



the UKRAINIAN INSTITUTE *of* AMERICA
in collaboration with its European partner organizations

presents

UNITY FOR UKRAINE

a benefit concert in support of humanitarian relief for Ukrainians

Friday, April 8, 2022 at 7:00 pm

All proceeds of this concert are being directly provided to the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, in support of its humanitarian relief work for Ukrainians impacted by the war in Ukraine.

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks

Singing of the Ukrainian Anthem

Musical Program

Reception

Ukrainian Institute of America

Founded in 1948, the Ukrainian Institute of America, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art, music and literature of Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora. It serves both as a center for the Ukrainian-American community and as America's "Window on Ukraine," hosting art exhibits, concerts, film screenings, poetry readings, literary evenings, children's programs, lectures, symposia, and full educational programs, all open to the public.

United Ukrainian American Relief Committee

United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Inc. (UUARC) was founded in 1944 to help Ukrainians in need. Since its beginning, UUARC has endeavored to provide aid where the need is the greatest. It provided help to many thousands of refugees who came to the United States after World War II, as well as assisted countless Ukrainians throughout the world. The Committee is a non-profit organization recognized by the IRS under Article 501(c)3, and registered with USAID. They are able to provide humanitarian aid to Ukrainians in Ukraine and around the world.

Heartfelt thanks to our partner organizations:

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Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations in New York

MUSICAL PROGRAM

Mykhailo Verbytsky (1815-1870)
text by **Pavlo Chubynsky**
arr. **Oleksander Kuzyszyn**

Ukrainian National Anthem

Kalle Toivio, piano
Franz Hackl, trumpet

Myroslav Skoryk
(1938-2020)

Melody in A Minor (1981)

Solomiya Ivakhiv, violin
Adam Golka, piano

Fryderyk Chopin
(1810-1849)

Nocturne in D Flat Major, Op. 27, No. 2

Adam Golka, piano

Béla Kovács
(1937-2021)

"Hommage á J. S. Bach"

Alexander Bedenko, clarinet

Richard Strauss
(1864-1949)

libretto by Stefan Zweig
after Ben Jonson's *Epicæne*, or *The Silent Woman*

"Die schweigsame Frau" (The Silent Woman)
Op. 80

Villem Kapp
(1913-1964)
text by Juhan Sütiste

"Kui lõpeb suvepäeva viimne vine"

Ain Anger, bass
Kalle Toivio, piano

Jules Massenet
(1842-1912)
text by Louis Gallet

Élégie

Ain Anger, bass
Yves Dhar, cello
Kalle Toivio, piano

Serhiy Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

**Overture on Hebrew Themes op. 34 for
Clarinet, Strings and Piano**

Alexander Bedenko, clarinet
Julie Eskar, violin
Solomiya Ivakhiv, violin
Kaya Bryla-Weiss, viola
Yves Dhar, cello
Adam Golka, piano

Jean Sibelius
(1865-1957)

**Finlandia Op. 26, arr. for solo piano by the
composer (1900)**

Kalle Toivio, piano

INTERMISSION

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Cello Suite no. 5 in C Minor, BWV 1011

I. Prelude
IV. Sarabande
VI. Gigue

Jan Vogler, cello

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Siciliano in G minor, BWV 1031

Victoria Poleva
(b.1962)

Passacaglia (1982)

Andrius Žlabys, piano

Pavel Šporcl
(b. 1973)

"Kde Domov muj" (Where is my home)
for solo violin

Pavel Šporcl, violin

Isaac Albéniz
(1860-1909)

Iberia Suite: Triana

José Ramón Mendez, piano

Ukrainian folk song

**"Oy u luzi chervona kalyna" (Red viburnum in
the meadow)**

Franz Hackl, trumpet
Slau Halatyn, piano

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

String Quintet No.2 in G Major, Op. 111

I. Allegro non troppo, ma con brio

Solomiya Ivakhiv, violin
Julie Eskar, violin
Ettore Causa, viola
Kaya Bryla-Weiss, viola
Yves Dhar, cello

Ще Не Вмерла Україна

The Ukrainian National Anthem

слова Павла Чубинського
музика Михайла Вербицького
обробка Олеса Кузицина

words: Pavlo Chubynsky (1839-1884)
music: Mykhailo Verbytsky (1815-1870)
arranged by Oleksander Kutyszyn

Мажестатично
Majestatically

Piano

Ще не вмерла на У - кра - ї - на, ні сла - ва, ні во - ля.
Shtshe ne vmerla na U - kra - yi - na, ni sla - va, ni vo - lya.

