

SHEPHERD SCHOOL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

ATAR ARAD, viola
URI MAYER, conductor

Friday, October 23, 1987
8:00 p.m. in Hamman Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music



PROGRAM

Prélude A L'Après-Midi D'un Faune

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

Concerto for Viola and Orchestra, Op. Posth.

Moderato
Adagio Religioso
Allegro vivace

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

Atar Arad, viola

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 5, Op. 47

Moderato
Allegretto
Largo
Allegro non troppo

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

Photographing and sound recording are prohibited. We further request that audible paging devices not be used during the performance. Paging arrangements may be made with the ushers.

SHEPHERD SCHOOL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

First Violin
Justine Watts,
concertmaster
Deirdre Ward
William Chandler
Rodica Oancea
Denise Couch
Jerry Wang
Teodor Tetel
Mihaela Oancea
Ming-Feng Hsin
Erin McGinnis

Second Violin
Stephen Rose
Fiona Lofthouse
Jennifer Leshnower
Kristina LaCombe
Tanya Schreiber
Aileen Hsu
Amy Chang

Viola
Rifat Qureshi
Timothy Young
Patricia Plombon
Monisa Phillips
John Randolph
Erika Lawson
Wendy Gauntt
James Alexander
Renate Vaughn

Cello
Cao Min
Laurie Reisig-Riss
Peter Kempter
Sara Emberton
Ho Ahn
Louis Spiegler
Teresa Hernandez
Lisa Hollibaugh
Brett Nelsen

Double Bass
Kenneth Harper
Josée Deschenes
Jonathan Imsande
Paul Teichmann
Debra Stehr
Anna Cone
Rebecca Sellon

Flute
LaNelle McDowall
September Payne
Nancy White
Jennifer Wittman

Piccolo
Jennifer Wittman

Oboe
Denise Roy
Adam Shapiro
Grace Tice

English Horn
Denise Roy
Rachel Geesaman

Clarinet
Susan Moore
Jefferson Smith

E^b Clarinet
Rachel Geesaman

Bassoon
John DeGruchy
Jan Harper
Peter Hershey

Contrabassoon
John DeGruchy

Horn
Hans Clebsch
Paul Hopkins
Martha Thompson
Eric Williams
James Wilson

Trumpet
Michael Cox
Diane Hilbert
Bobby Moss

Trombone
Kenneth Clark
Patrick Corbett
Brent Phillips

Tuba
Philip Burke

Harp
Jasmin Eick
Constance Slaughtier

Piano Celesta
Nancy Dettbarn

Timpani and
Percussion
Gabriel Dionne
J. Riely Francis
Richard Hahn
Matthew McCarthy
David Murray
Guillo Rodriguez
Christopher Rose
Richard Skains
Theresa Vidos

Assistant Conductor
Luke Douglas Sellers

Orchestra Manager
Martin Merritt

Library Assistants
William Chandler
Timothy Young
Erika Lawson

Stage Technicians
Anna Cone
Kenneth Harper
Erika Lawson
James Wilson

BIOGRAPHIES

ATAR ARAD was born in Tel Aviv where he began his early musical education and violin studies. In 1968 he was one of a select few young virtuosi to be invited to study under the patronage of the Queen of Belgium in the renowned Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth. In 1971, drawn by the deep, warm sound of the viola and its broad but unfamiliar repertoire, he decided to devote himself to this instrument and its music. The following year, in his first appearance as a violist, he won the City of London prize as a laureate of the Carl Flesch competition for violin and viola. Two months later he was awarded the First Prize at the International Viola Competition in Geneva. Atar Arad was the first violist ever to win this prize by a unanimous decision of the jury. Numerous concerts followed -- as soloist with major orchestras, and in recitals at some of Europe's most prestigious festivals.

Atar Arad's recordings for Telefunken are widely acclaimed. His *Sonata per la Gran Viola e Orchestra* by Paganini was considered by string instrument lovers and critics alike to be an astonishing demonstration of the technical capabilities of the viola. His album in collaboration with his wife, pianist Evelyne Brancart, was praised by *High Fidelity Magazine* as being "perhaps the best viola recital ever recorded" (April 1980).

In 1980 Atar Arad joined the Cleveland Quartet. For the next seven years he toured throughout the U.S., South America, Western and Eastern Europe, Israel and Japan, collaborating with many of today's leading musicians, recording for labels such as RCA, CBS and Telarc and appearing in music festivals including Aspen, Berlin, Edinburgh, Flanders, Israel, Mostly Mozart, Paris, Salzburg and many more. During that time he held the position of a Professor of Viola at the Eastman School of Music. At present, Atar Arad is Professor of Viola at The Shepherd School of Music.

URI MAYER is presently Music Director of the Shepherd School Symphony Orchestra and in his fifth season as Music Director of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Born in Rumania, Uri Mayer was raised in Israel where he studied viola. His interest in conducting was encouraged by Leonard Bernstein and Leopold Stokowski, who invited Mayer to become Assistant Conductor of the American Symphony. In 1970 he received a Post Graduate Diploma with a double major (in viola and conducting) from the Juilliard School of Music. Uri Mayer then accepted an appointment as assistant principal violist with the Montreal Symphony. In the following decade Maestro Mayer held the positions of principal violist, guest conductor, assistant conductor and in 1980 became associate conductor. In 1974 he took a two-year leave of absence and accepted an appointment to the School of Music, University of Michigan, where he conducted the University Philharmonia Orchestra, the Contemporary Directions Ensemble and several opera productions. Upon his return to the Montreal Symphony, he was appointed to a similar position at McGill University's Faculty of Music, a position he held until joining the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

In 1977 Uri Mayer won the audience prize at the International Competition for Conductors in Budapest, and in 1979 was the winner of the Silver Medal at the Fitelberg International Competition for Conductors in Poland. Since then Maestro Mayer's conducting career has included engagements with orchestras in the United States, Mexico, Canada, Israel, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, and Bulgaria.