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Richmond Piano Trio

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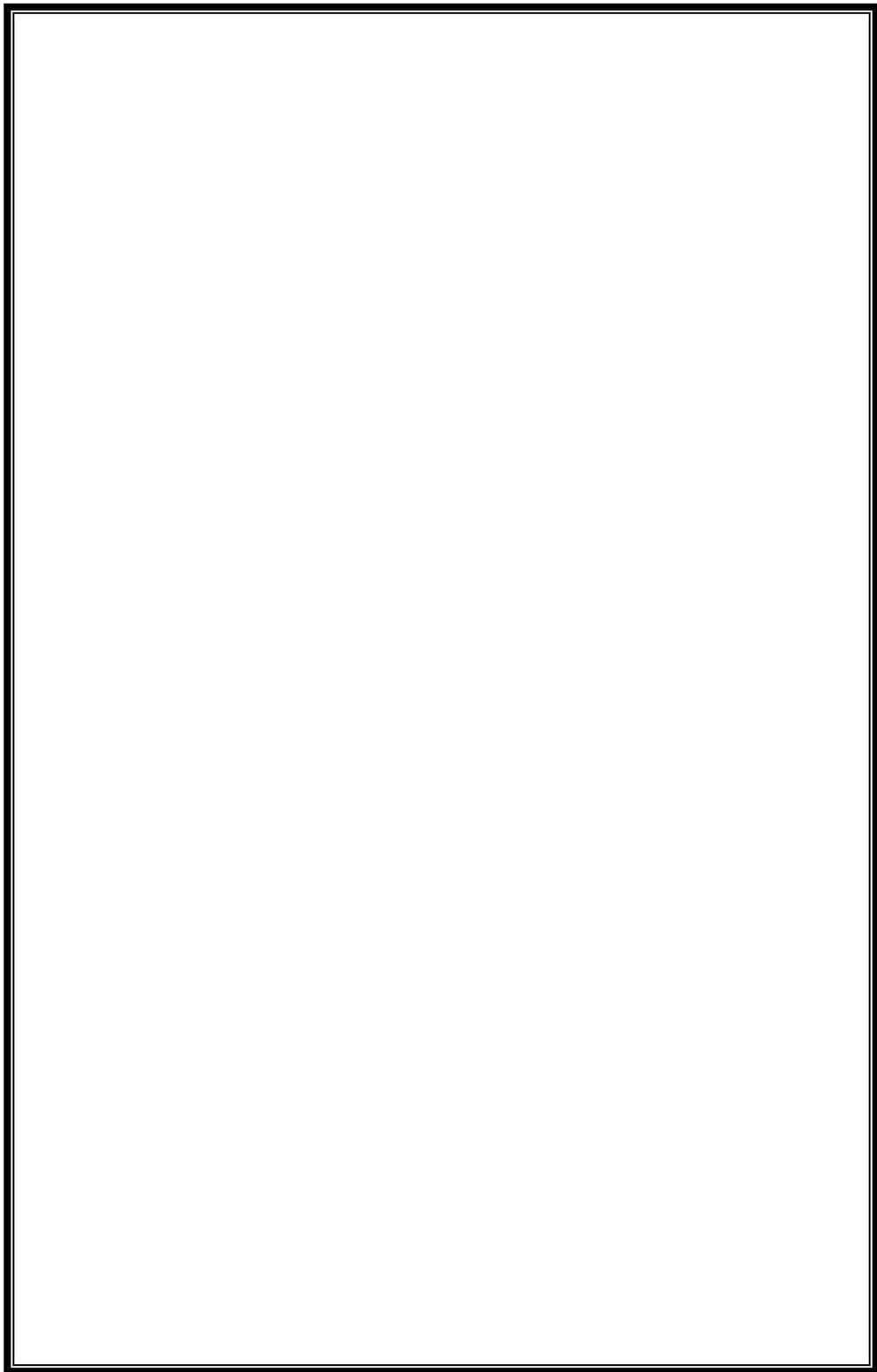
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
Department of Music
2023 – 2024 Concert Series

Richmond Piano Trio
Daisuke Yamamoto, violin
Neal Cary, cello
Joanne Kong, piano

Monday, March 4, 2024
7:30 PM
Perkinson Recital Hall



music.richmond.edu



PROGRAM

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Piano Trio in C Minor <i>Andante con moto</i> | Edvard Grieg (1843 – 1907) |
| Piano Trio in G Major <i>Andantino con moto allegro</i> <i>Scherzo – Intermezzo: Moderato con allegro</i> <i>Andante espressivo</i> <i>Finale: Appassionato</i> | Claude Debussy (1862 – 1918) |

INTERMISSION

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Trio in D Major, op. 70, no. 1 (“Ghost”) <i>Allegro vivace e con brio</i> <i>Largo assai e espressivo</i> <i>Presto</i> | Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827) |
|--|---------------------------------------|

*Please silence cell phones before the concert.
Recording, Taping, Photographing are strictly prohibited.*

THE PERFORMERS

Violinist **Daisuke Yamamoto**, known for exhibiting “immense virtuosity and probing musicianship,” is originally from Marietta, Georgia. Currently the concertmaster of the Richmond Symphony, he was a violin fellow of the New World Symphony. While at New World, he appeared as soloist with the orchestra, performing Bruch’s *Scottish Fantasy*. He was also given the opportunity to collaborate with Jamie Laredo in a performance of Vivaldi’s Concerto for Four Violins. While at New World he was hand-picked by Michael Tilson Thomas to participate in the Thomashefsky Project, an homage to the conductor’s grandparents who were pioneers of American Yiddish Theater. The project was recorded for DVD and aired on PBS’s *Great Performances*. He was also invited to Medellin, Colombia, where he led sectionals and masterclasses, and performed Mozart’s Violin Concerto No. 5 with the Medellin Philharmonic.