Ще нам брат - тя мо - ло - ді - ї у - міх - неть - ся до - ля.
Shtshe nam brat - tya mo - lo - di - yi us - mikh - net - sya do - lya.

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A(9884) A7 Dm A(9884) A Dm Dm C Gm7 B7 C7 F

Зги - нуть на - ши во - ро - жень - ки, як ро - са на сон - ці.
Zhy - nut' na - shi vo - ro - zhen' - ky, yak ro - sa na son - tsi.

A Dm A Dm A Dm A Dm C

За - па - ну - см і ми брат - тя у сво - їй сто - році.
Za - pa - nu - ysm i mi brat - tya u svo - yiy sto - ron - tsi.

F A C A7 Dm C C7 F C7 F C7

Ду - шу й ти - ло ми по - ло - жим за на - шу ово - бо - ду,
Du - shu y ti - lo my po - lo - zhyim za na - shu svo - bo - du,

G A C7 A7 Dm F Bm7(9) A(9884) A7 Dm C7 Dm

і по - ка - жем, що ми бра - тья ко - зач - ко - го ро - ду, і по - ка - жем, що ми бра - тья ко - зач - ко - го ро - ду.
i po - ka - zhem, shcho my brat - tya ko - zats' - ko - ho ro - du. i po - ka - zhem, shcho my brat - tya ko - zats' - ko - ho ro - du.

additional lyrics on back page

<p>Станем, браття, всі за волю, від Сяму до Дону, В рідних краю панувати не дамо нікому. Чорне Море ще вмихнеться, для Дніпро зрадіє, Ще на нашій Україні дольська доспіє.</p> <p>Душу й тіло ...</p> <p>А завлягати, праша шира свого ще докаже, Ще ся волі в Україні піснь гучна розляже. За Карпати відлітеться, Зомонить сечами, України слава стане поміж народами.</p> <p>Душу й тіло ...</p>	<p>Stanem brattya vsi za volyu, vid Syamu do Donu, V ridnih kraju panuvaty ne damo nikomu. Tehorne More shche vsmikhnetsya, did Dniipro zradnye, Shtshe na nashiy Ukraini dolen'ka dospnye.</p> <p>Dushu y tilo ...</p> <p>A zavlyatya, prasya shchyura svoho shche dokazhe, Shtshe sya volii v Ukraini pisni' huchna rozlyazhe. Za Karpaty vidlytetsya, zhomonyt' stepamy, Ukrayiny slava stane pomizh narodamy.</p> <p>Dushu y tilo ...</p>
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Sche ne ymerla Ukraina
words: Pavlo Chubynsky (1839-1884)

Ukraine's glory hasn't perished, nor her freedom.
Upon us, fellow compatriots,
fate shall smile once more.
Our enemies will vanish,
like dew in the morning sun,
and we too shall rule, brothers,
in a free land of our own.
We'll lay down our soul and bodies
to attain our freedom,
and we'll show that we, brothers,
are of the Cossack nation!

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ОБР.: ОЛЕСЬ КУЗИЦІН

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

WORDS: PAVLO CHUBYNSKY
MUSIC: MYKHAILO VERBYTSKY
ARR. BY: OLES KUTYZYIN

LYRICS

Wie schön ist doch die Musik

from "*Die schweigsame Frau*" (The Silent Woman) - libretto by Stefan Zweig (1881 -1942)

Wie schön ist doch die Musik -- aber wie schön erst, wenn sie vorbei ist!

Wie wunderbar ist doch eine junge, schweigsame Frau --
aber wie wunderbar erst, wenn sie die Frau eines andern bleibt!

Wie schön ist doch das Leben -- aber wie schön erst,
wenn man kein Narr ist und es zu leben weiß!

Ah, meine Guten, großartig habt ihr mich kuriert,
noch nie hab' ich so glücklich mich gefühlt . . .

Ach, ich fühle mich unbeschreiblich wohl. Nur Ruhe!

Nur Ruhe! Aaah - - - Aaah - - - Aaah! - - -

Ah how beautiful is music -- but how...

Ah how beautiful is music -- but how even more beautiful when it is over!

