

4-17-2015

Jewel Box Series: Apr. 17, 2015

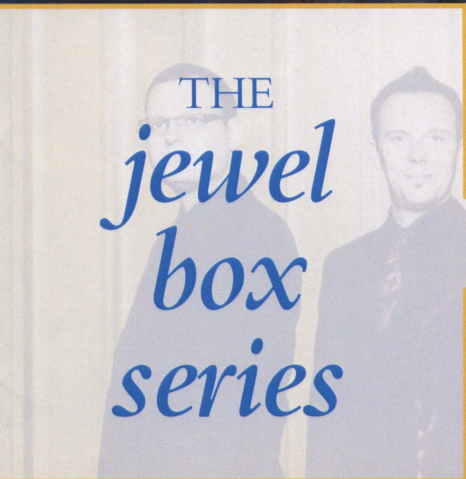
Jewel Box Staff

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15TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

2014/2015



NEXT IN THE
jewel box series

Frank Solivan
& Dirty Kitchen



Frank Solivan & Dirty Kitchen Band simmer a bluegrass/newgrass stew from instrumental, vocal and songwriting skills so hot, they earned 2012 & 2013 Best Bluegrass Band honors from the Washington Area Music Association.

neiu.edu/jewelbox

FRI // MAY 15, 2015 / 7:30PM

Northeastern
ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

The Arts at Northeastern

The Jewel Box Series
Friday, April 17, 2015 at 7:30 pm
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall

Kontras Quartet

Dmitri Pogorelov: violin
Francois Henkins: violin
Ai Ishida: viola
Jean Hatmaker: cello
with
Rose Sperrazza: clarinet
Brian Torosian: guitar

Program

Quintet in A major for Clarinet and Strings, K. 581 W.A. Mozart (1756 - 1791)

- I. Allegro
- II. Larghetto
- III. Menuetto – Trio I – Trio II
- IV. Allegretto con Variazioni

Guitar Quintet No. 4 in D major, G. 448 "Fandango" . . . Luigi Boccherini (1743 - 1805)

- I. Pastorale
- II. Allegro maestoso
- III. Grave assai, Fandango

INTERMISSION

Ramshackle Songs (2009).....Dan Visconti (1982 -)

1. Youthful Bloom
 2. Remembrances
 3. Steamwhistle Shuffle
 4. Ole Dixie Twang
 5. Humble Pie
 6. Spirit in Sway
 7. All Chips
 8. Danderhead
 9. Jackknife Flop
 10. Alley in the Stars
- *Disposable You

Four Japanese Folk Songs Suite No. 2.....Hajime Koumatsu (1938-)

1. Yagibushi
2. Nambu Ushioi-Uta
3. Otemoyan
4. Aizu Bandaisan



*Please join us for a
reception with the artists following the concert.*

98.7wfmt

Tonight's concert is being recorded for later broadcast over WFMT Radio 98.7 FM. Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Flash photography and recording devices are also prohibited. We appreciate your cooperation.

WBEZ91.5

The Jewel Box Series is sponsored in part by WBEZ 91.5 FM, Chicago Public Radio



Kontras Quartet

Admired for their virtuosity, vibrancy and energy, the Kontras Quartet has established an international reputation for their refined and captivating performances. Their name, which means "contrasts" in Afrikaans, is a fitting name for a unique string ensemble comprised of artists from four different parts of the world: Europe, Africa, Asia, and North America. It is this wonderful diversity

that informs the group's exploration of lesser-known music from Russia, South Africa, Japan, and the U.S. (the quartet members' home countries), and inspires Kontras to present the traditional quartet literature in a new and unexpected light.

Highlights of the 2014-2015 season include year-long residencies with Western Michigan University, the Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra, and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras, with Kontras leading orchestra sectionals and giving masterclasses and workshops on chamber music and composition. This season will also see the world premiere of *Lucid Dreamer*, the work for string quartet and bluegrass trio that Kontras commissioned from Jens Kruger of the Kruger Brothers with the aid of a Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning Grant. Apart from a busy touring and teaching schedule, the Chicago-based quartet will also be releasing a highly anticipated recording, *Origins*, for the MSR Classics label.

The Kontras Quartet's recent performances include multiple broadcasts on classical radio stations nationwide (including *Concierto*, the first nationally syndicated Spanish-English classical music service in America); concerts at Chicago's Symphony Center and Paul Recital Hall of the Juilliard School; television appearances on NBC and PBS; and a performance on the main stage of MerleFest, the biggest bluegrass festival in the world.

Formed while the group's members were string principals in the Chicago Symphony's Civic Orchestra, Kontras have studied closely with such luminaries as the Vermeer Quartet and celebrated conductor and educator Cliff Colnot. Kontras enjoyed immediate recognition, winning their first musical contest only half a year after the Quartet's inception: the group outcompeted seasoned string quartets from around the country to become the Quartet-in-Residence with the Western Piedmont Symphony in North Carolina. This engagement has led to numerous concert appearances throughout the southeastern states. Passionate about music education and outreach, Kontras has made a major impact on students of all ages in North Carolina, presenting over two hundred innovative, interactive, and educational performances and reaching over 40,000 children.

