

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

ALEXANDER KOBRIN, PIANO YOOJIN JANG, VIOLIN GUY JOHNSTON, CELLO

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Kilbourn Hall

7:30 PM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Piano Trio No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 101

Allegro energico
Presto non assai
Andante grazioso
Allegro molto

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

SHORT PAUSE

Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major, Op. 8

Allegro con brio
Scherzo: Allegro molto
Adagio
Finale: Allegro

Johannes Brahms

Alexander Kobrin, piano
YooJin Jang, violin
Guy Johnston, cello

MEET THE ARTISTS

One of the most exciting and versatile British cellists of his generation, **Guy Johnston** was born into a musical family and joined his brothers in the world-renowned choir of King's College, Cambridge, where he recorded the famous carol, "Once in Royal David's City" under Stephen Cleobury. He went on to achieve important early successes through the BBC Young Musician of the Year title, the Guilhemina Suggia Gift, the Shell London Symphony Orchestra Gerald MacDonald Award, and receiving a Classical Brit Award at the Royal Albert Hall. His mentors have included Steven Doane, Ralph Kirshbaum, Bernard Greenhouse, Steven Isserlis and David Waterman.



He has made many important debuts including the First Night of the BBC Proms playing the Elgar Concerto with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin, the Brahms Double Concerto in the Philharmonie with the DSO Berlin under Juraj Valchua, Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations with the St. Petersburg State Capella Orchestra under Dmitriev in St. Petersburg, the Elgar Concerto with the Osaka Philharmonic under Tadaaki Otaka in Tokyo, and the Schumann Concerto with the English Chamber Orchestra under Tilbrook. Among past highlights with leading orchestras in the UK are Strauss's *Don Quixote* with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain under Yan Pascal Tortelier, the Walton Concerto with the BBC Philharmonic under Tortelier, the Dvorak Concerto with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Seal, Britten's Cello Symphony with the Royal Northern Sinfonia under Robin Ticciati, and Shostakovich Concerto No. 2 with the RTE National Orchestra under Vladimir Altschuler in Dublin.

Guy plays a 1714 David Tecchler cello, generously on loan from the Godlee-Tecchler Trust which is administered by The Royal Society of Musicians. He has recently commissioned and recorded a number of short new works to celebrate its tricentenary by composers including Charlotte Bray, David Matthews, and Mark Simpson. The CD also includes a performance with the acclaimed Accademia di Santa Cecilia recorded in Rome where the Cello was made.

MEET THE ARTISTS

Applauded by *The Strad* for her “fiery virtuosity” and “consummate performances,” violinist **YooJin Jang** is a winner of the 2017 Concert Artists Guild Competition and First Prize winner of the 2016 Sendai International Music Competition. These successes have resulted in a busy itinerary of international recital and concerto engagements as well as the release of two new recordings. The dynamic young talent has been lauded by the *Boston Musical Intelligencer* as “a performer without fear or technical limitation.”



Her recent concerto performances include appearances with the symphony orchestras of Chautauqua, Dubuque, and Roswell. In recital, highlights include YooJin’s recent Carnegie Hall debut and concerts at Jordan Hall and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston and the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert series in Chicago. A passionate chamber musician, YooJin has performed with Caramoor’s Rising Stars and toured with Musicians from Ravinia’s Steans Music Institute and Musicians From Marlboro.

Internationally, YooJin has performed with the KBS Symphony Orchestra and Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as with the Budapest Festival Orchestra led by Ivan Fischer, the Bulgaria National Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and Spain’s Extremadura Orchestra. She has also given recitals in Japan at Sendai, Nagoya, and at Hamarikyū Asahi Hall in Tokyo.

In 2017, YooJin released two albums: live performances of the Mendelssohn and Stravinsky Violin Concertos with the Sendai Philharmonic Orchestra and Junichi Hirokami and a recital disc featuring music of Mendelssohn, Stravinsky, Grieg, and Sibelius with pianist Kae Ozawa. Her first album, *Korean Young Musicians*, was released on the KBS (Korean Broadcast System) label, in cooperation with Aulos media & KBS Classic FM. She is also regularly heard on the radio, including a recent appearance on WQXR’s McGraw Hill Young Artists Showcase.

YooJin’s latest victories at CAG and Sendai continue a long line of international competition success. In 2013, she won Japan’s 4th International Munetsugu Violin Competition, which included the loan of the 1697 ‘Rainville’ Stradivari violin.

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She was also a top prize winner at the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, the Michael Hill International Violin Competition (including the Audience Prize and Best Performance of the New Zealand Commission Work), and the Yehudi Menuhin Competition.

