Bard College Conservatory of Music

The Orion String Quartet
with
Peter Serkin, piano

Sunday, February 8, 2015 | 3pm
László Z. Bitó ‘60 Conservatory Building
THE BARD COLLEGE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

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presents

The Orion String Quartet
Daniel Phillips, violin
Todd Phillips, violin
Steven Tenenbom, viola
Timothy Eddy, cello
with
Peter Serkin, piano

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)
Quartet in G minor for Strings, Op. 74, No. 3 “The Rider” *
    Allegro
    Largo assai
    Menuetto. Allegretto
    Finale. Allegro con brio

Max Reger (1873–1916)
Piano Quartet in A Minor, Op. 133 (1914)
    Allegro con passione
    Vivace
    Largo con gran espressione
    Allegro con spirito

    Peter Serkin, piano

Intermission

Haydn
Quartet in F Major, Op. 77, No. 2**
    Allegro moderato
    Menuet: Presto
    Andante
    Finale: Vivace assai

Arnold Schoenberg (1874–1951)
Kammersymphonie, Op. 9 (Arr. by Webern) (1906)

    Peter Serkin, piano

* Daniel Phillips, violin I
** Todd Phillips, violin I
About the Artists

Since its inception, the Orion String Quartet has been consistently praised for the fresh perspective and individuality it brings to performances, offering diverse programs that juxtapose classic works of the standard quartet literature with masterworks by twentieth and twenty-first century composers. The Quartet remains on the cutting edge of programming with wide-ranging commissions from composers Chick Corea, Brett Dean, David Del Tredici, Alexander Goehr, Thierry Lancino, John Harbison, Leon Kirchner, Marc Neikrug, Lowell Liebermann, Peter Lieberson and Wynton Marsalis, and enjoys a creative partnership with the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. The members of the Orion String Quartet—violinists Daniel Phillips and Todd Phillips (brothers who share the first violin chair equally), violist Steven Tenenbom and cellist Timothy Eddy—have worked closely with such legendary figures as Pablo Casals, Sir András Schiff, Rudolf Serkin, Isaac Stern, Pinchas Zukerman, Peter Serkin, members of TASHI and the Beaux Arts Trio, as well as the Budapest, Végh, Galimir and Guarneri String Quartets. The Orion serves as Artist Members of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Quartet-in-Residence at New York’s Mannes College of Music. The Quartet appears at the Ravinia Festival, Toronto Summer Music Festival and Music Mountain with pianist Peter Serkin performing Dvorák and Brahms Piano Quintets. They also perform at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, where they have become distinguished for commissions and unusual works by major composers. The Quartet was pleased to join the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company for two performances in September of its iconic D-Man in the Waters (Part I) as part of Fall for Dance at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park. Highlights of their 2014-15 season include a European tour with concerts in Germany, Madrid, Bilbao and the Wigmore Hall in London. Their critical acclaim in performances of Haydn’s String Quartets have made this composer central in many programs this season. Returning to the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, they perform a program of Haydn, Webern and Reger’s Piano Quartet with longtime musical partner Peter Serkin. Other U.S. appearances bring them to Yale with Windscape and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center where they perform four Haydn Quartets as part of the Society’s winter festival called Intimate Expressions. The ensemble celebrated its 25th anniversary in the 2012-2013 season with a collaboration involving the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company at New York City’s Joyce Theater for a special two-week project featuring musical excerpts and arrangements of works by Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Ravel and Schubert. WQXR’s The Greene Space presented a live-broadcast of the collaboration with performance and conversation by the Quartet and Bill T. Jones. Heard on National Public Radio’s Performance Today, the Orion has also appeared on PBS’s Live from Lincoln Center, A&E’s Breakfast with the Arts, and three times on ABC-TV’s Good Morning America. Additionally, the Quartet was photographed with Drew Barrymore by Annie Leibovitz for the April 2005 issue of Vogue. Formed in 1987, the Quartet chose its name from the Orion constellation as a metaphor for the unique personality each musician brings to the group in its collective pursuit of the highest musical ideals.
Recognized as an artist of passion and integrity, the distinguished American pianist **Peter Serkin** has successfully conveyed the essence of five centuries of repertoire. His inspired performances with symphony orchestras, recital appearances, chamber music collaborations and recordings are equally valued worldwide. Peter Serkin’s rich musical heritage extends back several generations: his grandfather was violinist and composer Adolf Busch and his father pianist Rudolf Serkin. He has performed with the world’s major symphony orchestras with such eminent conductors as Seiji Ozawa, Pierre Boulez, Alexander Schneider, Daniel Barenboim, George Szell, Claudio Abbado, Eugene Ormandy, Simon Rattle, James Levine, Herbert Blomstedt, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos and George Cleve. Also a dedicated chamber musician, Mr. Serkin has collaborated with Alexander Schneider, Pamela Frank, Yo-Yo Ma, the Budapest, Guarneri, Orion and Shanghai String Quartets and TASHI, of which he was a founding member. An avid exponent of the music of many of the 20th and 21st century’s most important composers, Mr. Serkin has been instrumental in bringing to life the music of Schoenberg, Webern, Berg, Stravinsky, Wolpe, Messiaen, Takemitsu, Henze, Berio, Wuorinen, Goehr, Knussen and Lieberson to audiences around the world. He has performed many important world premieres which were written specifically for him, in particular, works by Toru Takemitsu, Hans Werner Henze, Alexander Goehr, Oliver Knussen, Charles Wuorinen and Peter Lieberson. Mr. Serkin’s orchestral appearances during the 2014-2015 season include Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 19 with the San Francisco, Chicago and Dallas Symphonies, Bartók Piano Concerto No. 3 with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Florida Orchestra. In April 2015, he offers the world premiere of a new piano concerto from Pulitzer Prize- and MacArthur Fellowship-winning composer Charles Wuorinen, with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Mattias Pintscher. Mr. Serkin gives solo recitals in New York, Sydney, Brisbane and New Haven at Yale University, and joins the Orion String Quartet in works by Brahms, Dvorák, Reger and Schoenberg (arranged by Webern) at the Ravinia and Toronto Summer Music Festivals and Philadelphia Chamber Music Society. He continues to explore a diverse repertoire palate with eminent as well as emerging artists and this season enjoys collaborations with cellist Fred Sherry and pianist Julia Hsu. Orchestral highlights of recent seasons have included the Boston, Chicago and Saint Louis Symphonies, New York Philharmonic and Scottish Chamber Orchestra, while recital tours have taken Mr. Serkin to Philadelphia, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Santa Monica, Princeton and New York’s 92nd Street Y. Recent summer festival appearances have included BBC London Proms, Tanglewood, Aldeburgh, Chautauqua and Denmark’s Oremundsgaard Festival.
About the Conservatory

