## FESTIVAL Winter Mezzo Chamber Music Series

2019 | 2020 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



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### WELCOME TO WINTERMEZZO



Welcome to the 2019–2020 Winter*Mezzo* Chamber Music Series. Think of these weekends as mini-festivals, where you can dig deep and explore varied repertoire with me and my fellow musicians. This season we are especially excited to be collaborating with another treasured arts organization in our community, the San Luis Obispo Movement Arts Collective.

I invite you to attend all three events in each of our three Winter*Mezzo* weekends. The programs are designed to be sequential; we will explore and learn about the music together. You can also enjoy the unique hospitality of the San Luis Obispo region as you sip a glass of wine or enjoy a farm-to-table meal.

As we embark on our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season I also want to take a moment to thank you, our patrons and supporters, for helping the Festival reach this historic landmark. The Festival's past is the prelude to our future, and your role in helping us succeed has been and continues to be so very important.

Thank you.

Scott Yoo Music Director

### **ABOUT SCOTT YOO**

Scott Yoo is Chief Conductor of the Mexico City Philharmonic, and Host and Executive Producer of the all-new PBS series *Now Hear This*, the first show about classical music on prime time TV in 50 years. This summer he conducted the London Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. He has also conducted the Dallas, Indianapolis, San Francisco and Utah Symphonies, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Seoul Philharmonic, and the Yomiuri Nippon Orchestra, among 60 other ensembles. He won first prize in the Josef Gingold International Violin Competition and is the recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant. He has been Music Director of Festival Mozaic since 2005.



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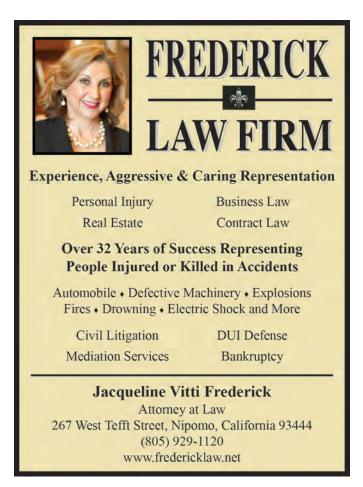
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Mailing Address: PO Box 311 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

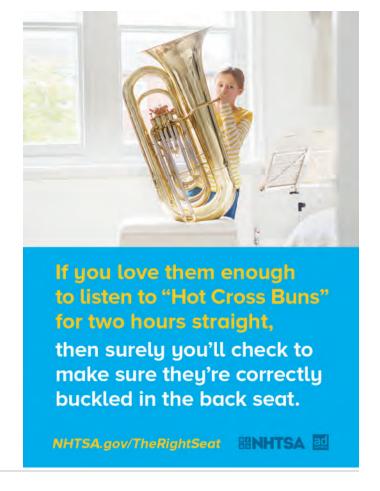
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### ABOUT THE ARTISTS



### JESSICA CHANG, Viola

Jessica is the founder and director of Chamber Music by the Bay, which brings concerts to over 2,000 youth in the San Francisco Bay Area annually. Her festival appearances include Aspen, Bard Music West, Verbier, Tanglewood, and performances on NPR's *Performance Today*. She served as violist of the Afiara Quartet during residencies at the Royal Conservatory in

Toronto and the Banff Centre in Alberta. Jessica holds degrees from Yale, The Juilliard School, and the Curtis Institute of Music, and performs frequently with ensembles throughout Northern California including Chamber Music Silicon Valley, Ensemble Illume, and Ensemble San Francisco.



### ALICE K. DADE, Flute

Alice is an award winner of the Olga Koussevitsky Wind Competition and the New York Flute Club Competition. She has performed as soloist with the Guanajuato Symphony, PRIZM Festival Orchestra, and the Festival Mozaic Orchestra. She has performed chamber music as part of the Busan One Asia Festival, Chestnut Hill Chamber Series, Concordia Chamber Players,

the Princeton Festival, and Summerfest of Kansas City. As Acting Co-Principal Flute of the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Alice performed in concert tours to Russia, Germany, Italy, and Belgium. Her first solo album, Living Music, was released in February 2018 on Naxos. Alice is a Powell Artist and plays a handmade 14K Powell Flute with a platinum headjoint.



