

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

THE FISCHER DUO

NORMAN FISCHER, cello

JEANNE KIERMAN, piano

with

KENNETH GOLDSMITH, violin

MATTHEW DANE, viola

Wednesday, November 4, 1998

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

Élégie I (1874)

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Sonata in C Major,
Op. 102 No. 1 (1815)

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Andante; Allegro vivace
Adagio; Allegro vivace

Sonata in D minor, Op. 40 (1934)

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

Allegro ma non troppo
Allegro
Largo
Allegro

INTERMISSION

Quartet in C minor for Piano and Strings,
Op. 60 (1855-6; 1873-4)

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Allegro non troppo
Scherzo: Allegro
Andante
Finale: Allegro comodo

In consideration of the performers and members of the audience, please check audible paging devices with the ushers and silence audible timepieces. The taking of photographs and use of recording equipment are prohibited.

BIOGRAPHIES

The 1998-99 season marks the 27th year of the FISCHER DUO, and the group continues to explore the rich repertoire for cello and piano. The Washington Post has described the Fischer Duo's all-French programming as "intense and totally committed, with a solid understanding of the subtleties of the French style"; The New York Times has commented on "a real sense of dialogue in this duo's ensemble" as well as "a salon-like intimacy and warmth"; and The Boston Globe has heralded Norman Fischer's "boldly imaginative and technically assured skills" and Jeanne Kierman as "equally impressive." In addition to featuring works by the masters, the Fischer Duo has become known for their thematic approach to programming, have performed neglected pieces by composers such as Franz Liszt, Victor Herbert, Nadia Boulanger, and Ferruccio Busoni, and have commissioned new works by American composers George Rochberg, David Stock, Robert Sirota, Augusta Read Thomas, Samuel Jones, Richard Lavenda, and Pierre Jalbert, among others. Their compact disc of French masters on the Northeastern label (NR 238-CD) has received rave reviews. They served as Artistic Ambassadors for the United States Information Agency and toured South America in the fall of 1996. Last year they toured South Africa as USIA Cultural Specialists.

*NORMAN FISCHER is one of this country's foremost exponents of the cello. After completing instrumental study with Richard Kapuscinski, Claus Adam, and Bernard Greenhouse, he first graced the international concert stage as cellist with the Concord String Quartet, a group that won the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, an Emmy and several Grammy nominations, and recorded over forty works on RCA Red Seal, Vox, Nonesuch, Turnabout, and CRI. The New York Times recently said, "During its sixteen years, the supervirtuosic Concord String Quartet championed contemporary work while staying rooted in the Western tradition. "In addition to performing the major concerti, Mr. Fischer has premiered and recorded many new scores for cello and orchestra. Recitals of unaccompanied cello works have received rave reviews such as "Inspiring" (The New York Times) for his New York debut recital of the complete Bach Suites in one evening, and "Coruscating" (Boston Globe) for his performance of Golljov's **Omaramor** at the opening of the 1998 Tanglewood Festival. His chamber music expertise has led to guest appearances with the Juilliard, Cleveland, Emerson, Blair, Schoenberg, Chester, and Audubon string quartets, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, and Da Camera of Houston. He is also a member of the Concord Trio and Ensemble Pierrot. A devoted teacher and mentor to younger players, Mr. Fischer has taught at Dartmouth College and the Oberlin Conservatory and is currently Professor of Violoncello at The Shepherd School of Music. Since 1985 he has taught at the Tanglewood Music Center, summer home of the Boston Symphony, in Lenox, Massachusetts, and currently holds the Barbara LaMont Master Teacher Chair.*

JEANNE KIERMAN is a leading advocate of the piano as a collaborative instrument. A graduate of Oberlin, the Dalcroze School, and the New England Conservatory, she studied with master pianists William Masselos, Miles Mauney, Victor Rosenbaum, and Menahem Pressler. Ms. Kierman is equally adroit as a collaborator with voice or instrument and is in great demand as a recital partner. For ten years she was the pianist with the New England-based Alcott Ensemble, performing a broad range of chamber music and developing a virtuosity she frequently demonstrates both on stage, as resident and guest artist with various ensembles, and in the studio with her students. Formerly on the faculty of the Oberlin Conservatory, Ms. Kierman is now Artist Teacher of Piano at the Shepherd School of Music. Ms. Kierman has recorded for Northeastern Records.

KENNETH GOLDSMITH is violinist of the Mirecourt Trio, an ensemble that enjoys international acclaim through tours, prize-winning recordings, and television and radio broadcasts. Since 1994 he is also a member of CONTEXT, a chamber group specializing in performance on both original and modern instruments. He is currently Professor of Music at The Shepherd School of Music. As a recitalist and soloist with orchestra, Mr. Goldsmith has toured the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China. His teachers include William Kroll, Mischa Mischakoff, and Nathan Milstein, and he holds degrees from George Peabody College and Stanford University.

Mr. Goldsmith has given master classes throughout the U.S., Europe, and the Orient, and appears frequently in recital with pianist Jo Anne Ritacca. His extensive recorded repertoire, both solo and with the Mirecourt Trio and Lyric Art String Quartet, appears on the following labels: ABC, Genesis, CRI, Innova, Grand Prix, Audax, Gasparo, Bay Cities, TR Records, and Citadel. With the Mirecourt Trio, he has embarked on a compact disc series for Music and Arts of America featuring new American music and the standard literature for piano trio. The seven releases on this series have met with unanimous critical acclaim and contain thirty-one compositions by seventeen different composers.

In 1962 Mr. Goldsmith won the Young Concert Artists Competition in New York City, and he received a special award at the Kennedy-Rockefeller International Violin Competition in Washington, D.C., in 1980. With the Mirecourt Trio he was a finalist at the 1976 Naumburg Chamber Music Competition in New York. Mr. Goldsmith has been Concertmaster of several American symphony orchestras and has performed with virtually every major conductor and soloist. His academic career includes faculty posts at Stanford University, Grinnell College, California State University at Fullerton, University of Iowa, University of California at Irvine, Pomona College, and the University of Houston.

Violist MATTHEW DANE graduated magna cum laude from Amherst College and is currently the teaching assistant of Martha Strongin Katz at The Shepherd School of Music. While working toward a degree at the Musikhochschule in Hannover, Germany, he played with chamber orchestras in Italy, Denmark, Spain, and Austria, and performed regularly with the State Opera in Hannover. In recent summers he has enjoyed performing at the Tanglewood and Sarasota festivals and teaching at the American Festival for the Arts (Houston, Texas) and Greenwood Music Camp (Massachusetts). Mr. Dane is working on his doctoral degree at the Shepherd School and is a member of the Houston Ballet Orchestra.



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