

3-30-1994

The Shanghai Quartet

Department of Music, University of Richmond

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs>



Part of the [Music Performance Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Department of Music, University of Richmond, "The Shanghai Quartet" (1994). *Music Department Concert Programs*. 897.
<https://scholarship.richmond.edu/all-music-programs/897>

This Program is brought to you for free and open access by the Music at UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Music Department Concert Programs by an authorized administrator of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

THE SHANGHAI QUARTET

Quartet-in-Residence

Weigang Li, *violin*
Honggang Li, *violin*
Zheng Wang, *viola*
James Wilson, *cello*

March 30, 1994, 8:15 PM
Cannon Memorial Chapel

Since its New York debut at Town Hall in the spring of 1987, the Shanghai String Quartet has been hailed by the press and the public alike as one of the leading quartets of its generation. It now performs annually to exceptional critical acclaim in major music centers throughout the United States and abroad.

Shortly after the Quartet was formed at the Shanghai Conservatory in 1983, it won a top prize at the Portsmouth International Quartet Competition. In 1987 the ensemble won the prestigious Chicago Discovery Competition and embarked on an extensive touring career. It has been Ensemble-in-Residence at the Tanglewood and Ravinia Festivals and has appeared on three occasions at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival.

Recent seasons have taken the Quartet to Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Montreal, San Francisco, St. Louis, Toronto, and Washington, D.C. The ensemble's yearly tours to Europe have earned acclaim in such cities as Milan and Hamburg, as well as several recordings for German radio. It has appeared annually in New York City, including a sold-out three-concert series with pianist Ruth Laredo at the Metropolitan Museum. The Quartet's other distinguished collaborators have included pianist Lillian Kallir, guitarist Eliot Fisk, the Tokyo String Quartet, and violinist Arnold Steinhardt.

The Shanghai Quartet was Graduate Ensemble-in-Residence at the Juilliard School where it assisted the Juilliard String Quartet. Currently, it is Ensemble-in-Residence at the University of Richmond, teaching and coaching students, as well as performing three concerts annually.

PROGRAM

Quartet in D major, op. 20, no. 4

Allegro di molto

Un poco adagio e affettuoso

Menuet alla Zingarese: Allegretto

Presto e scherzando

Joseph Haydn

(1732-1809)

Crisantemi (Elegy)

Giacomo Puccini

(1858-1924)

La oración del torero (Matador's Prayer)

Joaquín Turina

(1882-1949)

INTERMISSION

Quartet in A-flat major, op. 105

Adagio ma non troppo; Allegro appassionato

Molto vivace

Lento e molto cantabile

Allegro non tanto

Antonín Dvorák

(1841-1904)

A native of Shanghai, WEIGANG LI began violin studies with his parents at age 5 and went on to attend the Shanghai Conservatory at age 14. He came to the United States to study at the San Francisco Conservatory through an exchange program between the sister cities of San Francisco and Shanghai. He has been a soloist with the Shanghai Conservatory Orchestra, the Shanghai Symphony and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. In 1982 he appeared with the BBC Scottish Symphony in a concert that was recorded for broadcast. Upon graduation from the Shanghai Conservatory in 1985, he was appointed assistant professor of violin there. Shortly thereafter he left China to continue his education at the Northern Illinois University on a full scholarship, receiving his master's degree in 1987. For the next two years, Mr. Li studied and taught at the Juilliard School as teaching assistant to the Juilliard Quartet. His other teachers have included Shmuel Ashkenasi, Pierre Menard, Shu-Chen Tan and Isadore Tinkleman. Mr. Li was featured in the film "From Mao to Mozart" with Isaac Stern in China.

HONGGANG LI began violin studies with his parents at the same time as his brother, Weigang. When the Beijing Conservatory reopened in 1977 after the Cultural Revolution, Mr. Li was selected to attend from a group of over five hundred applicants. He continued his training at the Shanghai Conservatory and was appointed a faculty member there in 1984. He also has served as a teaching assistant at the Juilliard School. Mr. Li has appeared as soloist with the Shanghai Philharmonic and the Shanghai Conservatory Orchestra. In 1987 he won a violin as a special prize given by Elisa Pegreff of the Quartetto Italiano at an International competition in Italy.

ZHENG WANG began violin studies with his mother at age 10 and turned to the viola six years later. He was principal violist with the Nankung Opera until he entered the Shanghai Conservatory in 1981 as a student of Xi-Di Shen. Upon graduating from the Conservatory, he was appointed assistant professor of viola there. He received his master's degree from Northern Illinois University, where he studied with Richard Young. He has been a guest artist with the Juilliard String Quartet at the Library of Congress.

A native of Ann Arbor, Michigan, JAMES WILSON began cello studies at age 11 and went on to graduate from the University of Michigan, where, as a student of Jeffrey Solow, he was the recipient of the music school's highest honor. He continued his studies with Stephen Kates at the Peabody Institute of Music and was twice selected as a participant in the Piatigorsky Seminar for Cellists. Mr. Wilson has appeared as soloist with the Ann Arbor Symphony and has recorded for Access Records.

Next:

Junior Recital:

Keith Tan, piano

April 1, 1994, 8:15 PM

North Court Recital Hall



UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
FOUNDED 1830