### ROBERT DEMAINE, Cello

Robert is principal cellist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and was a founding member of the Ehnes String Quartet. He was the first cellist to win the grand prize at San Francisco's Irving M. Klein International Competition. As a soloist, he has collaborated with many distinguished conductors, including Gustavo Dudamel, Neeme Järvi, Peter Oundjian, Joseph

Silverstein, and Leonard Slatkin, and has performed nearly all the major cello concertos with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, where he served as principal cello for over a decade. He studied at the Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, University of Southern California, Yale University, and the Kronberg Academy in Germany.



### JONAH KIM, Cello

Jonah made his solo debut with Wolfgang Sawallisch and the Philadelphia Orchestra in 2003. The same year, he also appeared with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, DC. Jonah graduated from the Juilliard School and the Curtis Institute in spring of 2006 at the age of 17, and has appeared as soloist with the New Philharmonia, Symphony of the Americas,

Orquestra Sinfónica Nacional and many others. He has performed recitals at the Phillips Collection, Kimmel Center, Kravis Center and the Kennedy Center. He has recorded at Skywalker Sound and Hit Factory studios and is the recipient of two Grammy awards. Jonah is also a faculty member at the Interlochen Center for the Arts summer camp.



### MOVEMENT ARTS COLLECTIVE MAARTJE LAWRENCE-HERMANS & RYAN LAWRENCE, Artistic Directors

Maartje Lawrence-Hermans and Ryan Lawrence are the founders of the Movement Arts Center in San Luis Obispo and Artistic Directors of the Movement Arts Collective. Both classically trained dancers, at the Dutch National Ballet Academy and Juilliard

School, respectively, their performance career culminated in the Netherlands with Scapino Ballet Rotterdam. Mrs. Lawrence-Hermans was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> prize at the Eurovision Young Dancers Competition in 2001 and Mr. Lawrence received choreographic praise as winner of the International Solo Dance Competition in Stuttgart Germany in 2007. In 2012 the pair returned to Mr. Lawrence's home town of San Luis Obispo, California. In 2015 they formed the SLO Movement Arts Center, affectionately known as SLOMAC, as a pre-professional training ground for local ballet talent. Formed in 2017, the Movement Arts Collective was created to enrich these students' experience through performance opportunities and raise the 'barre' on dance in the community through outreach and education.



### **ANNA POLONSKY, Piano**

Anna made her solo piano debut at the age of seven at the Special Central Music School in Moscow. She has performed in the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, the Vienna Konzerthaus, Alice Tully Hall, and Carnegie Hall, and is a frequent guest at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Anna is a recipient of a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship and the Andrew Wolf Chamber

Music Award. She serves on the piano faculty of Vassar College, and in the summer at the Marlboro and Kneisel Hall chamber music festivals. Anna is a Steinway artist.



### **BION TSANG, Cello**

Bion is internationally recognized as one of the outstanding instrumentalists of his generation: among his many honors are an Avery Fisher Career Grant, an MEF Career Grant, the Bronze Medal in the IX International Tchaikovsky Competition, and a 2010 Grammy nomination. Recent performance highlights include concerto debuts at Chicago's Orchestra Hall, Boston's

Esplanade, and the Hollywood Bowl. He resides in Austin where he is Division Head of Strings and holds the Joe R. & Teresa Lozano Chair in Cello at the Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin.



### **AYAKO TSURUTA, Piano**

Ayako has given recitals in the United States, Canada, England, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Lebanon and Serbia; appeared as soloist with the Juilliard Symphony, Eastern Connecticut Symphony, Connecticut Chamber Orchestra, Wallingford Symphony Orchestra in the United States, and with University Symphony Orchestra in Edmonton, and in numerous festivals. Ayako

holds degrees from the Juilliard School and the Yale School of Music, where she studied with Claude Frank. Together with her husband, pianist Peter Miyamoto, Ayako directs the Odyssey Chamber Music Series and Plowman Chamber Music Competition in Columbia, Missouri, where she co-founded the Columbia Music School.