Ah, how wonderful is a young woman who keeps silent --
but how even more wonderful when she remains the wife of another!

Ah, how beautiful is life -- but how even more beautiful
when one is not a fool and knows how to live life!

Ah, my good people, you have cured me splendidly,
never before have I felt so happy . . .

Ah, I feel an indescribable sense of well-being. Pure peace!

Pure peace! Aaah - - - Aaah - - - Aaah! - - -

"Kui lõpeb suvepäeva viimne vine" - text by Juhan Sütiste (1899-1945)

Kui lõpeb suvepäeva viimne vine
ja laineil hämariku vari käib,
kui kõrgekaljuline põhjarannik
veel merest uhkemana tõusvat näib.

Siis tuled sa, mu arm nii uhkel astel,
kui astuks kingult alla nõtke kask.
Su juuksed lõhnavad öö-kaste kergelt,
näos kumab eha vastuhelgi vask.

Sa tuled rõivais kodunurme hingus
ja silmis vete rahuline läik.
All kividel jääb vaikseks mere hingus
ja lehestikus taltub tuule käik.

When the Last Haze of a Summer Day Ends

When the last haze of a summer day ends
And dusk's shadow walks on waves,
When the high cliffs of the northern coast
Seem to rise from the sea even prouder.

Then you will come, my love, walking proudly,
As if a graceful birch walking down the hill.
Your hair has a light scent of night dew,
With the copper reflection of twilight gleaming on your face.

You come in clothes with a breath of fields from home
And the calm glister of water in your eyes.
On the rocks below, the breath of the sea gets quiet
And the wind in the leaves calms down.

Elégie - text by Louis Gallet (1835-1898)

Ô, doux printemps d'autre fois, vertes saisons,
Vous avez fui pour toujours!
Je ne vois plus le ciel bleu;
Je n'entends plus les chants joyeux des oiseaux!
En emportant mon bonheur, mon bonheur...
Ô bien-ami, tu t'en es allé!
Et c'est en vain que [le printemps revient!]¹
Oui, sans retour,
avec toi, le gai soleil,
Les jours riants sont partis!
Comme en mon coeur tout est sombre et glacé!
Tout est flétri
pour toujours!

Elegie

O sweet springtimes of old verdant seasons
You have fled forever
I no longer see the blue sky
I no longer hear the bird's joyful singing
And, taking my happiness with you
You have gone on your way my love!
In vain Spring returns
Yes, never to return
The bright sun has gone with you
The days of happiness have fled
How gloomy and cold is my heart
All is withered
Forever

THE ARTISTS



Ain Anger has been a regular presence on the stage of Wiener Staatsoper since his house debut as Monterone (Rigoletto) in 2004, going on to sing more than forty roles there ranging from Dosifei in Mussorgsky's epic *Khovanshchina* conducted by Semyon Bychkov and König Heinrich (Lohengrin) under Christian Thielemann to Philippe II (Don Carlos), Zaccaria (Nabucco) and Fiesco (Simon Boccanegra), and was awarded the honorary title of Kammersänger by the Austrian government in June 2020. Ranked among the world's best Wagnerian basses, Anger made his Bayreuth Festival debut as Fafner in *Das Rheingold* and *Siegfried* under Christian Thielemann, and his debut at Teatro alla Scala as Daland (*Der fliegende Holländer*) under Hartmut Haenchen. As Hundung, he has appeared in new Ring Cycles at Bayerische Staatsoper under Kent Nagano, Wiener Staatsoper under Franz Welser-Möst, Oper Frankfurt under Sebastian Weigle, Lyric Opera of Chicago under Sir Andrew Davis, and at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden under Sir Antonio Pappano. As Pogner (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*), Anger debuted at San Francisco Opera under Sir Mark Elder, and is a frequent guest of Deutsche Oper Berlin with whom he also appeared at the BBC Proms in *Tannhäuser* under Donald Runnicles. Most recent seasons have brought further expansion of the Wagner repertoire with debuts as Hagen (*Götterdämmerung*) for the Canadian Opera Company conducted by Johannes Debus, and at the Edinburgh International Festival with Sir Andrew Davis, and as König Marke (*Tristan und Isolde*) for the Cleveland Orchestra under Franz Welser-Möst, and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra under Asher Fisch, released by ABC Classics.



