

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

MCINTIRE DEPARTMENT of

music 

presents

Dome Room Faculty Concert

featuring

Faculty from the University of Pécs
& the University of Virginia

Saturday, April 22, 2023

1:00 pm

University of Virginia

Program

Oboe Quartet in F Major, K.370

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

I. *Allegro*

II. *Adagio*

III. *Rondeau. Allegro*

Kelly Peral, *oboe*
Zoltán Bánfalvi, *violin*
Máté Szücs, *viola*
Adam Carter, *cello*

Serenade in C Major, Op.10

Ernő Dohnányi
(1877-1960)

I. *Marcia*

II. *Romanza*

III. *Scherzo*

IV. *tema con variazioni*

V. *Rondo*

Zoltán Bánfalvi, *violin*
Máté Szücs, *viola*
László Pólus, *cello*

~Intermission~

Mendelssohn String Quintet
No. 2 in E-Flat Major, Op.87

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

- I. *Allegro vivace*
- II. *Andante scherzando*
- III. *Adagio e lento*
- IV. *Allegro molto vivace*

Daniel Sender, *violin*
Zoltán Bánfalvi, *violin*
Máté Szücs, *viola*
Ayn Balija, *viola*
László Pólus, *cello*

About the Performers

Violist **Máté Szücs** has had a career as an award-winning soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player.

Máté was principal viola in the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra from 2011 to 2018 where he also appeared as a soloist playing the Bartók Viola Concerto in September 2017. As a chamber musician, Máté has been a member of various chamber ensembles, including the Mendelssohn ensemble, Con Spirito piano quartet, Trio Dor, Enigma Ensemble, and “Fragments” ensemble. He has worked with prominent musicians such as Janine Jansen, Frank-Peter Zimmermann, Christian Tetzlaff, Vadim Repin, Ilja Gringolts, Vladimir Mendelssohn, László Fenyő, Kristof Baráti, and István Várdai, Camille Thomas, Kirill Troussov, and Julien Quentin.

In addition to performing solo with the Berlin Philharmonic, he has soloed with orchestras such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of Flanders, the “Bamberger Symphoniker”, the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden”, the Frankfurt Radio Orchestra, and at the “Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen,” where also served as principal viola.

Máté is also a renowned pedagogue. Since the summer of 2006, he has been a regular professor at the “Thy Masterclass” chamber music summer festival in Denmark, and between 2012 and 2014 was also teaching at the Britten-Pears Festival in Aldeburgh, England. He has served on the faculties of the University of Music in Saarbrücken, Karajan Academy of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, the “Hanns Eisler” University of Music in Berlin, Liszt Academy in Budapest, the University of Pécs’ Institute of Music, and Geneva University of Music in Switzerland.

László Pólus (cello) is the principal cellist of the Hungarian State Opera and a member of the performance faculty of the University of Pécs’ Institute of Music and Fine Arts. A graduate of the Franz Liszt Academy of Music and the Basel Academy of Music, Mr. Pólus was the 1st Prize Winner of the Popper Competition, the Hungarian Radio Competition, and the National Cello Competition. He was formerly a member of the Hungarian Radio Symphony, the National Symphony of Hungary, and the Budapest Wiener-Szász Chamber Orchestra.

Mr. Pólus is also the cellist of the Somogyi String Quartet, a group which maintains an active performance schedule through Hungary and abroad. His recordings have been released on the Hungaraton and BMC record labels. Mr. Pólus has been an active participant in the artistic exchange with UVA since 2018.

Zoltán Bánfalvi (violin) received his initial training from his father, Béla Bánfalvi, before matriculating to the Liszt Academy as a student of Dénes Kovács. Dr. Bánfalvi is a member of the Budapest Sextet, Hungarian Chamber Orchestra and is the current concertmaster of the Pannon Philharmonic based in Pécs, Hungary. He has appeared as a soloist throughout central Europe, has released several recordings under the Hungaraton label, and is on the faculty of the University of Pécs' Institute of Music.

Cellist **Adam Carter** maintains an active career as a recitalist, chamber and orchestral musician, and teacher. Recent engagements include recitals and chamber music performances at UNC-Chapel Hill, Wake Forest University, the University of Virginia, Randolph College, Bridgewater College, and Hampden-Sydney College.

Dr. Carter is currently the principal cellist of the Charlottesville Symphony and has performed with the Richmond Symphony, Madison Symphony, Winston-Salem Symphony, Erie Philharmonic, and Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra.

A top prizewinner at the 1998 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, Dr. Carter continues to enjoy a rich and diverse career playing chamber music. As a teacher, Dr. Carter is on the faculty at the University of Virginia as an Associate Professor of Cello. Prior to his appointment at UVA, he was adjunct professor of cello and bass at Ripon College in Wisconsin. Dr. Carter grew up in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and attended high school at the North Carolina School of the Arts. He received his Bachelors degree and Masters degree with distinction from the Eastman School of Music, and completed his Doctoral degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His principal teachers include Steven Doane, Rosemary Elliot, Robert Marsh, and Uri Vardi.

Associate Professor of Viola at the University of Virginia, **Ayn Balija** leads a musically rich life through performance and instruction. Maintaining a studio and coaching chamber music, she serves as the Principal Violist of the Charlottesville Symphony at the University of the Virginia and violist of the Rivanna String Quartet.

As a professional violist, Dr. Balija performs solo, chamber, and orchestral works around the country. She soloed with the Charlottesville Symphony and Faculty Orchestra of the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts. She regularly performs with the Richmond Symphony, Williamsburg Symphony, and Roanoke Symphony and collaborates for chamber music with the Tennessee Governors School for the Arts and Yachats Music Festival. As a supporter and performer of new music, she was part of a consortium for Fernghetti, by Libby Larsen, commissioned and premiered Jorge Variego's *Enviaolo* for viola and piano, as well as performed and recorded numerous orchestral premieres.