### WINTERMEZZO SERIES I

Friday, November 15 • 5:30pm

### **Notable Encounter Insight**

INN AT MORRO BAY 60 STATE PARK ROAD MORRO BAY

This program explores the Dohnányi Serenade and Beethoven Sonata. Saturday, November 16 • 5:30pm

### **Notable Encounter Dinner**

VINA ROBLES WINERY 3700 MILL ROAD PASO ROBLES

This program explores the Dvořák Quartet. Sunday, November 17 • 3:00pm

### WinterMezzo I Concert

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1515 FREDERICKS STREET SAN LUIS OBISPO

All the works performed in the order below.

AYAKO TSURUTA, piano SCOTT YOO, violin JESSICA CHANG, viola BION TSANG, cello

Serenade in C major, op. 10

Marcia: Allegro

Romanza: Adagio non troppo, quasi andante

Scherzo: Vivace

Tema con variazioni: Andante con moto

Rondo: Allegro vivace

Mr. Yoo, Ms. Chang, Mr. Tsang

Sonata for Violin and Piano in F major, op. 24 *Spring* 

Allegro

Adagio molto espressivo Scherzo: Allegro molto

Rondo: Allegro ma non troppo

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN** 

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

ERNST VON DOHNÁNYI

Mr. Yoo, Ms. Tsuruta

### INTERMISSION

Piano Quartet No. 2 in E-flat major, op. 87

Allegro con fuoco

Lento

Allegro moderato, grazioso Finale: Allegro, ma non troppo

Ms. Tsuruta, Mr. Yoo, Ms. Chang, Mr. Tsang

The Board, Musicians, and Staff would like to dedicate this weekend's performances to **Anne Brown** in honor of her longtime affiliation with Festival Mozaic as an employee, volunteer, and supporter. Thank you for being one of the Festival's earliest angels.

Special thanks to Minke WinklerPrins for generously donating the use of her Yamaha grand piano for this weekend's performances.

### WINTERMEZZO SERIES I: PROGRAM NOTES

**ERNST VON DOHNÁNYI** (1877–1960) Serenade in C major, op. 10 (1902) *Approximate running time: 21 minutes* 

Ernst von Dohnányi wrote his Serenade in C in 1902, the same year that his first child, Hans, was born. With all new babies, people look for familiar features: "Look! He has his father's eyes, or his mother's smile, or his grandfather's red hair," etc. Analysts do the same with music, looking for shared characteristics with previous pieces. So, although a century separates Dohnányi's string trio from an earlier Op. 8 Serenade by Beethoven, they share certain aspects besides their instrumentation of violin, viola, and cello. Both open with a "March" at an Allegro tempo, and both contain a slower second movement with pizzicato (plucking) in the accompaniment beneath a flowing, song-like melody. But Dohnányi parts ways from Beethoven in many other regards. For instance, portions of Dohnányi's march (unlike Beethoven's) employ a sustained drone-like accompaniment, evoking images of a Central European bagpipe and reminding us of Dohnányi's Hungarian heritage.

The Serenade may show Dohnányi's debt to other influences as well. His "Scherzo" cascades and climbs through skittering, intertwining lines, although its central section sounds Brahmsian—perhaps because Brahms had championed the younger composer when Dohnányi was only a teenager. The fourth movement is a sometimes-poignant set of variations on a solemn theme. The mood brightens in the wild Roma flavor of the closing "Rondo," again suggesting Dohnányi's love for Hungary.

And what of baby Hans? Like his father, he hated the anti-Semitism that began to shadow his country. Sadly, Hans paid the ultimate price for his resistance: he was executed during World War II for his role in the attempt to assassinate Hitler in the Wolf's Lair.

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN** (1770–1827) Sonata for Violin and Piano in F Major, op. 24 *Spring* (1800–01)

Approximate running time: 23 minutes

When we hear Beethoven's name, most of us think of the grimfaced man whose disordered grey hair was as storm-tossed as his musical imagination, a person now legendary for his determination to "keep going" despite the horrifying loss of his hearing. We forget that there was a younger Beethoven—more "classical" in his music—who was *not* deaf, nor even fearing the possibility (although his hair was already messy). Today's "Spring" Sonata, op. 24, is a product of that earlier time, although it already shows Beethoven's propensity for stretching expectations. For one thing, the players are equal partners. Hundreds of older violin sonatas kept the keyboard in a subsidiary role, but Beethoven gives important responsibilities to both instrumentalists.