"Timbrally, the performances are ravishing. Bedenko's tone is the most luxurious velvet" (Gramophone Magazine). Acclaimed Ukrainian-born American clarinetist **Alexander Bedenko** has appeared in recital at Carnegie's Weill Hall, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Steinway Hall, Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C, UNESCO in Paris and collaborated with artists such as Vladimir Spivakov, Christoph Eschenbach, Nikolai Lugansky, Kirill Gernstein, Daniel Hope, Gautier Capuçon and with the Borodin, Jerusalem, Ariel, Endellion and Orion string quartets. Solo appearances include the Kremlin Chamber Orchestra, Romanian and Ukraine National Symphony Orchestras, Texarkana Symphony, Moscow Virtuosi, and recitals at the Colmar, Verbier, Spoleto and Schubertiade festivals. In 2019, Bedenko released his acclaimed debut album on Orchid classics with Kyril Zlotnikov and Itamar Golan. A former Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra principal clarinet, he was invited by Riccardo Muti as guest principal for a Chicago Symphony Orchestra European tour and has performed as guest principal with the London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra (London) and the Cleveland Orchestra under Franz Welser-Möst. Alexander Bedenko is a Selmer Paris and D'Addario woodwinds Artist.



Violist **Katarzyna Bryla-Weiss** was born into a family of musicians and has gone on to earn more than two dozen prizes and awards in the United States, France and her native Poland. Katarzyna regularly performs with orchestras, chamber groups, and as a soloist in an international career that has taken her across four continents. In 2019 she became a co-principal violist of Orchestra of St. Luke's and a member of St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble. She is also a member of the New York City Ballet Orchestra and the New York Pops Orchestra. She was a soloist with the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra in their tour of China in 2010, and was soloist for the noted Maazel/Vilar Conducting Competition in Cracow in 2001. Katarzyna has performed in numerous renowned music festivals: Classical Tahoe, Napa Valley Music Festival, Central Vermont Music Festival, Music@Menlo, Cactus Pear Music Festival, Bach Dancing and Dynamite, Singapore Sun Music Festival, Las Palmas Music Festival, and many others. Her teachers include Christian Tetzlaff, David Cerutti, Herbert Greenberg, Honggang Li, Jadwiga Kaliszewska, and her father Bartosz Bryla. Katarzyna lives in Brooklyn with her husband, flutist David Weiss.



Awarded both the "P. Schidlof Prize" and the "J. Barbirolli Prize" for "the most beautiful sound" at the prestigious Lionel Tertis International Viola competition in England in 2000, Italian-born violist **Ettore Causa** is praised for his exceptional artistry, passionate intelligence and complete musicianship. He has made solo and recital appearances in major venues around the world, such as Carnegie Hall, Zurich Tonhalle, Madrid National Auditorium, Salle Cortot, Tokyo Symphony Hall, Teatro Colon, etc., and has performed at numerous international festivals, such as the Menuhin, Salzburg, Tivoli, Prussia Cove, Savonlinna, Launadire and Norfolk Festivals. Also a devoted chamber musician, Mr. Causa has collaborated extensively with internationally renowned musicians such as the Tokyo, Artis, Brentano, Cremona and Elias String Quartets, Pascal Rogé, Boris Berman, Peter Frankl, Thomas Ades, Natalie Clein, Ana Chumachenco, Ani Kavafian, Alberto and Antonio Lysy, Liviu Prunaru, Thomas Demenga, Ulf Wallin, William Bennett and others. Having studied at the International Menuhin Music Academy with Alberto Lysy and Johannes Eskar, and later at the Manhattan School of Music with Michael Tree, then having taught both viola and chamber music for many years at the International Menuhin Music Academy, Mr. Causa joined the faculty of the Yale School of Music in 2009. Causa has recorded many highly-regarded CDs on the Claves label, including Romantic Transcriptions for Viola and Piano, on which he performs his own transcriptions and which was awarded a prestigious "5 Diapasons" by the French magazine Diapason. His latest CD of Brahms works with Clive Greensmith and Boris Berman for the Le Palais de Dégustateur label was given the distinguished "CHOC de Classica" award by France's esteemed Classica magazine. Ettore Causa was one of the honor guests at the 43rd International Viola Congress where he performed with enormous success his own arrangement of the Schumann cello concerto and the British Viola Society has awarded him the Honorary Membership in recognition of his enormous contribution to the viola community.



credit: Lindsay Adler

Cellist **Yves Dhar** played in famous places (Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, NYC FASHION WEEK, United Nations, Rikers Island) and not-so-famous places (schools for special needs, children's hospitals, youth sports clubs, retirement homes, designer boutiques). He has shared the stage with many celebrated artists (Itzhak Perlman, Christina Aguilera, Arijit Singh, Bert from Sesame Street). If you haven't seen him in concert halls, you might have heard him in films, TV, or ads (Annie; Allure; HBO's The Plot Against America; Budweiser, Disney, VISA, Micoli Studio).