Recognized as one of the finest conservatories in the United States, the Bard College Conservatory of Music, founded in 2005, is guided by the principle that musicians should be broadly educated in the liberal arts and sciences to achieve their greatest potential. All undergraduates complete two degrees over a five-year period, a bachelor of music and a bachelor of arts in a field other than music. The Conservatory Orchestra has performed twice at Lincoln Center, and has completed two international concert tours: the first in June 2012 to China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan; the second in June 2014 to Russia and six cities in Central and Eastern Europe.

The Graduate Vocal Arts Program is a two-year master of music degree conceived by soprano Dawn Upshaw. The coursework is designed to support a broad-based approach to a singing career that extends from standard repertory to new music. Alongside weekly voice lessons, diction and repertory courses is training in acting, as well as core seminars that introduce and tie together the historical/cultural perspective, analytical tools and performance skills that distinguish vocal and operatic performance at the highest level.

The Orchestral and Choral Conducting Program is a two-year graduate curriculum that culminates in the master of music degree. The program is designed and directed by Harold Farberman, founder and director of the Conductors Institute at Bard; James Bagwell, director of Bard's undergraduate Music Program and music director of the Collegiate Chorale; and Leon Botstein, president of Bard College, music director and principal conductor of the American Symphony Orchestra, and conductor laureate of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

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