

MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS PRESS RELEASE

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MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS ANNOUNCE 2017/18 SEASON

DURHAM, N.C. – Entering into its 34th concert season, Durham-based Mallarmé Chamber Players brings an exciting line-up to Triangle area music lovers in 2017/18. Presenting a series of five concerts that cover an eclectic range of styles from world-renown classics to newly commissioned pieces, this season delivers on substance, entertainment and diversity.

A truly local performing arts experience, **Mallarmé Chamber Players** prides itself on sourcing most of its performers from North Carolina. Artistic Director Suzanne Rousso says “We have an artist roster this season that is one of the best showcases of the exceptional musical talent that the state has to offer.”

Kicking off the 2017/18 Season is a concert entitled **PEACE, WAR AND PEACE**, a thoughtful program that showcases Russian music from over the span of 93 years, following the dramatic rise and fall of communism. Featuring pieces by Taneyev, Shostakovich, Sofia Gubaidulina and Shchedrin. Presented on **Sunday, September 10, 2017** at 3:00 pm as one of the Mallarmé intimate house concerts at a location in Chapel Hill. Concert performers to include: Elizabeth Phelps: violin, Suzanne Rousso: viola, Nate Leyland: cello, Jeremy Thompson: piano

The next concert finds its inspiration from *Violins of Hope* by author James Grymes, a novel that tells the remarkable stories of violins played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust, and the Israeli violin-maker who brings these inspirational instruments back to life. A moving concert program that features Schoenberg’s *Verklarte Nacht*, a Mallarmé commissioned work by David Kirkland Garner and special guest vocal group SONAM (lead by Allan Friedman). Other short works by Hans Krasa and Gideon Klein, both composers who perished in the holocaust, will be heard. **VIOLINS OF HOPE** will be presented on **Thursday, November 9, 2017** at 7:30 pm at the Judea Reform Temple in Durham. Concert performers to include: Janet Sung: violin, Nicholas DiEugenio: violin, Nate Leyland: cello, Sheila Brown: viola, Suzanne Rousso: viola, Bonnie Thron: cello. *Look for a Mallarmé Book Club meet-up in to discuss Violins of Hope in conjunction with this concert, details TBD.*

COMMISSIONING MOZART explores the art of the commission with a new work from contemporary composer Mark Janello, a pianoforte-harpsichord duo by Anne Louise Brillon de Jouy, a Boccherini violin sonata (dedicated to Madam Brillon de Jouy), all performed on historic instruments. The program also features the G Minor Piano Quartet by Mozart and music by the commissioner of this work, Franz Hoffmeister, and marks the kick-off of the North Carolina HIP Music Festival. Takes place on Sunday, February 4, 2018 at 3:00 pm at Duke University’s Baldwin Auditorium in Durham. Concert performers include: Elaine Funaro: harpsichord, Randall Love: pianoforte, Matvey Lapin: violin, Suzanne Rousso: viola, Stephanie Vial: cello.

On Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 3:00 pm at The Arts Center in Carrboro, Mallarmé presents **A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN**. This emotionally rich program of both classical and original

works explores the journey of immigrants coming to America. Featuring special guests the Bird's Eye Trio, a fresh ensemble of three of the brightest young string talents in the field with Jennifer Curtis on violin, Ayane Kozasa on viola and Paul Wiancko on cello.

Closing out the concert season is a truly unique program that invites the audience to feel the energy of Senegal in **KAIRA BA - UNIVERSAL LOVE**. This high-energy musical mash-up combines West African traditional, blues and jazz with the additional of a classical string quartet for an unforgettable live music experience. Performance will be held at Motorco Music Hall in Durham on **Wednesday, May 30, 2018**. Concert performers include: Diali Cissokho: kora, Jonathan Henderson: bass, Jennifer Curtis, Elizabeth Phelps: violin, Austin McCall: drums, Will Ridenour: percussion, John Westmoreland: guitar, Suzanne Rousso: viola.

"No one today is unaffected by changes in attitudes, civility and justice." says Suzanne Rousso, Mallarmé's Artistic Director, "Music is one vehicle that can express feelings about and make us consider these difficult issues. From the holocaust, immigration, racism to oppression, Mallarmé's 34th season presents compelling music by composers that have dealt with the most challenging of circumstances."