Dr. Balija created Violapalooza, an annual, all-violin day, featuring guest violin artists, including Kim Kashkashian, George Taylor, and Paul Neubauer. In addition to giving masterclasses and recitals, Dr. Balija presented at the American String Teachers Association, American Viola Society's Viola Festival, International Viola Society's 44th Congress in Wellington, New Zealand, and published on the American Viola Society's Teacher's Toolbox page. Dr. Balija has performed and taught over the summer at Tennessee Governors School for the Arts (TN), Yachats Summer Music Festival (OR), North Carolina Chamber Music Festival (NC), Charlottesville Opera (VA), Staunton Music Festival (VA), Beyond the Notes (VA), and the Belvoir Camp for Girls (MA).

Ayn Balija holds a Bachelor of Music from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Masters of Music from The Cleveland Institute of Music, and Doctorate of Musical Arts from James Madison University. Her principal mentors have been Peter Slowik, Jeffrey Irvine, and Karen Tuttle. When not studying music she can be found in her kitchen or garden.

Kelly Peterson Peral is University of Virginia's Lecturer in Oboe and Principal Oboe with the Charlottesville Symphony. Peral's performance background includes extensive engagements with New York's Metropolitan Opera, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, New York City Ballet, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, numerous Broadway shows, Palm Beach Opera, Palm Beach Chamber Music Festival, The Florida Orchestra, New World Symphony, and Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, among others. Most recently she has enjoyed engagements with Roanoke Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Williamsburg Symphony, and Norfolk's Virginia Symphony.

An enthusiastic educator, Ms. Peral has served on the faculties of The Juilliard School Pre-College Division, Miami's New World School of the Arts and Florida International University, as well as the Cleveland Music School Settlement. She had the honor of teaching at the 2016 John Mack Oboe Camp in Little Switzerland, NC, a tremendous opportunity to continue sharing John Mack's legacy with more than fifty oboists from throughout the United States and Canada.

Having grown up in Central Virginia, Ms. Peral is grateful for her early musical training in Charlottesville with Yvaine Duisit (piano) and David Goza (oboe). Her first orchestral experience was as a member of the Charlottesville Youth Orchestra YOCVA. Ms. Peral finished high school at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, after which she made her solo debut at the John F. Kennedy Center Concert Hall as a 1987 NFAA Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Ms. Peral holds degrees in music performance from The Juilliard School (MM) and the Cleveland Institute of Music (BM). Her major teachers include Elaine Douvas, John Mack, and Daniel Stolper.

Ms. Peral currently lives in Orange, her hometown, with her daughter Sydney. She also enjoys gardening, exploring local farms, tap dancing, great books, and her entertaining cat and chickens. She is proud to see her parents still performing with the Orange Community Band, which they helped establish in 1978.

Violinist **Daniel Sender** has gained an international reputation as a performer, educator, and scholar. Recent concert tours in Europe have been met with high praise, and Dr. Sender is increasingly in demand in both the classroom and the concert stage. A frequent guest soloist and principal artist with chamber and symphony orchestras throughout the region, Dr. Sender currently serves as concertmaster of the Charlottesville Symphony and Charlottesville Opera. Since 2017, he has also been a festival artist with the Wintergreen Festival Orchestra.

Dr. Sender was selected as a Fulbright U.S. Scholar for the 2021-22 Academic Year, during which time he taught and performed at the prestigious Liszt Academy (Budapest) and the University of Pécs. Dr. Sender was also previously awarded a Fulbright Student Scholar grant for his research in Budapest (2010-11), and attended the Liszt Academy as a student of Vilmos Szabadi. He was formerly the first violinist of the Adelphi String Quartet, which held a fellowship residency at the University of Maryland, and was for four years the violinist of the Annapolis Chamber Players. Dr. Sender has recorded for Centaur, Sono Luminus, Bifrost, and other independent labels.

Dr. Sender's scholarship focuses on the intersection of folk music and art music in Hungary. With written and composed works, including the article, "Bartók's Rhapsodies: A Violinist's Guide to Building an Authentic Interpretation" (American String Teacher), Dr. Sender has been making progress in bridging the gap between scholarship and performance relating to the music of central Europe. Recent compositions include *Roma Folk Dances: Village Tunes of the Hungarian Roma* (2019), *Scenes from Csenyété* (2020), *Three Souvenirs* (2021), *The Last Invocation* for SATB Chorus and Soprano (2022), and *Mosaic* for Children's Chorus (2023).

A native of Philadelphia, Dr. Sender attended Ithaca College, the University of Maryland, the Liszt Academy (Budapest), and IES Vienna (Austria). His primary teachers include Vilmos Szabadi, Arnold Steinhardt, David Salness, René Staar, and Gerald Fischbach. He is on the performance faculty of the University of Virginia's Department of Music and also holds a faculty position at Interlochen's Adult Chamber Music Camp.

Special Thanks To:

We are tremendously grateful for our dear friends Rosalyn and David Preston, who served as housing hosts par excellence for our Hungarian guests this week, and for Mary and Stewart Searle, who hosted a quintessentially Searle-esque reception to kick off the residency week. These cherished friends have been steadfast champions of our endeavors, and this week simply would not have been possible without them.

We are also deeply indebted to the Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation, who were instrumental in launching this partnership in 2018-19. The generous support of trustees Melissa Young and Joe Erdmann buoyed this effort through its nascent years, and we continue to be bolstered by their interest in our program's successful future.

Thanks to the Department of Music and all the students, interns, and volunteers who made this performance possible.



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