The first movement establishes a light, delicate atmosphere far removed from the later "titanic" Beethoven. Instead, this sonata is joyous and playful. True: the second movement is poignant, but it is not pathos-filled; it is tender rather than heart-breaking. It is easy to imagine that Beethoven's first performers struggled during their initial read-through of the "Scherzo," for after an introductory piano solo, the violin joins in—almost always a beat behind the piano. It sounds like a game of tag, with the violin unable to catch up; the movement certainly lives up to the "joke" suggested by its Italian label. The energetic rondo finale is a cheerful conclusion, never betraying the fact that Beethoven requires the performers to vary the theme and to modulate over and over again in the course of the movement.

**ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK** (1841–1904) Piano Quartet No. 2 in E-flat major, B162, op. 87 (1889)

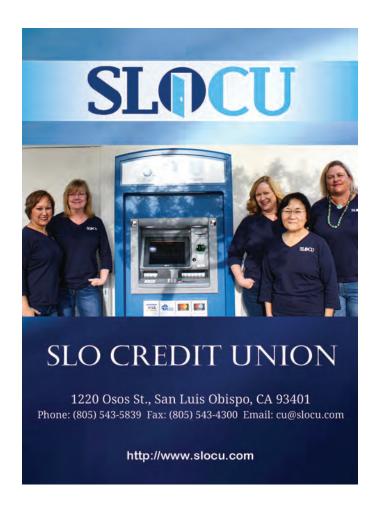
Approximate running time: 36 minutes

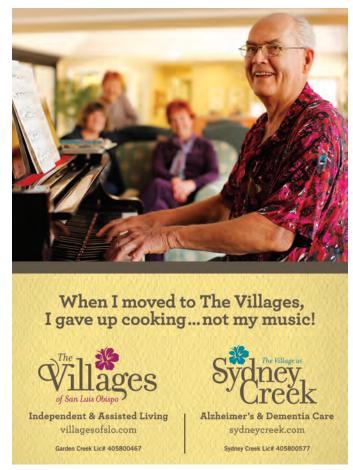
Many of us, sadly, are familiar with the concept of a "toxic friendship"—a relationship that persists because of a sense of obligation, but which, repeatedly, is hurtful and even destructive. By 1889, the publisher Simrock was making Dvořák crazy: he made anti-Czech statements that astonished Dvořák, and he kept pushing Dvořák to write simpler, "popular" pieces, claiming that large-scale works such as symphonies didn't sell—but then Simrock would pay five times as much to Brahms for *his* symphonies. Then, when Dvořák began to pursue dealings with other publishers, Simrock threatened to take Dvořák to court because of their gentlemen's agreement that Simrock would be Dvořák's sole publisher.

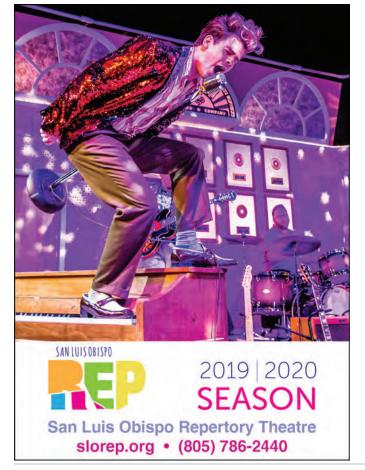
The situation was complicated by the fact that Simrock *had* given Dvořák a significant boost by printing his music when the Czech composer was still young and unknown. Since Simrock had been begging Dvořák for a second piano quartet for over four years, delivering the *Piano Quartet No. 2* probably helped to restore the peace.