SPECIAL EVENT - THE CABINET OF DR CALIGARI

Back by popular demand, audiences will enjoy the screening of the classic German silent film *The Cabinet of Dr Caligari* alongside a live performance of original chamber music as composed by Eric Schwartz. Event takes place at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh on Friday, October 13, 2017 at 8:00 pm. Concert performers include: Andrea Edith Moore: soprano, Suzanne Rousso: viola, Brian Carter: cello, Bo Newsome: oboe, Jacqueline Nappi: piano, Eric Schwartz: composer.

FAMILY CONCERTS

Mallarmé brings back its Family Concert Series this season with three 45 minute, informative and interactive concerts that are fun for family members of all ages. Concert-goers can also enjoy the educational Instrument Zoo and try out classical instruments prior to the performances. All Family Concerts take place at 1:00 pm at Kirby Horton Hall at Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham on Sunday, October 15, 2017, Sunday, February 18, 2018, and Sunday, June 3, 2018. Program information can be found online at mallarmemusic.org. These concerts are sponsored by Mark and Cindy Kuhn.

2018 NC HIP MUSIC FESTIVAL

This annual festival of Historical Informed Performances (HIP) will be presented from February 4-25, 2018 in Durham, North Carolina. Look for exciting performances including the first-time HIP festival orchestra with guest baroque flute and conductor Barthold Kuijken. Full festival schedule, HIPSTER passes and individual tickets to the festival will be available online by December 1, 2017.

TICKETS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

A 2017/18 Season Subscription is just \$105 and includes all five series concerts, plus free admission to all family concerts. All concerts are general admission seating. Subscriptions save over 25% off the single ticket price. Individual tickets for all 2017/18 Season concerts are just \$25 (inclusive of sales tax). Special \$5 tickets are available for children and students at the door with I.D. (not available for house concerts). Tickets for family concerts are \$5 for children and \$10 for adults. All tickets and subscriptions can be purchased on the web at

www.mallarmemusic.org, by phone at 919.560.2788, or at the door 30 minutes in advance of the concert.

2017/18 CONCERT LIST

PEACE, WAR AND PEACE

Sunday, September 10, 2017 / 3:00 pm / House Concert / Chapel Hill

VIOLINS OF HOPE

Thursday, November 9, 2017 / 7:30 pm / Judea Reform Temple / 1933 W Cornwallis Rd, Durham

COMMISSIONING MOZART

Sunday, February 4, 2018 / 3:00 pm / Baldwin Auditorium / 1336 Campus Drive, Duke University, Durham

A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN

Sunday, April 8, 2018 / 3:00 pm / The Arts Center / 300-G E Main St, Carrboro

KAIRA BA - UNIVERSAL LOVE

Wednesday, May 30, 2018 / Motorco Music Hall / 723 Rigsbee Ave, Durham

Special Event – THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI

Friday, October 13, 2017 / 8:00 pm / North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh

ABOUT MALLARMÉ CHAMBER PLAYERS

The Mallarmé Chamber Players are a flexible ensemble of professional musicians based in Durham, North Carolina, whose mission is to enrich the lives of their community through outstanding chamber music. The ensemble distinguishes itself by its innovative educational programs, its commitment to creative collaboration with other organizations, its creation of significant new work, and its dedication to serve a diverse population.

Mallarmé annually presents a series of concerts that features great, diverse, and multidisciplinary chamber music. Mallarmé performs everything from Bach with period instruments to commission and performing brand new works. In 2010, Mallarmé released, to great acclaim, a cd on Albany/Videmus records of chamber music by African American composers.

Mallarmé is unique in that we do not work with a small core of musicians, but instead use the wonderful musical talent North Carolina has to offer to perform with the ensemble depending on the needs of the repertoire. Most of Mallarmé's musicians are members of professional organizations like the NC Symphony, free-lance players or faculty members of the numerous institutions of higher learning.

Mallarmé is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c) 3 organization. The 2017/18 concert season is made possible in part by grants from the Durham Arts Council's Annual Arts Fund and the North Carolina Arts Council.

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