Dmitri Pogorelov

Critically acclaimed violinist Dmitri Pogorelov has won prestigious chamber music competitions in his native Russia at an early age, which led to numerous appearances in chamber music recitals and solo performances with orchestras in the USA, Germany, Italy, France, Japan, and Russia. Dmitri has appeared in chamber music concerts with principal players of Chicago, Houston, Saint Louis and Seattle Symphonies, Cleveland and Concertgebouw Orchestras, San Francisco, Chicago Lyric, and Frankfurt State Opera orchestras. As part of Dmitri's interest in contemporary chamber music, he has recently recorded works by Eric Ewazen, Gunther Schuller, and Yehudi Wyner for Albany Records. A seasoned orchestral performer, Dmitri has worked under Pierre Boulez, Bernard Haitink, Sir Mark Elder, and Esa-Pekka Salonen as concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony's Civic Orchestra. As the Associate Concertmaster and frequent soloist with the Lancaster Festival Orchestra, Dmitri has recently performed Max Bruch's First Violin Concerto for a crowd of 8,000 in a concert that also featured pop stars Michael Bolton and Crystal Bowersox.

Francois Henkins

Having grown up in a highly musical family, violinist Francois Henkins distinguished himself at an early age by winning national chamber music and solo competitions in his native South Africa, and performing as guest soloist with the Johannesburg and Free State Symphonies. He came to the USA with a full scholarship to the Interlochen Arts Academy, and continued his studies under Chicago Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Robert Chen, Los Angeles Philharmonic associate concertmaster Nathan Cole, and Renata Artman Knific. Francois has since traveled the world to appear at chamber music festivals such as the Musicorda Chamber Music Festival; the Stellenbosch National Chamber Music Competition, at which he was awarded a prize for his notable performance; and the Cleveland Orchestra's Kent/Blossom Music Festival, where he was awarded the Josef Gingold Award for his distinguished performance in chamber music. An experienced orchestral performer, Francois has worked under renowned conductors such as Bernard Haitink and Pierre Boulez in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Chicago Sinfonietta, and the Johannesburg Philharmonic. Francois has a deep love of teaching and has worked with underprivileged children through the Botsabelo Outreach String Program in South Africa.

Ai Ishida

Ai Ishida was born in Tokyo to two musicians of the New Japan Philharmonic. In Japan, she studied viola at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. Ai has traveled the world to appear at music festivals such as the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival; the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, where she worked with the Tokyo String Quartet; and the Pacific Music Festival, where she performed with members of the Vienna Philharmonic. Ms. Ishida's viola studies continued at Northern Illinois University, where she won the concerto competition and performed Bartok's Viola Concerto. Her pedagogues include Richard Young, Li-Kuo Chang, Yukiko Ogura and the Vermeer Quartet. She has played with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago as principal violist. Recent performances include masterclasses with Nobuko Imai and Yo-Yo Ma, and a show at Chicago's Green Mill following studies with jazz master David Bloom.

Jean Hatmaker

Illinois native Jean Hatmaker has already established herself as a successful, passionate, multi-faceted musician in the classical music world. Ms. Hatmaker began her chamber music career at age 12 as cellist of the Micelli Quartet, with whom she toured Europe and competed in the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition in 2000. As a dedicated performer of contemporary music, she has performed with Indiana University's New Music Ensemble, and as a guest artist at the University of Chicago. Ms. Hatmaker has a passion for teaching and reaching out to new audiences, and during her time as principal cellist of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, she worked with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Institute for Learning, Access and Training as a musical ambassador to young and underprivileged students. She has also worked as a private cello instructor for Indiana University, and Lewis University in Romeville, IL. Currently she is on the faculty at Lenoir-Rhyne University as a teacher for the Kids in Koncert program. Ms. Hatmaker holds both a Bachelors and Masters of Music in cello performance from Indiana University, where she studied under the direction of Janos Starker.



Rose Sperrazza

Clarinetist Rose Sperrazza maintains an active schedule as a performer and teacher. She is a tenured Associate Professor of Music at Northeastern Illinois University where she regularly appears as a soloist and chamber musician. She recently received a Faculty Excellence Award from Northeastern for her Creative Activities, primarily as a performing artist. She

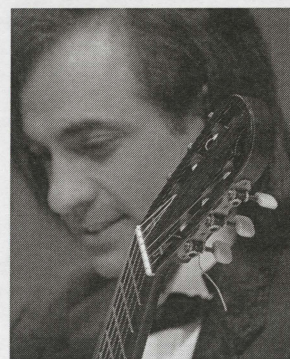
has served on the faculty of the Sherwood Conservatory of Music and currently teaches clarinet students at Harper College in Palatine, IL. As a graduate teaching assistant she taught at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

An active performer in the Chicago area, Ms. Sperrazza has appeared in chamber ensembles featured at the Merit School of Music's LIVE FROM GOTTLEIB and on several live radio broadcasts over WFMT 98.7 FM, including performances with the Cassatt String Quartet, Quintet Attacca, the Chicago Clarinet Ensemble, and CUBE Contemporary Chamber Ensemble. She also performed in a broadcast on Wisconsin Public Radio's "Sunday Afternoon Live from the Elvehjem."

