

Fine Arts Series 2019 - 2020



Monday October 7, 2019 at 7:30pm
Arsentiy Kharitonov
Russian pianist and composer

The New York Observer, cites his Carnegie Hall debut as one of the top six concerts of the season. Fanfare Archives writes, "Arsentiy Kharitonov's sumptuous tone, technical mastery, broad dramatic range, and elegant phrasing place him in the top ranks of keyboard players today. Above this, and trumping most of the musical gymnasts of the day, there is genuine poetry here, the ring of truth, and, it seems to me, a rare sincerity issuing from a deep place in the pianist's heart accompanying with a display of dazzling technical fireworks, sumptuous tone, broad dramatic range and elegant phrasing that places that places his among the great keyboard players of today."



Monday October 21, 2019 at 7:30pm
Grace Park, violin &
Tyler Wottrich, piano

Praised by the San Francisco Chronicle as being "fresh, different and exhilarating" and Strings Magazine as "intensely wrought and burnished", violinist Grace Park captivates audiences with her artistry, passion and virtuosity. Winner of the the 2018 Naumburg International Violin Competition, she showcases her artistry as a dynamic soloist and dedicated chamber musician. She performs on a 1739 Domenico Montagnana, on loan from an anonymous sponsor.

Pianist Tyler Wottrich has distinguished himself as a chamber musician, vocal pianist, solo performer, and teacher. Wottrich is an Assistant Professor at North Dakota State University's Challey School of Music, where he created a graduate collaborative piano program and serves as artistic director of the NDSU Chamber Music Festival. The Chamber Festival, which Wottrich founded in 2015, recently celebrated its fifth season pairing NDSU student pianists with world-class professional musicians from across the globe.



Friday November 22, 2019 at 7:30pm
Jeremy Wohletz, clarinet
Free and open to the public!

Jeremy Wohletz currently serves as Associate Professor of Woodwinds at Dickinson State University, where he teaches woodwind lessons, coaches woodwind chamber groups, and directs the DSU Jazz Ensemble. He enjoys a diverse musical life as both a performer and educator. As a performer, he maintains a very active performance schedule and is a large advocate for new music, both performing and commissioning new compositions. Dr. Wohletz will be presenting a single reed masterclass at 3pm with a recital later on in the evening.



Monday November 25, 2019 at 7:30pm
Thomas Mesa, cellist &
Ilya Yakushev, pianist

The Cuban-American cellist Thomas Mesa has established himself as one of the most charismatic, innovative, and engaging performers of his generation. He has appeared as a soloist with orchestras in the United States and Mexico, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, Santa Barbara Symphony, Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra and the Cleveland Orchestra which received this rave review from the Cleveland Plain Dealer: "A listener with closed eyes would have been hard pressed to distinguish [Mesa's] shapely, expressive performance from that of another gifted artist 2 or 3 times his age."

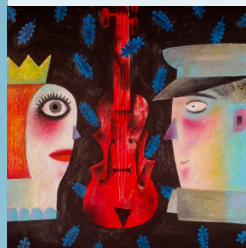
Winner of the 2005 World Piano Competition, which took place in Cincinnati, OH, Ilya Yakushev received his first award at age 12 as a prizewinner of the Young Artists Concerto Competition in his native St. Petersburg. Yakushev attended the Rimsky-Korsakov College of Music in his native St. Petersburg, Russia, and subsequently came to New York City to attend Mannes College of Music where he studied with legendary pianist Vladimir Feltsma. Yakushev appeared as piano soloist with Millikin-Decatur Symphony, Las Cruces Symphony, Edmonton Symphony, Reading Symphony, Johnstown Symphony, and St. Petersburg Philharmonic, in addition to recitals in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Louisiana.



Monday January 20, 2020 at 7:30pm
Italian Sax Quartet

The Italian Saxophone Quartet was founded in 1982 by four saxophone soloists, close friends determined to join together to perform chamber music for saxophone at the very highest artistic level. Since then, they have played to wide acclaim in more than 500 concerts in Italy (including the most important concert institutions), France, Germany, Spain, Greece, Japan, USA, Sweden, Lebanon, Bermuda and Russia. The quartet's concerts have been recorded and broadcast by the Italian RAI-Radio 1 and RAI-Radio 3 as well as by Swedish, German, Japanese and American national radios.