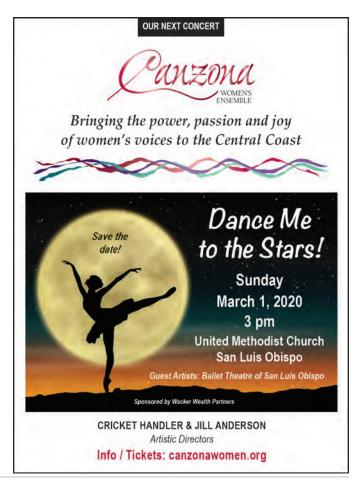
Nevertheless, there is plenty of evidence to suggest that Dvořák found the work satisfying to write as well. He told a friend that "the melodies just surged upon me, Thank God!," and he treated those tunes in particularly innovative ways. The first movement explores dramatic contrasts—almost melodramatic at times, ending with some marvelous "tremolando" (trembling) passages. The "Lento" is awash in melodies: five different themes make repeated appearances. In the third movement, a robust Ländler, Dvořák periodically mimics a cimbalon, a hammered string instrument popular in Czech folk music. In the finale, Dvořák writes so massively that the four players resemble a full orchestra—perhaps thereby sending Simrock some large-scale music after all.

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Friday, February 21 • 5:30pm

### **Notable Encounter Insight**

MONARCH CLUB 1645 TRILOGY PARKWAY NIPOMO

This program explores the Bach Cello Suites.

Saturday, February 22 • 5:30pm

### **Notable Encounter Dinner**

MONDAY CLUB 1815 MONTEREY STREET SAN LUIS OBISPO

This program explores the relationship between music and dance.

Sunday, February 23 • 3:00pm

### WinterMezzo II Concert

HAROLD J. MIOSSI CPAC CUESTA COLLEGE SAN LUIS OBISPO

All the works performed in the order below.

### JONAH KIM, cello MOVEMENT ARTS COLLECTIVE

MAARTJE LAWRENCE-HERMANS AND RYAN LAWRENCE, directors & principal choreographers

Suite No. 1 in G major for Solo Cello, BWV 1007

Prélude

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Menuet I and II

Gigue

**JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH** (1685-1750)

**BACH** 

**BACH** 

### INTERMISSION

Suite No. 5 in C minor for Solo Cello, BWV 1011

Prélude

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Gavotte I and II

Gigue

Suite No. 3 in C major for Solo Cello, BWV 1009

Prélude

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Bourrées I and II

Gigue

Presented in partnership with



The Board, Musicians, and Staff would like to dedicate this weekend's performances in honor of the amazing work and support **The Community Foundation of San Luis Obispo County** provides Festival Mozaic and many other wonderful and important non-profit organizations on the Central Coast.



### WINTERMEZZO SERIES II: PROGRAM NOTES

**JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH** (1685–1750) Suite No. 1 in G major for Solo Cello, BWV 1007 (c.1720) *Approximate running time: 18 minutes* 

Suite No. 5 in C minor for Solo Cello, BWV 1011 (c.1720)

Approximate running time: 25 minutes

Suite No. 3 in C major for Solo Cello, BWV 1009 (c.1720) Approximate running time: 21 minutes

If you were a monk or a nun in Western Europe before the ninth century, over the course of a year you would sing hundreds, sometimes thousands, of chants during the daily Mass and smaller religious services. How did you *learn* each of those chants? By rote: someone would sing the melody to you, and you'd desperately try to memorize it. But sometime around the year 800, monks in a Swiss monastery started tinkering with dots and squiggles as symbols to represent the notes they sang. This new notation system caught on quickly, undergoing numerous improvements. Over the next few centuries, every religious institution across Europe acquired huge vellum volumes, filled with carefully handwritten sacred music that people could *read*, without having heard the melody first.

Aristocrats soon used notation to write down their secular songs, and those, too, were bound together in enormous volumes. One collection, from mid-13<sup>th</sup>-century France, was called the *Chansonnier du Roi*, or the King's Songbook. But there was something odd among its 600 songs: on some pages, where there was some empty space along the margins, someone had written some additional musical notes, but *without* words: this was instrumental music! So, what type of pieces were preserved in the borders of this very costly songbook? Not work tunes, or lullabies, or military music—instead, they were dance melodies, which is a pretty good indication of how important dancing was in daily medieval life.

Anyone who dances knows that there are specific dance steps for specific tunes. You move differently for a waltz than you do for a tango or a polka. This was true in the past as well, and in the time of Shakespeare, musicians started grouping contrasting dances together, often in slow-fast pairings such as a pavane and galliard. In the subsequent Baroque era, the trend continued, with dances sorted into even larger sets called "suites." There were infinite dance choices that could be combined, but in Germany, a composer named Johann Froberger developed a much-imitated model: a "standard set" of an allemande, courante, sarabande, and gigue. Still, within this "core" set, Froberger often interspersed additional dances.