As a soloist, Rose has been featured at International Clarinet Conventions in Tokyo, Japan, College Park, Maryland, and in Salt Lake City, Utah. She has performed at clarinet festivals at the University of Nebraska, Michigan State University and Ohio State University. A guest artist at Iowa Clarinet Day, she performed *Imprevu pour Clarinette Seule*, a work composed for her by Edward Yadzinski, who was the subject of her doctoral dissertation. In April of 2012, Sperrazza was featured as soloist with the Chicago Chamber Orchestra performing Mozart's *Clarinet Concerto, K. 622* in Preston Bradley Hall, and again at Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago. Other performing credits include orchestral work with the Madison Symphony Orchestra, the Madison Opera Orchestra, Light Opera Works Orchestra, the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra and the New Philharmonic Orchestra.

Rose is the founder and Artistic Director of the Chicago Clarinet Ensemble, which features renowned guest artists and master teachers and has commissioned numerous works by composers, including: Eric Mandat, Leo Schwartz, Shelley Foster Gurin, Lawrence Axelrod, Jeff

Kowalkowski, and Jorge Montilla. Rose received her doctorate degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She is a DANSR/Vandoren Artist and her primary teachers include William Gasbarro, Larry Combs, David Bell, and Linda Bartley.



Brian Torosian

Brian Torosian, an active soloist and chamber musician on guitar, lute, and mandolin, has performed in concerts throughout North America. In addition to the standard six-string guitar, he plays baroque guitar, Terz guitar, and 10-string guitar replicas, the latter two made for him by R. E. Bruné after 19th-century Viennese instruments. Concert performances include appearances with Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Grant

Park Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Opera Theater, His Majesties Clerkes, and Classical Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Torosian completed his doctoral studies at Northwestern University with Anne Waller, and also studied with Oscar Ghiglia at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena, Italy where he received Diplomas of Merit, and an honorary scholarship. He has taken numerous master classes with Eliot Fisk, Paul O'dette, Pepe Romero, Manuel Barrueco, Robert Guthrie, Sérgio and Odair Assad, David Starobin, Mark Maxwell, Nigel North, Eduardo Fernandez, and David Russell as well as early music and continuo studies with Mary Springfels and David Schrader. Brian is the current president of the Chicago Classical Guitar Society.

Long an exponent of the music of nineteenth-century virtuoso guitarist and composer J. K. Mertz, Torosian's doctoral dissertation, *Mertz in America*, chronicles the music of Mertz in the United States in the early twentieth century. Brian's published editions include Mertz's *Op. Revue*, Mertz's trio for violin/flute, viola, and guitar, *Divertissement*, Op. 32 (DGA Editions); an anthology of operatic concert works entitled *Selected Operatic Fantasies of Mertz* (Mel Bay); as well as new editions of Mertz's selected works published by Chanterelle Verlag, Heidelberg. His recordings include a track on the harp guitar compilation *Christmas Present* and a collection of Mertz's guitar and piano duos, which features premiere recordings of newly-discovered concert works. Brian is also an accomplished electric guitarist, with over 95 compositions in contemporary popular styles.

Carmina Burana

Christopher Owen
Conductor

Carl Orff

and works by
Pauline Oliveros,
Abbie Betinis, Ola Gjeilo
and others

Tuesday
April 21
2015
7:30 pm

Northeastern
Illinois
University
Chamber Singers
and Chorus

Vox 3 Collective

Voices Rising:
Midwest Young Artists

Lakeview Orchestra

Event parking
in Lots F, H,
and level 4
of parking
structure only

NEIU Auditorium
3701 West Bryn Mawr
Chicago, Illinois

Reserved Seating: \$4
Tickets: neiu.edu/tickets

 **Northeastern**
ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Department of Music



A juried exhibition of work in all media
created by NEIU students with a declared
major or minor in Studio Art.

March 30th-April 30th

Reception: Friday April 17th, 6-9pm

Juror: Matt Irie, Professor of Painting and Drawing,
McHenry County College

Awards will be announced 7pm the night of the reception

About NEIU Art Gallery

The NEIU gallery is located off of the access road at 3701 W. Bryn Mawr Ave and parking is complementary in parking lot F the night of the reception only. The Fine Arts Center Gallery is a visual exhibition space committed to showing innovative works of art in all media within a pluralistic, culturally diverse setting. Spring gallery hours are Mondays 1pm-5pm, Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10am-5pm and Fridays 10am-2pm. Please call 773-442-4944 or visit our website at neiu.edu/artgallery for more information.



Office of Cultural Events