The quartet won a number of important chamber music competitions including the unanimous First Prize, plus a special prize, at the prestigious "Premio Ancona" in Italy.



Artwork by Clive Hicks-Jenkins
Saturday February 22, 2020 at 7:30pm
L'Histoire du Soldat: The Soldier's Tale
Performance in Old Main Theatre
Mayville State University

Stravinsky's L'Histoire du Soldat (The Soldier's Tale) will be presented in collaboration with artist faculty from Mayville State University, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, and Concordia College, and in partnership with the Mayville State University and NDMOA Fine Arts Series.

Composed by Stravinsky in 1918, L'Histoire tells the story (libretto by C.F. Ramuz) of a soldier on leave, heading home to see his family. On the way, the soldier runs into another traveler that wishes to purchase his fiddle in exchange for monetary gain. Shortly after the transaction, the soldier realizes that it was the Devil that he had sold his fiddle to. Fortune, sorrow, reflection, and defeat follow our protagonist through the rest of the tale, with Stravinsky's unique, angular, and American jazz-influenced music perfectly blended throughout. Since its premier, L'Histoire has become one of the most significant pieces of chamber music composed in the 20th century. Scored for violin, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, bassoon, double bass, percussion, and actors, Stravinsky masterfully utilizes each instrument's unique timbre to create unforgettable music with a timeless message: "No one can have it all."



Monday March 9, 2020 at 7:30pm
John Yeh, clarinet &
Patrick Godon, piano



John Bruce Yeh is the longest-tenured clarinetist in the history of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He joined the ensemble in 1977 at the age of 19. Two years later, he was named assistant principal E-flat clarinet and served as acting principal clarinet from 2008 to 2011. Yeh has performed as a soloist with the CSO for Carl Nielsen's Clarinet Concerto with Neeme Järvi and the U.S. premiere of Elliott Carter's Clarinet Concerto with Pierre Boulez. He also has performed as guest principal clarinet of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Seoul Philharmonic.

Patrick Godon, pianist with the Chicago Symphony will accompany Mr. Yeh. Gordon made his debut as soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) in May 2007, playing one of the solo piano parts, along with Mary Sauer, in Colin McPhee's Tabuh-Tabuhan: Toccata for Orchestra and Two Pianos. He is in demand as a collaborative pianist and has performed many live broadcasts on Chicago classical station WFMT.



Monday April 6, 2020 at 7:30pm
Dover Quartet

The phenomenal Dover Quartet catapulted to international stardom following a stunning sweep of the 2013 Banff Competition, at which they won every prize. Named the Cleveland Quartet Award-winner, and honored with the coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Dover has become one of the most in-demand ensembles in the world. The Quartet's rise from up-and-coming young ensemble to occupying a spot at the top of their field has been "practically meteoric" (Strings). With its burnished warmth, incisive rhythms, and natural phrasing, the Quartet's distinctive sound has helped confirm its status as "the young American string quartet of the moment" (New Yorker). The Quartet serves as the quartet-in-residence for the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, Chamber Music Northwest, Artosphere, the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, and Peoples' Symphony in New York, and was recently named the first-ever quartet-in-residence for the Kennedy Center.



Wednesday April 15, 2020 at 7:30pm
Cody Hunter, bassoon
Free and open to the public!

Dr. Cody Hunter, Assistant Professor of Music at Mayville State University, will present an evening of bassoon chamber music with pianist Matthew Sebald along with other collaborations. Dr.

Hunter performs regularly with the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony and Opera and is currently commissioning new works for bassoon by Dr. Daniel Baldwin and Alex Manton. Dr. Hunter has performed with the Memphis Symphony, Arkansas Symphony, Symphony Orchestra Augusta, and the Eroica Ensemble of Memphis, TN. In addition to being on faculty at MaSU, Dr. Hunter is Lecturer of bassoon at NDSU and a bassoon faculty member for the International Music Camp.