An avid orchestral performer, Yamamoto has performed with many orchestras across the US, including the Cleveland Orchestra on numerous occasions both on tour and at home. As a concertmaster, he has led the New World Symphony on several occasions, both at the New World Center and the Adrienne Arsht Center, and has served as concertmaster for the Spokane Symphony, Youngstown Symphony, Blossom Festival Orchestra and the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra. His performances have taken him to many great concert halls throughout the world, including Carnegie Hall, Severance Hall, Benaroya Hall, Suntory Hall, Salzburg Festspielhaus, and the KKL Concert Hall. He has worked under such notable conductors as Michael Tilson Thomas, Franz Welser-Möst, Fabio Luisi, Osmo Vänskä, Nicholas McGegan, Robert Spano, Jeffrey Tate, and David Zinman.

Yamamoto has performed with some of the most distinguished chamber musicians in the world, including Robert McDuffie, Ida Kavafian, Peter Wiley, Steven Tenenbaum, the Jasper Quartet, members of the Cleveland Orchestra, the Tokyo String Quartet, Duo Patterson, and Jerry Wong.

Cellist **Neal Cary** has been a member of the Richmond Chamber Players since 1989, and is now the Artistic Director of that ensemble. He has been principal cellist with the Richmond Symphony since 1988 and has been on the applied music faculty at the College of William and Mary since 1991. In 1984 he joined the faculty of the Eastern Music Festival in Greensboro, North Carolina, and has served as principal cellist since 1988. He has also served as principal cellist of the Williamsburg Symphonia since 2002. In August of 2012, Cary joined the All-Star Orchestra, an orchestra comprised of some of the finest musicians in the United States. This orchestra has performed more than 40 orchestra concerts on PBS, and can also be heard online.

Prior to joining the Richmond Symphony, Cary was co-principal cellist of the Kansas City Philharmonic and assistant principal cellist of the Tulsa Philharmonic, the San Antonio Symphony, and the Denver Symphony orchestras. From 1994-98 he was on the adjunct faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University. While a student at Juilliard, he was a chamber music teaching assistant to Earl Carlyss and Claus Adam in 1980-81. While a student at Meadowmount during the summers of 1980 and 1981, he was a chamber music teaching assistant to Joseph Gingold. Neal Cary's major teachers have included Pat Ficarra, Robert Newkirk, Channing Robbins, and the world-renowned Leonard Rose. Cary holds a M.M. degree from The Juilliard School.

Cary's notable recital appearances in the Richmond area include performances from memory of the 40 Popper Études and all the Bach Suites for Solo Cello. Cary has completed a performance edition of the Popper Études and is working on a companion book which explains how to practice them. He has also completed an unpublished edition of the Bach Suites for Solo Cello, based on the three surviving copies from Bach's manuscript. Concerto performances include nearly 50 performances of most of the major cello concertos, unusual works, and a world premiere with orchestras on the East Coast.

YouTube videos of Cary include a live performance of Elgar's Cello Concerto, a performance of Saint-Saëns's Concerto No. 2, a video lesson on the Saint-Saëns, Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations*, performances of Celtic tunes, Vivaldi concertos, and his arrangement for cello orchestra of the Sarabande from Bach's Sixth Suite for solo cello.

Pianist **Joanne Kong** captures the attention of audiences in compelling performances that celebrate the vibrancy and eloquence of musical expression. Embracing a broad range of repertoire from Baroque to contemporary music, her performances have been praised for "great finesse and flexibility" (*The Washington Post*), "superb" playing (*The Boston Globe*), "utmost keyboard sensitivity and variety of tone" (*Richmond Times-Dispatch*), "remarkable technical ability" (*The Oregonian*), and "superb artistry" (*San Antonio Express-News*) for works "sensitively played" (*The New York Times*). Her versatility includes the distinction of being the first artist to release a harpsichord-piano recording of the Bach *Goldberg* and Beethoven *Diabelli Variations*, on the BRIOSO label. In 2007, she gave the World Premiere of Pulitzer Prize – winning composer Michael Colgrass's *Side by Side*,

the first concerto to be written that features a soloist in a dual role as both pianist and harpsichordist. The work was performed by the Richmond Symphony, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and Toronto's Esprit Orchestra.

Kong has performed to critical acclaim at numerous venues, including the Los Angeles and Oregon Bach Festivals; Memphis Chamber Music Society; San Antonio Festival; Los Angeles Monday Evening Concert Series; Virginia Waterfront International Festival of the Arts; the Royal Netherlands Embassy; National Gallery of Art Concert Series in Washington, DC; Strathmore Hall's "Music in the Mansion" series; Columbia University; Harvard University; the **Conservatorio Dall'Abaco in Verona, Italy; the Melk Abbey Summer Concert Series and Baden's Haus der Kunst in Austria;** and the International Festival of Orchestras and Youth in Cartagena, Colombia. In 2015, under the auspices of the Partners of the Americas, she travelled to Brazil for a ten-day performing and teaching tour, and she toured throughout India in 2018 as a guest teacher and concert artist. A gifted collaborator, she has performed with numerous artists, including the Shanghai String Quartet; Eugenia Zukerman; cellists James Wilson, Ronald Crutcher, and Christoph Wagner; violinist Karen Johnson; and four-time Grammy Award-winning ensemble Eighth Blackbird. She is in frequent demand as a keyboard, vocal, and chamber coach, and has been guest teacher at New York University, New England Conservatory of Music, Yale University, and Rice University, among others. Dr. Kong is currently the director of the accompanying and chamber music programs at the University of Richmond.

Website: www.joannekongmusic.com

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