



Advance Program Notes

Yo-Yo Ma, cello, and Kathryn Stott, piano
Sunday, November 5, 2017, 3 PM

These Advance Program Notes are provided online for our patrons who like to read about performances ahead of time. Printed programs will be provided to patrons at the performances. Programs are subject to change.

Yo-Yo Ma, cello, and Kathryn Stott, piano

Suite Italienne

Introduzione
Serenata
Aria
Tarantella
Minuetto – Finale

Igor Stravinsky
(1882-1971)

Sonata in C Major for Cello and Piano, op. 119

Andante grave
Moderato
Allegro, ma non troppo

Sergey Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

INTERMISSION

Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano, op. 19

Lento – Allegro moderato
Allegro scherzando
Andante
Allegro mosso

Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

This performance is supported in part by gifts from the Chachra Family, the Easels, and Ken and Mary Ann Walker.

Management:
Opus 3 Artists
470 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016
opus3artists.com

Biographies

YO-YO MA, *cello*

Yo-Yo Ma's multi-faceted career is testament to his continual search for new ways to communicate with audiences and to his personal desire for artistic growth and renewal. Whether performing new or familiar works from the cello repertoire, coming together with colleagues for chamber music, or exploring cultures and musical forms outside the Western classical tradition, Ma strives to find connections that stimulate the imagination.

One of Ma's goals is the exploration of music as a means of communication and as a vehicle for the migrations of ideas across a range of cultures throughout the world. Expanding upon this interest, in 1998 Ma established Silkroad, a nonprofit organization that seeks to create meaningful change at the intersections of the arts, education, and business. Under his artistic direction, Silkroad presents performances by the acclaimed Silk Road Ensemble and develops new music, cultural partnerships, education programs, and cross-disciplinary collaborations. More than 80 new musical and multimedia works have been commissioned for the Silk Road Ensemble from composers and arrangers around the world. Silkroad's ongoing affiliation with Harvard University has made it possible to develop programs such as the Arts and Passion-Driven Learning Institute for educators and teaching artists, held in collaboration with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and a new Cultural Entrepreneurship initiative in partnership with Harvard Business School.

As the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, Ma is partnering with Riccardo Muti to provide collaborative musical leadership and guidance on innovative program development for the Negaunee Music Institute of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and for Chicago Symphony artistic initiatives. Ma's work focuses on the transformative power music can have in individuals' lives and on increasing the number and variety of opportunities audiences have to experience music in their communities. In March 2016 he was appointed artistic advisor at large to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as part of their expansive initiatives honoring the centenary of JFK's birth and to encourage the idea of creative citizenship.

Ma is also widely recognized for his strong commitment to educational programs that bring the world into the classroom and the classroom into the world. While touring, he takes time whenever possible to conduct master classes as well as more informal programs for students—musicians and non-musicians alike. He has also reached young audiences through appearances on *Arthur*, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, and *Sesame Street*.

Ma's discography of over 100 albums (including 18 Grammy Award winners) reflects his wide-ranging interests. He has made several successful recordings that defy categorization, among them *Appalachia Waltz* and *Appalachian Journey* with Mark O'Connor and Edgar Meyer, and two Grammy-winning tributes to the music of Brazil, *Obrigado Brazil* and *Obrigado Brazil—Live in Concert*. Ma's recent recordings include *The Goat Rodeo Sessions* with Edgar Meyer, Chris Thile, and Stuart Duncan, which received the 2013 Grammy for Best Folk Album, and *Songs from the Arc of Life* with pianist Kathryn Stott. *Sing Me Home*, recorded with the Silk Road Ensemble, was released in April 2016 as the companion album to documentary film *The Music of Strangers*. Created by Oscar-winning producer Morgan Neville, the film follows the ensemble's more than 50 musicians, composers, visual artists, and storytellers as they explore the ways art can both preserve traditions and shape cultural evolution. In spring 2017 Ma released and toured *Bach Trios*, recorded with Edgar Meyer and Chris Thile. Ma remains one of the best-selling recording artists in the classical field. All of his recent albums have quickly entered the Billboard chart of classical best sellers, remaining in the top 15 for extended periods, often with as many as four titles simultaneously on the list.

Biographies, continued

Ma was born in 1955 to Chinese parents living in Paris. He began to study the cello with his father at age four and soon came with his family to New York, where he spent most of his formative years. Later, his principal teacher was Leonard Rose at the Juilliard School. He has received numerous awards, among them the Avery Fisher Prize (1978), the National Medal of Arts (2001), and the Presidential Medal of Freedom (2010). In 2011 Ma was recognized as a Kennedy Center honoree. He serves as a UN Messenger of Peace. He has performed for eight American presidents, most recently at the invitation of President Obama on the occasion of the 56th Inaugural Ceremony.

Ma and his wife have two children. He plays two instruments, a 1733 Montagnana cello from Venice and the 1712 Davidoff Stradivarius.

For additional information, visit yo-yoma.com, silkroadproject.org, and opus3artists.com.