Curiously, a suite is an "international" genre, since each of those core dances had evolved in different countries. "Allemande" means "German," and its medium-speed pulses, or meter, usually occur in sets of four beats, often with one or more little preparatory notes at the start called an anacrusis (often nicknamed a "pick-up" or "upbeat"). The courante was the French version of the Italian "corrente," a type of three-pulse (triple-meter) running dance (like the "current" of a stream). It, too, had a pick-up. In contrast, the Spanish "sarabande"—also in triple meter, but with stress on the second pulse, and without an upbeat—is much statelier. That slower tempo was not always the case: when the Spaniards first got the zarabanda dance from Mexico, it was so wild that the Spanish government actually banned it (to no avail) in 1583. The French renamed the English "jig" as "gigue," and it is a lively finish with a very bouncy melodic shape (similar to its dance steps).

By the time Bach turned his attention to the suite in the early eighteenth century, another notable change had occurred: people did not necessarily *dance* to a dance suite. Instead, some of this instrumental music was designed for listeners (or even just for the player's personal enjoyment)—and that gave performers much more freedom. In music for dancing, the underlying pulse must be steady, or chaos might ensue on the ballroom floor. But, in a concert suite, the player can "stretch" time whenever inspiration strikes, allowing the performance to be more expressive than the regularity required by dancers.

In Bach's hands, therefore, the cello suite has become a showcase for the soloist's artistry. Three of Bach's six suites will be performed today, and each of them opens with a Prélude which is *not* a dance, but a type of "warm-up exercise," and each illustrates different capabilities of the cello. Suite 1's Prélude features rapid oscillations between chord tones (a technique called "arpeggiation"). The Prélude of Suite 5 presents large multi-stop chords (multiple strings played as a unit) interspersed with sweeping runs upward or downward. Suite 3's Prélude contains long strings of rising and falling scales, as well as some arpeggios; only near the end do we hear multi-stops as part of the "big finish."

All of the suites follow their Préludes with an Allemande, Courante, and Sarabande, but before the concluding Gigue, each suite inserts a different pair of dances. Suite 1 contains two triple-meter Minuets (in an ABA pattern, since the performer repeats Minuet I after playing Minuet II). Suite 5 treats its pair of intense Gavottes similarly, as an ABA group. The same is true for Suite 3's lively Bourrées, and Bourrée I is a much-loved favorite.

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### BACH CELLO SUITES

Saturday, January 25, 1pm, Arroyo Grande Sunday, January 26, 4pm, Paso Robles

### CLARINET QUINTET

Wednesday, February 12, 7pm, Nipomo Thursday, February 13, 4pm, Paso Robles

### DOUBLE BASS & FRIENDS

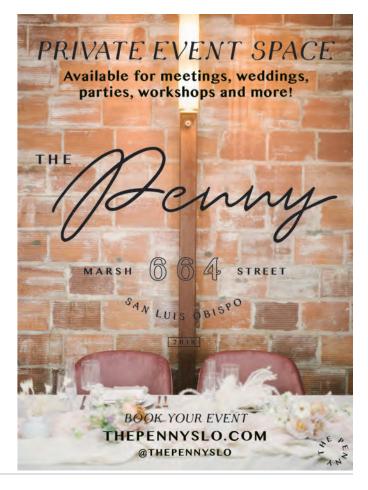
Saturday, March 21, 1pm, Los Osos Sunday, March 22, 4pm, Atascadero

### CLASSICAL GIANTS SYMPHONY

Sunday, May 17, 3pm, Mission San Miguel

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### WINTERMEZZO SERIES III

Friday, April 17 • 5:30pm

### **Notable Encounter Insight**

SLO BOTANICAL GARDEN 3450 DAIRY CREEK ROAD SAN LUIS OBISPO

This program explores the Rota Trio and Schubert Variations.

Saturday, April 18 • 5:30pm

### **Notable Encounter Dinner**

THE PENNY 664 MARSH STREET SAN LUIS OBISPO

This program explores the Schubert Trio.