He teaches cello, social advocacy, and arts entrepreneurship at Vassar College, in masterclasses around the world, and privately online. Perhaps, most importantly, Dhar co-founded nonprofits (Cello Makes Everything Better, New Docta) to inspire others with music and make the world a better place. Photo



Julie Eskar is currently First concertmaster of the Danish Chamber Orchestra and has performed as a soloist with several orchestras in Denmark and abroad. An avid chamber musician, Ms. Eskar has been playing in many different major festivals around the world such as Prussia Cove (England), Horten (Norway), Norfolk, USA, Incontri in Terra di Siena, BIMF (Italy), Tivoli (Denmark), etc. performing aside musicians such as Boris Berman, Jeremy Denk, Clive Greensmith, Thomas Demenga, Ralph Kirsbaum, Michael Kannen, Antonio Lysy, Alberto Lysy, Vilde Frang, Ani Kavafian, Ettore Causa, etc. Julie Eskar is a founding member of the Eskar Trio, an international award-winning ensemble. The Trio has established a reputation for itself as one of the

leading ensembles on the Danish chamber music stage and has also enjoyed great success in Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Portugal, Japan, China and the Netherlands. The Trio has released several critically acclaimed CDs including the complete Brahms piano trios and works by Ravel and Chausson that was awarded as "Best CD of the Month" in The Strad. The Eskar Trio's second CD featuring never-before recorded Danish Romantic piano trios was awarded 'Best Chamber Music Recording' and 'Best Classical Recording of the Year' by the Danish Radio Music Awards. Beside from being a member of The Eskar Trio, Julie is a founding member of Arabella String Quartet. The quartet's debut CD, titled "In the Moment" was released by Naxos Records in 2017 and received glowing reviews. Furthermore, the quartet will release their second CD on Naxos in the spring of 2022, featuring works of Chevalier de Saint-Georges. Ms. Eskar studied under Professor Milan Vitek at the Danish Royal Academy of Music in Copenhagen and with Professor Gerhard Schultz at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna. She has also worked under the guidance of Alberto Lysy, Ana Chumachenco, Christian Tetzlaff and Ivry Gitlis.



Polish-American pianist **Adam Golka** first performed all of Beethoven's Piano Sonatas when he was 18 years-old, and in 2020-2021 Adam Golka performed the cycle of Beethoven's 32 Sonatas in NYC, Orlando, and Houston, for live streams and socially-distanced audiences. Adam's performances were complemented by 32 short films he created, known as 32@32 (available on YouTube), documenting his preparation for climbing the Everest of piano literature and featuring an amalgam of distinguished guests, from an astrophysicist to Alfred Brendel. Adam Golka's principal teachers

have been José Feghali and Leon Fleisher, and since finishing his formal studies, Adam has continued to develop his artistry through mentorship from Alfred Brendel, Richard Goode, Murray Perahia, Mitsuko Uchida, Evelyne Crochet, Ferenc Rados, and Sir András Schiff, who invited Adam to give recitals at the Klavier-Festival Ruhr and Tonhalle Zürich, for the "Sir András Schiff Selects" concert series. Adam has also given solo recitals in Tokyo's Musashino Hall, New York's Alice Tully Hall, and Amsterdam's Kleine Zaal in Het Concertgebouw. As a concerto soloist, he has appeared with dozens of orchestras, including the BBC Scottish Symphony, NACO (Ottawa), Warsaw Philharmonic, Shanghai Philharmonic, as well as the San Francisco, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, New Jersey, and San Diego symphonies. Chamber music is an integral part of Adam Golka's life, and he has performed repeatedly at the Krzyszowa-Music "Music for Europe" festival, as well as the Marlboro, Ravinia, Music@Menlo, Caramoor chamber music festivals in the U.S. Photo credit: Jürgen Frank



Franz Hackl: trumpeter, composer, clinician, and brass instrument maker is the founder & artistic director of the Outreach Orchestra, Festival, and Academy and leads his group, Franz Hackl's IDO Quartet. His feed-forward approach, building on traditions and looking beyond the fashionable trend, leads to his distinctive style. As a trumpet player, Franz has toured the international festival circuit and concert halls for over twenty years and performed in renowned jazz clubs like the Jazz Standard, Blue Note, Birdland, and Sweet Basil to name a few.