YooJin is a co-founder of The Kallaci String Quartet, which made its international debut at the Kumho Art Hall in Seoul, Korea and the Seoul Spring Festival of Chamber Music. Recognized for her creative work in chamber music, she won the 2011 Borromeo String Quartet Guest Artist Award, and in 2009 she was awarded the Schloss Weikersheim Scholarship as part of the London String Quartet Competition. YooJin has also participated in the Marlboro and Ravinia Festivals, where she worked with artists such as Menahem Pressler, Dénes Várjon, and Peter Wiley.

YooJin holds a Bachelor of Music from The Korean National University of Arts, where she studied under Nam Yun Kim. She also earned a Master of Music, Graduate Diploma, Artist Diploma, and Doctor of Musical Arts from New England Conservatory, as a student of Miriam Fried. Since 2020 she has been an Assistant Professor of Violin on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music.

In the 2019-2020 season **Alexander Kobrin** made his Carnegie Hall debut as well as concluded his Complete Beethoven Piano Sonatas project for WETA radio in Washington DC. His new Schubert and Hindemith CDs were released in 2019 on Centaur and Quartz labels.



In 2005, Mr. Kobrin was awarded the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Gold Medal at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Fort Worth, TX. His numerous successes in competitions also include top prizes at the Busoni International Piano Competition (First Prize), Hamamatsu International Piano Competition (Top Prize), Scottish International Piano Competition in Glasgow (First Prize).

Mr. Kobrin has performed with many of the world's great orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Russian National Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Verdi,

MEET THE ARTISTS

Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Moscow Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, Berliner Symphony, Swedish Radio Symphony, Birmingham Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He has collaborated with renowned conductors as Mikhail Pletnev, Mikhail Jurovsky, Sir Mark Elder, Vassiliy Sinaisky, James Conlon, Claus Peter Flor, Alexander Lazarev, Vassiliy Petrenko, Yuri Bashmet and many others.

He has appeared in recital at major halls worldwide, including the Avery Fisher Hall in New York, the Kennedy Centre in Washington, Albert Hall and Wigmore Hall in London, Louvre Auditorium, Salle Gaveau and Salle Cortot in Paris, Munich Herkulesaal and Berliner Filarmonia Hall in Germany, the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire, Sheung Wan Civic Centre in Hong Kong, as well as Sala Verdi in Milan and many others. Other performances have included appearances at La Roque d'Anthéron, the Ravinia Festival, Ruhr Klavier Festival, the Beethoven, Busoni, Chautauqua and International Keyboard festival in NYC. Annual concert tours include performances and masterclasses in major conservatories in Asia, Europe and USA.

Before joining Eastman School of Music Alexander Kobrin was on the faculty of Gnessins State Academy of Music in Moscow, Schwob School of Music in Columbus, GA and in New York University. Mr. Kobrin regularly serves in the jury of international piano competitions, including Busoni, Hamamatsu, Rosalyn Tureck, Neuhaus and others.

Mr. Kobrin has released recordings on the Harmonia Mundi, Quartz, and Centaur labels, covering a wide swath of the piano literature to critical acclaim including “critic’s choice” awards in Gramophone and Fanfare magazines.

Mr. Kobrin was born in 1980 in Moscow, Russia. He is a graduate of Gnessins Special Music School and Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory of professors Tatiana Zelikman and Lev Naumov studios.

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the “Great Hill People” and “Keepers of the Western Door” of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.

UPCOMING EASTMAN SERIES CONCERTS

Tickets for all series concerts can be purchased at EastmanTheatre.org

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Clay Jenkins, jazz trumpet

Hatch Recital Hall

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 7:30 PM

KILBOURN CONCERT SERIES

Third Coast Percussion

Kilbourn Hall

Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 7:30 PM

A Grammy winning Quartet of classically trained percussionists founded in 2005, Third Coast Percussion has performed hundreds of concerts across the country, presents an annual concert season at home in Chicago, teaches musicians of all ages and experience levels, and has commissioned dozens of new works by composers including Glenn Kotche, Chris Cerrone, Donnacha Dennehy, Timo Andres, David T. Little, Ted Hearne, and Augusta Read Thomas.

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

Alexander Kobrin, piano

Hatch Recital Hall

Friday, December 1, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Over the course of eight concerts, Professor Kobrin will present all 32 of Beethoven's piano sonatas throughout the 2023-24 academic year. Kobrin will perform on a Shigeru Kawai piano, generously on loan to Eastman for this concert series.

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Trombone Choir

Kilbourn Hall

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 7:30 PM

Mbira Ensemble

Ray Wright Room

Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 2:30 PM



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