Prokofiev with Friends

Allison Gagnon, piano Janet Orenstein, violin Ulrich Eichenauer, viola Brooks Whitehouse, cello

Livestream from Watson Chamber Music Hall Saturday, February 27, 2021 • 7:30 p.m.

Presented by

UNC School of the Arts Brian Cole, Chancellor

Saxton Rose, Interim Dean



uncsa.edu/performances

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Sonata in D Major for Violin and Piano,.....Sergei Prokofiev Op. 94a (1943) (1891 - 1953)Moderato Scherzo: Presto Andante Allegro con brio Janet Orenstein, violin Allison Gagnon, piano Selected Pieces for Viola and Piano......Sergei Prokofiev from Romeo and Juliet (1935) (arr. Borisovsky) Introduction The Street Awakens Julia the Young Girl Dance (arr. Eichenauer) Balcony Scene Mercutio Ulrich Eichenauer, viola Allison Gagnon, piano Sonata in C Major for Cello and Piano,.....Sergei Prokofiev

Sonata in C Major for Cello and Piano,......Sergei Prokofiev Op. 119 (1949)

Andante grave

Moderato
Allegro ma non troppo

Brooks Whitehouse, cello Allison Gagnon, piano

BIOGRAPHIES

Canadian pianist **ALLISON GAGNON** directs the collaborative piano program at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) and has enjoyed a varied career as recitalist with both instrumental and vocal colleagues. Before joining the UNCSA faculty in 1998, she taught at Queen's University in Kingston, Canada, and was staff pianist at McGill University in Montreal. For many years she was a piano staff member for the Meadowmount School of Music in New York.

A dedicated educator, Gagnon has received the UNCSA Excellence in Teaching Award. She also serves on the Executive Board of the North Carolina Music Teachers Association (NCMTA). Graduates of the collaborative program that she created at UNCSA are professionally active across the United States and abroad. Her developing interest in the role of music in dementia care includes a pilot project that she mentors through UNCSA's ArtistCorps community engagement initiative.

Gagnon completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree with Anne Epperson at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Her earlier teachers were Dale Bartlett (McGill), Michael Krist (Vienna Hochschule fur Musik), Pierre Jasmin and Margaret McLellan (Queen's) and her mother, Marjorie Gagnon. Her creative interests include ceramics and wildlife photography.

Violinist JANET ORENSTEIN has enjoyed an active performing career as soloist, chamber musician and advocate of contemporary music. A two-time winner of the USIA Artistic Ambassador Competition and founding member of the Guild Trio, with whom she played for over ten years, Orenstein has toured throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Africa and Australia. She has recorded for the CRI, Centaur and Innova labels, and she has taught at major universities including University of Virginia, Wake Forest University and UNCSA.

Upon returning from a long solo tour at age 32, Orenstein contracted focal dystonia, which made it nearly impossible for her to coordinate left-

hand finger patterns. Orenstein worked ceaselessly to regain coordinated movement, and after 17 years, she held her first solo recital since her recovery in 2013.

Recently, she has been collaborating with colleagues Ida Bieler, Ulrich Eichenauer and husband Brooks Whitehouse as a founding member of the Reynolda Quartet, which will be performing a "Concert of Gratitude" featuring Beethoven Op. 132 and Smetana Quartet No. 1 "From My Life" on March 14, 2021 at 7:30pm, livestreamed from Watson Chamber Music Hall.

ULRICH EICHENAUER grew up in Germany where he studied viola with Nobuko Imai. He is currently associate professor of viola at UNCSA and has previously taught at arts universities in Germany and Switzerland. Eichenauer has given masterclasses in the United States, Europe and Asia, and he is also on the faculty of the Guildhall School in London.

As a member of the acclaimed Mendelssohn String Quartet and the Waldstein Quartet, he has toured extensively in the United States, Europe and South America and has released numerous recordings of romantic and contemporary repertoire. Recently, together with colleagues from UNCSA, he founded the Winston-Salem-based Reynolda Quartet. Eichenauer regularly appears at renowned chamber music festivals and concert series in the United States and abroad. Early in his career, he served for several seasons as principal violist of the Dresden Philharmonic.

He has recorded CDs with solo works by Max Reger and Paul Hindemith as well as lesser known chamber music repertoire of Heinrich Kaminski, Ludwig Thuille, Adolf Busch and others. Tonight he is playing on a viola made in 1670 by Jacob Stainer.

UNCSA cello professor **BROOKS WHITEHOUSE** has performed and taught throughout the United States and abroad. As a member of the Guild Trio, Whitehouse won USIA Artistic Ambassador and Chamber

Music Yellow Springs competitions, and he has toured extensively in the United States, Europe, Canada and Australia. He is the co-creator with Paul Sharpe of the popular cello/bass duo Low & Lower, and he has appeared as guest artist with the American Chamber Players, Villa Musica (Germany), the Ciompi Quartet, the Apple Hill Chamber Players, the New Zealand String Quartet, and the Garth Newell Piano Quartet as part of their fortieth anniversary celebration at Carnegie Hall. Whitehouse is cellist of the Reynolda Quartet and the Black Mountain Trio, and serves as principal cellist of the Winston-Salem Symphony. He is also on the faculty of the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington, Vermont.

UNCSA MANIFESTO

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Artists enrich our culture, enlighten our society, lift our spirits, and feed our souls.

Integrative **arts education** from an early age sparks a lifetime of creative thinking, powerful self-expression, and innovative problem solving.

Rigorous **artistic training** empowers our students and graduates to engage our communities, advance local and global creative industries, and inspire the world.

Arts organizations improve the quality of life and place in big cities and small communities, transforming them from merely livable to truly lovable.

UNC School of the Arts nurtures the talent, hones the craft, and develops the unique voices of emerging artists. We realize the full potential of exceptionally creative and passionate students to do their best work and become their best selves.

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UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Art Song Composers We Should Know Better: Voice Students of Phyllis Pancella

Sunday, March 7, 2021 • 2 p.m. Livestream from Watson Chamber Music Hall

Explore the rich legacy and contemporary range of vocal music composed by prominent female composers such as Amy Beach and Florence Price in this recital of solos, duets and a trio presented by members of the Pancella Voice Studio.

O Blissful Loss of Self: Explorations of Ecstasy in Poetry by Women

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 • 7:30 p.m. Livestream from Watson Chamber Music Hall

A program of all world premieres by female composers commissioned for this concert, featuring the flute and soprano duo Anima Vox, made up of faculty member Tadeu Coelho and his wife, soprano Carole Ott Coelho. Drawing inspiration from "ecstatic poetry" by women's voices who have been silenced, dismissed, or forgotten, the concert will also incorporate dance as a visual exploration of these themes.

UNCSA Winds in Concert

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 • 7:30 p.m. Livestream from the Stevens Center for the Performing Arts

Conductor Mark A. Norman leads the UNCSA Wind Ensembles in Frank Ticheli's explosive "Vesuvius," Arthur Bird's "Marche Miniature" and Gordon Jacob's Serenade for Winds.

