, or the suburbs, Northeastern Illinois University brings chamber music to you. Offered in your neighborhood and on campus in programs such as Mostly Music at NEIU and the Jewel Box Series, you will enjoy exceptional concerts all season long. Discover NEIU for chamber music today. Contact us at 773-442-4978 or visit www.neiu.edu for details.



**Northeastern
Illinois
University**

5500 NORTH ST. LOUIS AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625-4699