As a composer, Franz was commissioned to write original music for the "Year of the Mountains" launch event at the United Nations for the opening of the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York and has composed for numerous festivals and ensembles such as Tiroler Festspiele, Europ. Forum Alpbach, Klangspuren, Festival der Regionen and the Absolute Ensemble. Franz Hackl also has a duo with pianist Leo Genovese. They impress audiences with soulful dialogue based on a wide variety of material, ranging from compositions by baroque masters, Tyrolean folk songs, Jazz, and contemporary classical music. He co-leads the brass trio B3+ with the all-time greats Dave Taylor (btrb) and John Clark (frh). Over the last 20 years, he frequently collaborates with Dietmar Küblböck, the principal trombone of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, and some of his fellow members of this wonderful orchestra on cross-over projects which feature Franz's compositions.



Slau (also known as Slavko Halatyn) is a New York City-based singer/songwriter and producer. As a teenager, he began performing in various dance bands in the New York City area which led him toward studio work as a session player for radio jingles and television. As part of the duet, Darka & Slavko, slau co-produced 4 albums for the duo and earned the "Best International Band" award at the first Chervona Ruta Festival in Chernivtsi, Ukraine.

For over 25 years, Slau has owned and operated BeSharp Studios where he has worked with multiple Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award winning artists. His latest album, "Years Have Gone By" was released at the end of 2021.



Ukrainian born violinist **Solomiya Ivakhiv** is an active soloist and chamber musician. She has performed at such prestigious concert halls as Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, CBC Glenn Gould Studio, Curtis Institute Field Concert Hall, and the Tchaikovsky Hall in Kyiv, and has made solo appearances with the Istanbul State Symphony, Charleston Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine, and the Hunan Symphony Orchestra in China. She has premiered new works for violin by composers such as David Ludwig, John B. Hedges, David Dzubay, Bohdan Kryvopust, Yevhan Stankovych, and Oleksandr Shchetynsky, and has been featured at chamber music festivals worldwide, including Tanglewood, Ottawa Chamberfest, Bach Festival of Philadelphia, Prussia Cove Open Chamber Music, Newport and Nevada Chamber Music Festivals, and KyivFest. Ms. Ivakhiv's recordings - Ukraine-Journey to Freedom (NAXOS), Mendelssohn Concertos (Brilliant Classics), Haydn and Hummel Concertos (Brilliant Classics) and Poems and Rhapsodies (Centaur) - have aired nationally and internationally and have all been widely lauded and featured on top charts in iTunes and Spotify. Ms. Ivakhiv graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where she studied with Joseph Silverstein, Pamela Frank, and the late Rafael Druian. During this time, she was concertmaster of both Curtis and Tanglewood Center Symphony Orchestras. Ms. Ivakhiv holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Stony Brook University, where her principal teachers were Philip Setzer and Pamela Frank. She is Associate Professor of Violin and Viola and Head of String at UConn and violin faculty at the Longy School of Bard College. Ms. Ivakhiv was recently named Honored (Merited) Artist of Ukraine, her native country's highest cultural honor.



Described as "an artist with a polished sound and tremendous constructive power" and hailed by the Hoja del Lunes de Madrid, as "the Spanish pianist of his generation," **Jose Ramon Mendez** is one of the most exciting Spanish pianists of today. Recent performances include Chopin's first piano concerto with the Cuban National Symphony Orchestra and Manuel de Falla's "Nights in the Gardens of Spain" with the Nittany Valley Symphony, as well as numerous solo and chamber music performances in the United States, Europe, and Asia. His playing has been featured on WQXR's "Performance Today" and on Classical KMFA. He has been a guest performer at many music festivals, including Caramoor Festival, Barge Music Series, Festival Internacional de Piano de las Islas Canarias, Music at Penns Woods, Amalfi Coast International

