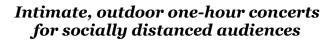
Sounds of Hope and Harmony



<u>"The Four B's: Barrière, Bologne,</u> <u>Bartok and Beethoven"</u> July 25, 2020 | 6:00 PM, 7:30 PM

Duo No. 3 in C Major

Tommaso Giordani

I. Un poco allegro II. Giga

Two Pieces for Two Cellos

Béla Bartók

I. Wedding Song II. Ruthenian Kolomejka

Sonata No. 10 in G Major

Jean-Baptiste Barrière

I. Andante II. Adagio III. Allegro prestissimo

"Blackbird"

John Lennon/Paul McCartney (arr. Riley) with Angelia Cho, violin

Musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra

Eugena Chang, Cello | Britton Riley, Cello

String Quartet Op. 1, No. 3

Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges I. Allegro assai II. Rondeau

String Quartet Op. 18, No. 1

Ludwig van Beethoven

I. Allegro con brio II. Adagio affetuoso ed appassionato

Heliotrope Bouquet

Scott Joplin

Musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra

Alexandra Osborne, Violin | Angelia Cho, Violin Mahoko Eguchi, Viola | Rachel Young, Cello



Performers

Musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra

Eugena Chang, Cello

Britton Riley, Cello

Alexandra Osborne, First Violin

Angelia Cho, Second Violin

Mahoko Eguchi, Viola

Rachel Young, Cello

Introduction and Program Notes

Classical Movements welcomes you back to our "Secret Garden" at the Rectory, our home in Old Town Alexandria. This evening, we are proud to share with you the first concert in our "Sounds of Hope & Harmony" series, featuring friends and colleagues from the National Symphony Orchestra. We are delighted to bring to you a program of brilliant music by composers, including both some of the most and least familiar names in the repertoire.

We begin with a several charming pieces for two cellos. The Italian composer Tommaso Giordani spent most of his career in England and Ireland. This **Duo No. 3 in C Major** was published in 1780, while Giordani was in London. The two sunny movements are representative of the intimate elegance and graceful decoration for which Giordani was known and admired.

The following **Pieces for Two Cellos** by Béla Bartók were originally written for two violins as exercises for young musicians – but neverthless contain the sophisticated and adventurous harmony for which Bartók earned his reputaiton as one of Hungary's greatest composers. These duets also reflect his study of folk music: the *Lakodalmas* takes inspiration from the traditionof Hungarian wedding songs and dances and the dynamic *Ruthenian Kolomeika* is based on another Slavic folk dance.

Jean-Baptiste Barrière was admired as a soloist and a composer, whose brief career covered a transition in France from the *viol* to the cello, its immediate descendent. Barrière published sonatas for both



instruments, including this **Sonata No. 10 in G Major** from the second of four collections composed for cello and basso continuo (a single instrument or small group that provided harmonic support and might have included a harpsichord and other string instruments – such as a second cello, as we hear it here).

Released in 1968 on the legendary White Album, "**Blackbird**" is one of many iconic songs recorded by the Beatles, attributed to the songwriting duo of Lennon-McCartney; Paul McCartney's original guitar accompaniment was inspired by Bach's famous *Bourrée in E minor* for lute – and the song's lyrics by racial tensions in America. This arrangement by Britton Riley for two cellos and violin is one of many ways that artists across genres have reimagined the iconic British rockers' catalogue.

Our program for string quartet begins with a composer who rose to prominence in 18th century Paris in the decades just preceding the Revolution, despite the social and legal injustices he faced as a Black man. Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges was renowned equally as a musician and fencer and is considered among the earliest composers of string quartets in France. **String Quartet Op. 1, No. 3 in G minor** is the third in Bologne's first collection of string quartets from 1773, his debut as a published composer. The two-movement form is typical of these early quartets and the affect of the piece represents the intimate, animated quality for which Bologne's chamber music was particularly respected.

Ludwig van Beethoven reamins a musical giant, still held up as the paragon of the symphony, whose works remain definitive in a number of genres – even this year as we celebrate the **250th** anniversary of his birth. These first two movements from **String Quartet Op. 18, No. 1**, his first to be published (although actually his second composed) begin in a luminous F major, recalling the celebrated quartets of Mozart and Haydn in its sense of balance – but one can detect an edge of the intensity that would come to be so closely associated with his later works. The second movement in d minor is purportedly meant to evoke the tomb scene from *Romeo & Juliet* – easy to believe for its stormy sense of tragedy, interrupted briefly by moments of calm beauty like a bittersweet memory.