Sunday, April 19 • 3:00pm

### WinterMezzo III Concert

HAROLD J. MIOSSI CPAC CUESTA COLLEGE SAN LUIS OBISPO

All the works performed in the order below.

ANNA POLONSKY, piano ALICE K. DADE, flute SCOTT YOO, violin ROBERT deMAINE, cello

Trio for Flute, Violin, and Piano Allegro ma non troppo Andante sostenuto Allegro vivace con spirito **NINO ROTA** (1911–1979)

Ms. Dade, Mr. Yoo, Ms. Polonsky

Introduction and Variations on "Trockne Blumen," D. 802

Introduction: Andante Theme: Andantino

Variation I Variation II Variation IV Variation V

Variation VI: Allegro moderato

Variation VII: Allegro

FRANZ SCHUBERT

(1797 - 1828)

Ms. Dade, Ms. Polonsky

### INTERMISSION

Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, D. 929

Allegro

Andante con moto

Scherzo: Allegro moderato Finale: Allegro moderato

**SCHUBERT** 

Ms. Polonsky, Mr. Yoo, Mr. deMaine

The Board, Musicians, and Staff would like to dedicate this weekend's performances to our **Volunteers**, men and women who contribute their time in service of our concerts and events throughout the year. We truly appreciate your time, dedication, and passion for the Festival's past, present, and future.

Special thanks to Steinway of Los Angeles for generously donating the use of a grand piano for the Friday and Saturday performances. www.steinwaylosangeles.com



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### WINTERMEZZO SERIES III: PROGRAM NOTES

**NINO ROTA** (1911–1979) Trio for Flute, Violin, and Piano (1958)

Approximate running time: 13 minutes

Most of us will never write a symphony; Nino Rota composed three. Our concerto output is likely to be zero; he produced eleven. An opera by us? Not a chance, but he had ten performed. We are unlikely to generate even one ballet—let alone six—and although a few of us *might* craft a piano piece or two (he wrote fourteen), we almost certainly can't match his age at his first (well-received) premiere: he had an oratorio performed in Milan when he was twelve. It was small wonder that he was deemed ready for the Milan Conservatory that same year, and would later study in Rome and at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, getting to know Copland and other leading names in the United States.

Oh! Should we mention the film scores?—some 150 of them?—including sixteen with Fellini? And let's not overlook the pair written for Francis Ford Coppola, *The Godfather* and *The Godfather—Part II*, the second of which earned Rota an Oscar.

Amid this outpouring of music, Rota found time to create some thirty-six chamber works, and many people regard today's *Trio for Flute, Violin, and Piano* as the best of a very fine lot. One of Rota's colleagues called him "an Italian Ravel," which helps to characterize the first movement's excitement and the finale's insistent drive. In contrast, the undulating melody of the second movement gradually knits together all three instruments. Although the Trio is more than sixty years old, it still sounds fresh and energetic—giving us a delightful introduction to Rota's work outside of the cinema.

**FRANZ SCHUBERT** (1797–1828) Introduction and Variations on "Trockne Blumen," D. 802 (1824)

Approximate running time: 17 minutes

It doesn't require a degree in psychology to understand why Franz Schubert—afflicted with an incurable disease—might be drawn to poetry that ends with the protagonist's bittersweet death. *Die schöne Müllerin*, published in 1824, features an apprentice miller who believes his love for a pretty young woman is reciprocated, but he gradually realizes that she is attracted instead to a burly huntsman. Earlier, the maiden had casually given the miller some flowers, which he has cherished. Now, his hopes of winning her have died, as have the blossoms. In Song 18, "Trockne Blumen," the young man wants the "Withered Flowers" to adorn his grave so that the maiden, when passing by, will recognize them as a reproach: that *he* was true to *her*. Within the course of the songs, this is an important juncture: the young miller has

decided that he has "nothing left to live for"—but, curiously, his song picks up energy in the latter half, as the road ahead (toward death) becomes clear to him.