Music Festival, "Tocando el Cielo," Musica en Compostela, the Stony Brook International Piano Festival, and the Santander International Music Festival to name a few. As a chamber musician, Mendez has collaborated with such distinguished artists as Karl Leister, Itzhak Perlman, Michael Tree, Pascual Martinez-Nieto, and Pinchas Zukerman. Mendez is a winner of Pilar Bayona International Piano Competition, Hilton Head Island International Piano Competition, Frederick Chopin Competition in New York, and Hermanos Guerrero International Piano Competition, among others. Mendez has given master classes in numerous cities in Spain, including Lugo, Aviles, Valencia, Gijon, Oviedo, Santiago de Compostela, and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, as well as in the United States at top music schools such as Oberlin Conservatory, Northwestern University, University of Michigan, and Columbus State University.



Pavel Šporcl, with his famous blue violin, is celebrated around the world. He is considered in the 'royal line' of Czech violinists, having been taught by the legendary teacher Vaclav Smitl (himself taught by Jaroslav Kocian who was taught by the father of the Czech violin school, Otakar Sevcik) as well as by Itzhak Perlman, Eduard Schmieder and Dorothy DeLay. Šporcl, whose iconic blue violin was created by leading contemporary instrument maker Jan Spidlen, has done a great deal to popularize classical music - having sold more than 230,000 CDs and frequently appeared on television, including his recent documentary series on the great Czech violinists of yesteryear, and his regular top-rated program introducing children to music. Šporcl records for Hanssler Classic, for Universal

Music, and previously for Supraphon or Cedille Records. His recordings include the Dvorak Violin Concerto with the Czech Philharmonic under Vladimir Ashkenazy, the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Czech Philharmonic under Jiri Belohlavek, the R. Strauss and Korngold concertos with the Prague Symphony Orchestra under Jiri Kout, and the complete Bach Sonatas and Partitas. Of his recording of Vivaldi's The Four Seasons, Gramophone wrote, "Pavel Šporcl has established himself on disc as the most charismatic of Czech violinists, spontaneously imaginative and individual in everything he does..." His last album, "Christmas On The Blue Violin" (with the Royal Liverpool

Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sebastian Lang-Lessing, for Universal Music Group) went platinum within eight weeks and even made the top 10 best-selling pop albums chart of its year (the only classical album to do so). In addition to his classical activities, Šporcl leads a hugely successful Czech gypsy music ensemble that has played more than 350 concerts around the world. He has been presented with an award at the United Nations in New York for his work bringing people together through music, and is a recipient of the Medal Of Merit of the Czech Republic. He is the Artistic Director of the Kocian Usti Festival, Ameropa Music Summer Academy and also of the Znojmo Music Festival. Šporcl regularly performs internationally, in recent years including London's Cadogan Hall with the English Symphony Orchestra, Germany with the MDR Symphony Orchestra, sell-out concerts in Japan, festivals in Europe and tours of the US.



Kalle Toivio is a Finnish-American virtuoso concert organist and pianist living in New York City. He is the winner of the First Prize at the 2018 American Guild of Organists National Competition in Organ Improvisation. The CD-Album of Kalle Toivio Improvisations at St. Ignatius was released by the Pro Organo/Naxos-label in December 2019. Kalle Toivio has played recitals in the United States, Europe and Japan, including at the Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago and the Carnegie Hall. Kalle Toivio is the Organist and Director of Music at the Church of Notre Dame in New York City, is in the organ faculty of Manhattan School of Music Precollege and the piano faculty at the Stamford Music & Arts Academy in Stamford, Connecticut. Kalle

Toivio is the Dean of the AGO Finland Chapter. Kalle Toivio received his degrees in Piano Performance and Church Music from the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland. After moving to New York City Kalle Toivio received his Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Organ Performance from the Manhattan School of Music. Kalle Toivio studied piano with Matti Raekallio and Nina Svetlanova and organ with McNeil Robinson and James David Christie. Dr. Toivio has studied organ improvisation with McNeil Robinson and David Briggs. Kalle Toivio is married to Ukrainian-born concert pianist, actress and playwright Viktoriya Papayani. Photo credit: Leland Hoch



