

Sounds of Hope & Harmony

Classical Movements Presents:

“Sounds of Hope & Harmony”

***Intimate, outdoor one-hour concerts
for socially distanced audiences***

“An Evening of Novel Chamber Ensembles”

September 19, 2020 | 6:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Quintet in G minor, Op. 39

1. Tema con variazioni
2. Andante energico
3. Allegro sostenuto, ma con brio
4. Adagio pesante
5. Allegro precipitato, ma non troppo presto
6. Andantino

Sergei Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

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

Prelude I

George Gershwin
(1898-1937)

Sarabande

from Cello Suite No. 6 in D major

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Appalachia Waltz

Mark O'Connor
(1961)

**“Yesterday”
“Eleanor Rigby”**

Paul McCartney & John Lennon
(b. 1941; 1940-1980)

“Kiss from a Rose”

Seal
(b.1963)

“Overture”

Björk
(b.1965)

Michael Marks, bass | Alexander Jacobsen, bass | Charles Nilles,
bass | Jeffrey Weisner, bass

Presented with the generous support of:



IDEA*TECH Associates
*Your local Alexandria
IT System Support*

(703) 838-0200
www.ideatech.com

Performers

Musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra

Jamie Roberts, oboe

Paul Cigan, clarinet

Ying Fu, violin

Daniel Foster, viola

Alexander Jacobsen, bass

Michael Marks, bass

Charles Nilles, bass

Jeffrey Weisner, bass

Introduction and Program Notes

Classical Movements welcomes you back to our “Secret Garden” at the Rectory, our home in Old Town Alexandria. We are delighted to bring you this next installment in our “Sounds of Hope & Harmony” series. This evening we are delighted to share with you a sublime and dynamic program of music written or arranged for combinations of instruments you might not have expected!

-- Classical Movements

Our program begins with the **Quintet in G minor** by composer Sergei Prokofiev, one of the most prominent Russian composers of the 20th century. Prokofiev wrote definitive works across a wide range of genres, including symphonies, operas and ballets that remain popular today. Originally commissioned for a circus-inspired ballet called *Trapeze* while Prokofiev was based in Paris, the dissonant harmony and rhythmic irregularity of this score proved too difficult for the dancers. Using the same instruments that were to have accompanied the ballet, Prokofiev instead adapted his score into an independent chamber piece. For all of its challenges, the work remains a rewarding, engaging and even amusing listening experience, as the playful influence of the circus theme manifest in different ways across its six brief movements.

We now continue to an even less common ensemble – a quartet made up entirely of double-basses! Matching this unexpected group of instruments is a program of fabulous arrangements spanning genres and centuries.

George Gershwin is one of the definitive composers of American popular music at the beginning of the 20th century. Gershwin is one of few Tin Pan Alley composers who has also enjoyed success in the concert hall, with such seminal works as the “Rhapsody in Blue” and “An American in Paris.” This **Prelude** is the first of a set of three originally composed for piano and published in 1926. Like many of Gershwin’s concert works, it shows the influence of other popular genres, including jazz, blues and Brazilian baião.

A master of the German baroque, Johann Sebastian Bach left behind a rich catalog of beloved choral, orchestral, chamber and solo instrumental works. The six suites for unaccompanied cello are among his most popular works; this **Sarabande** is the fourth movement of the last suite, set to a popular dance rhythm.

Originally composed for solo violin and then adapted to follow performances of the Bach suites by cellist Yo-Yo Ma, American fiddler and composer Mark O'Connor's "**Appalachia Waltz**" is a fitting companion piece, pairing the classical structure and inspiring with American folk idioms.

John Lennon and Paul McCartney created many deeply influential songs for the legendary rock band the Beatles, which remain widely beloved more than half a century later and of which we now hear two: after the melancholy "**Yesterday**" we hear "**Eleanor Rigby**," an unusual portrait of loneliness.

"**Kiss from a Rose**" is arguably the best-known song by British singer-songwriter Seal. Released on his second album in 1994 - but written almost a decade before - the song earned its author three Grammy Awards in 1996 and has been widely covered since.

The program ends with this **Overture** by the unconventional and unmistakable Icelandic singer-songwriter Björk. Written for the musical film *Dancer in the Dark* (directed by the equally iconoclastic director Lars von Trier), Björk calls on an appropriately neo-romantic quality to introduce a harrowing, but deeply moving story – and a fitting end for a program that has celebrated unexpected pairings and combinations.



**“Sounds of Hope & Harmony”
Coming Soon**

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

September 26, 2020

“Cabaret in the Twilight” – Jazz & Musical Theatre
Awa Sal Secka | Christian Douglas

The night lights up with this dynamic duo performing jazz, musical theater and popular music, featuring the music of Marvin Gaye, Rogers and Hammerstein, Johnny Mercer, Erroll Garner, Rogers and Hart, Sting, Stephen Schwartz, Jeanine Tesori, Alan Menken, Sara Bareilles, the Beatles, Billy Joel and original songs by Awa Sal Secka and Christian Douglas

[Click here for tickets and more information:](https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/)
<https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/>



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 global company, Classical Movements remains 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.

Seating at the Secret Garden