Schubert then used the gloomy "Trockne Blumen" as the basis for a set of variations, D. 802, most likely for his flutist friend Ferdinand Bogner. Here, too, the mood at the end is remarkably different than at the beginning, but not because the flutist has decided to die! Instead, Lawrence Zbikowski makes the argument that the "drama" of D. 802 is the virtuosity demanded of the flute player. The soloist faces—and triumphs over—instrumental dangers, making this work tell a very different story than the original poem.

**SCHUBERT** Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, D. 929 (1827)

Approximate running time: 45 minutes

Around 1520, a cartographer designed a globe of planet Earth, inscribing along the south-east coast of Asia, "Hic sunt dracones" ("Here there be dragons"). This ancient warning has become a standard allusion to uncharted regions and the unknown dangers that might lurk there. (The globe itself is now housed in the New York Public Library.) We don't have an analogous term for well-charted areas of danger, but such a designation would describe the situation Schubert faced in the last years of his life: he focused on the types of instrumental music that Beethoven had made famous. John Gingerich calls this Schubert's "Beethoven Project," and it was risky territory. Listeners of Schubert's day felt that Beethoven had already written the definitive versions of piano sonatas, string guartets, piano trios, and symphonies. How could Schubert hope to compete? Even Brahms, some fifty years later, waited until he had passed his fortieth birthday before tackling a symphony for the first time.

To meet this challenge, Schubert crafted an expansive exploration of trio textures. He incorporated portions of a Swedish folk song ("The Sun Has Set") in the slow movement, and he interwove segments of the earlier movements within the massive finale. A second challenge was that Schubert's public reputation was built on his songs, which were—in the nineteenth century—"popular music." He found that publishers weren't eager to print his "serious" instrumental works. Probst in Leipzig called Schubert's *Trio No. 2 in E-flat major*, D. 929, "a luxury article that rarely brings in a profit" (thereby offering Schubert only a fraction of the fee usually paid). Sadly, by the time the trio finally reached the press, Schubert had died a month earlier.

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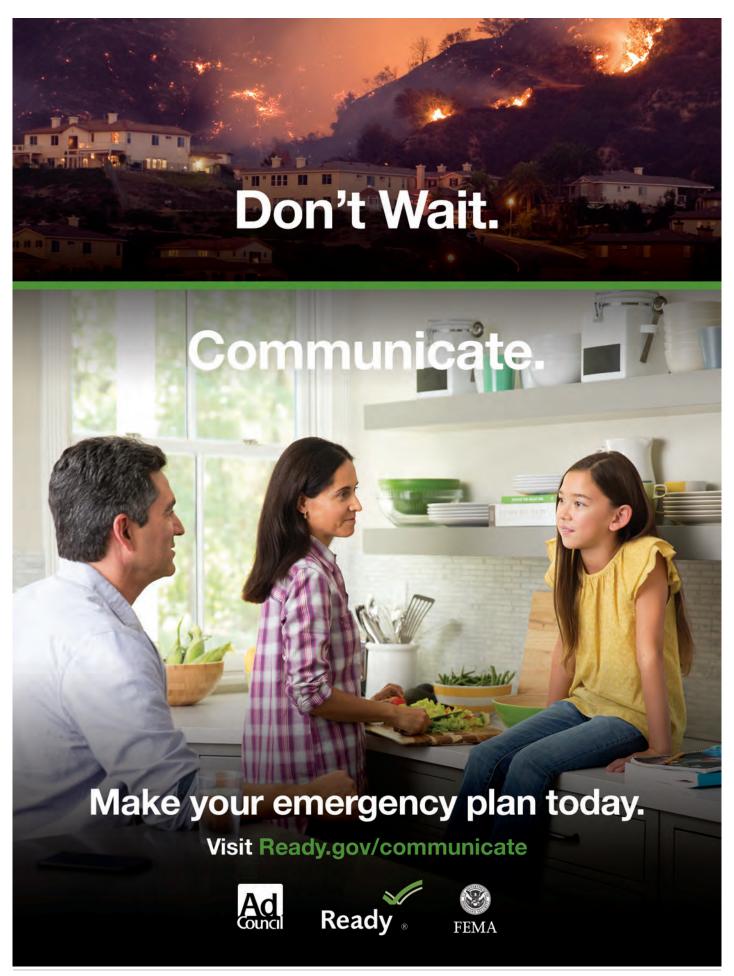
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