Jan Vogler's distinguished career has brought him together with renowned conductors and internationally acclaimed orchestras around the world, such as New York Philharmonic, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and London Philharmonic Orchestra. His great ability allowed him to explore the sound boundaries of the cello and to establish an intensive dialogue with contemporary composers and artists. This includes regular world premieres, including works by Tigran Mansurian (with WDR Symphony Orchestra conducted by Semyon Bychkov), John Harbison (with Mira Wang and the Boston Symphony Orchestra), Udo Zimmermann (Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra), Wolfgang Rihm (Double Concerto with Mira Wang), Jörg Widman (Cello Concerto Dunkle Saiten, dedicated to Jan Vogler himself) and Nico Muhly, Sven Helbig and

Zhou-Long (*Drei Kontinente – Konzert für Cello und Orchester*, composed for Jan Vogler). The New York Times praise his “soulful, richly hued playing” and the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung grants him the ability “to make his cello speak like a singing voice”. Jan Vogler has been Director of the renowned Dresden Music Festival since October 2008. Since 2001, he has been Artistic Director of the Moritzburg Festival, which in 2017 celebrated its 25th anniversary as one of the most established chamber music festivals internationally. In 2006, he received the European Award for Culture and in 2011 the Erich-Kästner Award for tolerance, humanity and international understanding. In June 2018 he received the European Award for Culture TAURUS as Director of the Dresden Music Festival. 2021 Jan Vogler was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. Jan Vogler plays the Stradivari ‘Ex Castelbarco/Fau’ 1707 cello.



Grammy-nominated pianist **Andrius Žlabys** received international acclaim for appearances with many of the world’s leading orchestras, including The New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Rotterdam Symphony, and Philharmonic Orchestra of Buenos Aires. He joined the Boston University piano faculty in Fall 2021. Born in Lithuania and trained at the Curtis Institute of Music, Žlabys was 18 years old when the Chicago Tribune wrote: “Pianist-composer Andrius Žlabys is one of the most gifted young keyboard artists to emerge in years.” He was heralded by The New York Sun in a review titled “A Shining Hope of Pianists” after his recital at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Mr. Žlabys’s concerts included appearances on many of the world’s leading stages, such as Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, Concertgebouw, Carnegie Hall, Phillips Collection, Teatro Colón, Wigmore Hall, Vienna’s Musikverein and Suntory Hall. He has appeared at numerous festivals in the U.S. and abroad, including the Menuhin, Salzburg, Lockenhaus and Caramoor music festivals, and made his Carnegie Hall debut at the Isaac Stern Auditorium with the New York Youth Symphony conducted by Misha Santora in 2001 in a performance of Beethoven’s First Piano Concerto. He was also invited the following season as soloist with Kremerata Baltica to perform Benjamin Britten’s *Young Apollo* at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall. Andrius Žlabys has enjoyed enduring collaboration with violinist Gidon Kremer with whom Zlabys has toured extensively in Europe, Japan, South America, and the U.S. In 2003, Žlabys received a Grammy nomination for his recording of Enescu’s Piano Quintet with Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica. A multifaceted musician of wide-ranging repertoire, Andrius Žlabys holds a special reverence for J. S. Bach, while remaining a strong advocate for the contemporary stage with numerous works commissioned by and written for him. Andrius Žlabys is represented by Felsner Artists.

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FRIDAY
April 8, 2022
7PM

UNITY FOR UKRAINE

a benefit concert featuring

Ticket price: \$100/person (minimum), fully tax-deductible, in support of United Ukrainian American Relief Committee humanitarian assistance programs for Ukrainians.

Registration is required at www.ukrainianinstitute.org.

Seating is limited.
Reception following the concert.

The concert will be simulcast at [YouTube.com/UIANYC](https://www.youtube.com/UIANYC).



AIN ANGER, *bass*
MAGDALENA BACZEWSKA, *piano*
ALEXANDER BEDENKO, *clarinet*
KAYA BRYLA-WEISS, *viola*
ETTORE CAUSA, *violin*
YVES DHAR, *cello*
JULIE ESKAR, *violin*
FRANZ HACKL, *trumpet*
SLAU HALATYN, *piano/vocals*
SOLOMIYA IVAKHIV, *violin*
JOSÉ RAMÓN MENDEZ, *piano*
PAVEL ŠPORCL, *violin*
KALLE TOIVIO, *piano*
JAN VOGLER, *cello*
ANDRIUS ŽLABYS, *piano*

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