Our concert concludes with a work by the versatile and pioneering American pianist and composer, **Scott**



Joplin. Inextricably linked with the history and success of ragtime, this genre of syncopated music emerged from African-American communities in the Midwest and South and combined European and African-American musical traditions. "**Heliotrope Bouquet**" was composed in 1907 in collaboration with Louis Chauvin, an accomplished pianist who left behind only this single composition. The first half of the rag was by Chauvin – but elaborated, harmonized and completed by Joplin for a final product that is at once ebullient and elegant.

We hope that this program and the opportunity to once again hear live music brings you the same joy and hope it has brought to us. We wish you good health and comfort and we hope to see you back in the Secret Garden soon for more gorgeous music in an enchanting setting.

Until then - take care!

--Classical Movements



Coming Soon to "Sounds of Hope & <u>Harmony"</u>

Saturdays at 6pm, 7:30pm | Chamber, Choral, Opera, Jazz

Saturday, August 1, 2020: "Prague Comes to Washington" – An Evening of Art Song and Opera

Javier Arrey, baritone | Kaylee Norris, soprano | Taylor Hutchinson, piano Featuring Metropolitan Opera star and Chilean baritone, Javier Arrey and Kaylee Norris, winner of the Prague Summer Nights Young Artists Music Festival voice competition

The program includes Beethoven's superlative song cycle "An die ferne Geliebte" in celebration of the 250th anniversary of his birth, Dvorak's beautiful "Biblical Songs", as well as charming arias and art songs by Mozart, Stravinsky, Brahms, Liszt, and others

Saturday, August 8, 2020: "Night-Shining White: Music for Percussion and Brass" – Chamber Music

Members of the National Symphony Orchestra: Scott Christian, Percussion William Gerlach, trumpet | Amy McCabe, Guest Trumpet | Robert Rearden, Horn | David Murray, Trombone | Stephen Dumaine, Tuba Rousing, rhythmic and dynamic music by living composers Joyce, Singleton, Akiho and Zhou, Ewald and the celebrated Duke Ellington.

Saturday, August 15, 2020: An Evening of Grand Opera, Italian and American Art Songs

Issachah Savage, tenor | Joy Schreier, piano Gorgeous arias and expressive art songs by Verdi, Wagner, Strauss, Tosti, Donaudy and Margaret Bonds

Saturday, September 12, 2020: "A Brand New Day:" Choral Music Returns!

The Choir of Hope & Harmony Anthony Blake Clark, conductor 12 professional singers perform 400 years of compelling choral music by Byrd, Britten, Panufnik, Coleridge-Taylor, Barnett and more on themes of hope in times of uncertainty

Saturday, September 19, 2020: "An Evening of Novel Ensembles" – Chamber Music

Members of the National Symphony Orchestra:

Ira Gold, bass | Alexander Jacobsen, bass | Charles Nilles, bass | Jeffrey Weisner, bass

Jamie Roberts, oboe | Paul Cigan, clarinet | Ying Fu, violin | Daniel Foster, viola | Alexander Jacobsen, bass

An ambitious, imaginative and eclectic program featuring Prokofiev's famous Quintet in G minor for oboe, clarinet, violin, viola, and double bass and one-of-a-kind arrangements for double-bass quartet of classical and pop hits by Gershwin, Bach, O'Connor, Bjork, A-Ha, Seal and the Beatles.

Saturday, September 26, 2020: "Cabaret in the Twilight" – Jazz and Musical Theatre

Awa Sal Secka | Christian Douglas

The night lights up with jazz, musical theater and popular music, featuring the music of George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim, Billy Joel, Sara Bareilles and original music by Awa Sal Secka and Christian Douglas

<u>Click here for tickets and more information:</u> <u>https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/</u>



About Classical Movements

The premier concert tour company for the world's great orchestras and choirs, Classical

Movements creates meaningful cultural experiences through music in 145 countries. An industry leader for 28 years, Classical Movements organizes more than 60 tours every year, producing some 200 concerts every season. Producer of two international choral festivals-Ihlombe! in South Africa and Serenade! in Washington, D.C.-and the Prague Summer Nights: Young Artists Music Festival. in addition, Classical Movements' Eric Daniel Helms New Music Program has commissioned 97 works from Grammy, Oscar and Pulitzer Prize-winning composers. Winner of Americans for the Arts' BCA10: Best Businesses Partnering with the Arts Award, since its founding in 1992, as a truly **Movements** remains global company, Classical committed to facilitating cultural diplomacy across the world-promoting peace through the medium of music.

About the Rectory

Built in 1785 and the home of Classical Movements' offices since 2014, the building formerly served as the rectory of the nearby historic Christ Church, once the church of George Washington. Since then, it has been owned by several distinguished Virginians and has been a commercial space since the 1960's.

Located in the heart of beautiful Old Town Alexandria at 711 Princess Street, the Rectory is minutes away from the shops and restaurants of bustling King Street and is easily accessible by bus and metro.