KATHRYN STOTT, *piano*

Born in Lancashire, Kathryn Stott studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School and the Royal College of Music. Her teachers included Nadia Boulanger, Vlado Perlemuter, and Kendall Taylor.

A regular visitor to international festivals both as soloist and chamber musician, Stott has constantly performed around the world since 1978, when she was a prize winner in the Leeds International Piano Competition. Recent highlights as a soloist include return visits to the BBC Proms; Wigmore Hall, London; an extensive tour of Australia and New Zealand; performances with cellist Giovanni Sollima; and appearances with JP Jofre and his Hard Tango Chamber Band in New York. To celebrate their 30th anniversary of performing together, Stott recorded *Songs from the Arc of Life* with Yo-Yo Ma. Upcoming performances include concerts in Germany, France, Norway, Japan, the U.S., Turkey, the U.K., and Australia, and a second tour of New Zealand took place in May 2017.

With a vast repertoire, Stott has maintained a keen interest in contemporary music and has had many works written especially for her. In particular, her close musical relationship with the composer Graham Fitkin has led to seven world premieres. She is a remarkable exponent of tango and other Latin dance music, reflected in her collaboration with Ma and leading South American musicians on the Grammy Award-winning Sony CD *Soul of the Tango* and its successor, *Obrigado Brazil*. In the recording studio she has created a large and eclectic body of work, including concertos and solo repertoire. Apart from her CDs with Ma, she has recorded with Truls Mørk, Christian Poltéra, Guy Johnston, the Doric String Quartet, Noriko Ogawa, Tine Thing Helseth, the BBC Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, among others. Her latest solo recording releases include *Solitaires* on BIS, her exploration of French works for piano, and an 8-CD box set re-release of her *Conifer* recordings on SONY.

Stott has been the artistic vision behind several major festivals and concert series. Piano 2000 and Piano 2003 at Bridgewater Hall in Manchester established her reputation as an astute programmer, and following the earlier *Fauré and the French Connection*, she was appointed Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres by the French government. From 2009-2014 she was artistic director of the Manchester Chamber Concerts Society and was guest artistic director of Incontri in Terra di Siena in 2010 and 2011. Stott curated a series of six concerts, titled *Dance!*, for Leeds International Concerts in 2014.

A dedicated teacher, Stott is a visiting professor and honorary chair at the Royal Academy of Music in London, holds the position of international chair at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, and regularly visits Chethams School of Music. She joined the piano faculty of the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo in August 2016.

Stott has a daughter, Lucy, and lives in Manchester. A keen walker, she enjoys being out in the countryside and spending time with her working cocker spaniel, Archie.

Engagement Events

Sunday, November 5, 2017

LISTEN IN THE LOBBY: LOW STRING ENSEMBLE

Directly before the performance by Yo-Yo Ma and Kathryn Stott, Virginia Tech strings students in the Low String Ensemble performed chamber music.

Special thanks to Alan Weinstein

For Virginia Tech Students

The Division of Student Affairs invites you to engage in the Aspirations for Student Learning to do more, be more, and aspire to be your best self.

Aspirations for Student Learning

Commit to unwavering **CURIOSITY**

Pursue **SELF-UNDERSTANDING** and **INTEGRITY**

Practice **CIVILITY**

Prepare for a life of **COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP**

Embrace **UT PROSIM** (That I May Serve) as a way of life

One way to work toward these aspirational goals is to engage in Keystone Happenings. Keystone Happenings highlight the Aspirations for Student Learning, provide opportunities for learning, and challenge students to reflect. Search "keystone" on GobblerConnect at gobblerconnect.vt.edu/events to discover these opportunities.

Keystone Happening Reflections for Yo-Yo Ma, cello, and Kathryn Stott, piano

Stott and Ma have been musical collaborators for over 30 years. Try to perceive how they communicate with one another as they perform; how would you describe it? What values would enable you to sustain a creative collaboration with someone else for such a length of time?

For more resources for educators, students, and lifelong learners to help you dig deeper and engage with this performance and our other season performances, view our Learning Guide at artscenter.vt.edu/experiences.

In the Galleries



RADCLIFFE BAILEY

September 14-December 9, 2017

Miles C. Horton Jr. Gallery and Sherwood Payne Quillen '71 Reception Gallery

Painter, sculptor, and mixed media artist Radcliffe Bailey (American, based in Atlanta, Georgia) layers found objects, materials, and potent imagery to explore connections between past and present, personal experience and collective memory. In this installation, Bailey references historical and ancestral communities and migrations, including enslaved African peoples escaping through Virginia's Great Dismal Swamp, while examining concepts of identity race, culture, and the mnemonic power of objects.

For more information on this artist, please visit jackshainman.com/artists.

GALLERY HOURS

Monday-Friday, 10 AM-5:30 PM

Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM

To arrange a group tour or class visit, please contact Meggin Hicklin, exhibitions program manager, at megh79@vt.edu or 540-231-0840.

Pictured:

Windward Coast—West Coast Slave Trade, 2009-2011 (detail)

Piano keys, plaster bust, and glitter

Shown here in black and white

Dimensions variable

©Radcliffe Bailey

Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York