

Still Time to Subscribe

Subscriptions for the upcoming 66th season have been rolling in all summer, but if you haven't yet gotten your subscription orders in, you still can do so.

Most people have been taking advantage of the traditional subscription, which, at \$140 each, admits each concert goer to six concerts for the price of four \$35 single tickets. We also offer a "mini-subscription," whereby you purchase three tickets for \$90 (a lesser discount) that can be used as you wish, e.g. all three for one concert (bring a couple of friends), one ticket for three different concerts (enjoy the music on your own), or any other combination.

Whatever you choose, send your orders now to Friends of Music Concerts, Inc., P.O. Box 675, Millwood, NY 10546, or subscribe on line via our website, www.friendsofmusicconcerts.org. Subscriptions also can be purchased at the ticket table at our first concert on October 12.

While you're at it, bring students with you. If they are **ages 18 or under**, they will be admitted **free of charge**, as they have been for several years. Additionally, **college students** with appropriate i.d.s **can pay, at the door, just \$15** per concert. This is all part of our effort to enhance students' musical experiences and build audiences of the future. You can help us spread the word.

If you have any questions about ticket availability, please call 914-861-5080 and leave a message. Your call will be returned promptly. 🎵



The Emerson String Quartet Launches Our 66th Season

We welcome the return of this excellent ensemble, which the description "world renowned" fits to a tee, as they have performed in nearly every country on every continent. The New York Times has called their performances "technically resourceful, musically insightful, cohesive, full of character, and always interesting," while The Washington Post has lauded their "easy virtuosity, precise sense of ensemble, rhythmic vigor, and rich polished tone."

On **Saturday, October 12 at 8 pm** in the Kusel Auditorium of Sleepy Hollow High School, in Sleepy Hollow, NY, their program for us will include

Mozart's String Quartet in D Major, K. 575

Dvořák's String Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 51

Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 5 in B-flat Major, Op. 92.

Comprised of violinists Eugene Drucker and Philip Setzer, violist Lawrence Dutton, and cellist Paul Watkins, the Emerson has maintained its stature as one of the world's foremost chamber ensembles for more than 40 years. Its awards have included nine Grammys (including two for Best Classical Album), three Gramophone Awards, the Avery Fisher Prize, and Musical America's "Ensemble of the Year". The group frequently collaborates with some of today's most esteemed composers to premiere new works, and has partnered in performance with stellar soloists including René Fleming, Barbara Hannigan, Evgeny Kissin, Emanuel Ax, and Yefim Bronfman. It is Quartet-in-Residence at Stony Brook University in New York.

This fall they have spent a good part of September touring Australia. They will come to us from concerts in Serbia, Austria, and Switzerland, and will go on to performances in Massachusetts, Stony Brook, New York City, Michigan, and Ohio. 🎵

Award-winning Young Cellist Makes Our Series Debut



Zlatomir Fung, who in March 2019 was awarded First Prize and the Gold Medal at Russia's prestigious XVI International Tchaikovsky Competition, will perform with us on Saturday, October 26, at 8 pm in the Kusel Auditorium of Sleepy Hollow High School in Sleepy Hollow, NY. His piano collaborator will be Richard Fu. His interesting program will include

Domenico Gabrielli's Cello
Sonata No. 1 in G Major

Nicolay Mayaskovsky's Cello
Sonata No. 2, Op. 81

Elliot Carter's Figment No. 1

Gabriel Fauré's Romance for
Cello and Piano, Op. 69

The premiere of an as-yet-untitled
work by Marshall Estrin

Ludwig van Beethoven's Cello
Sonata No. 3 in A Major, Op. 69

Zlatomir Fung is the 10th recipient of our Performance Award, which is given to a winner of

the Young Concert Artists International Auditions held in New York City. Born in the United States in 1999 of Bulgarian-Chinese heritage, he currently studies with Richard Aaron and Timothy Eddy at The Julliard School. He made recital debuts earlier this year in New York and Washington, DC. He also has won First Prizes at the Schoenfeld International String Competition, George Enescu International Cello Competition, Johansen International Competition for Young String Players, Stulberg International String Competition, and Irving Klein International Competition.

His appearances as soloist with orchestras in the United States include the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, Boston Pops, and the Juilliard Orchestra conducted by Itzhak Perlman. He has performed abroad with the George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra in Bucharest and Lausanne Sinfonietta in Switzerland. At the International Tchaikovsky Competition he performed Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations and Shostakovich's Concerto No. 2 with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra. 🎵

Announcing the George Raymond Legacy Circle

If you would like to ensure that our unique presentation to Westchester audiences of world-class chamber ensembles and recital soloists at affordable prices continues well into the future, you can become a member of the George Raymond Legacy Circle. Named after our founding president, it recognizes individuals who have indicated their intent to include Friends of Music Concerts in their estate planning, as well as some from whom such gifts already have been received. Such

planned giving is a wonderful way to establish a legacy for Friends of Music, thus making a lasting impact not only on the organization but also on the musical life of the county.

We urge you to discuss this with your attorney or financial advisor. After you officially notify us of your intent, giving us particular information about your intended gift as well as your legal contacts, your name will be included among those that will appear on our concert programs as Legacy Circle members. 🎵



Your School District Can Be Among Our Partners in Education

Now is the time to apply for this unique Friends of Music Concerts program. Through it we bring to the winning school district(s), at no cost to them, young professional ensembles who perform and give master classes in one or two-day residencies, usually in the spring semester. The program is intended to supplement the districts' own music programs, and help build future audiences for classical music.

The award-winning young artists we engage bring their talents, personal stories, artistry, creativity, and imagination both to the performances they give and to the workshops they teach during these residencies. They are young and vibrant, and have excellent rapport with the students, who have fun while they learn. Rosella Ranno, the Partnerships in Education chair, has described it as "performance through guided listening and workshops for both small ensembles and large, from elementary school through high school orchestras. Workshops take varied forms, but always include instruction on instrumental technique, musical interpretation,



performance evaluation, and, most interesting lately, improvisation and composition."

We've always tried to have at least two school districts participate in this program, but last year increased monetary contributions from interested donors enabled us to add a third. The three were Harrison, Ossining, and Sleepy Hollow. Application letters will be going out to all Westchester public school districts in early October. The deadline for receipt will be early November. Applications can be made by mail or through our website, www.friendsofmusicconcerts.org. That's also where more information about the program can be found.

Even if you don't have children in the schools, you can help spread the word about the program. Contact your Board of Education, a school principal, or a music department head. And if you'd like to hear one of the ensembles that has been a very popular participant in this program, be sure to go to our March 28, 2020, concert by the PUBLIQuartet. 🎵

Volunteer Opportunities With Friends of Music

Who are the volunteers who run what one of our artists has called this “legendary series”? Some of us are musicians (a pianist, a cellist, a double bassist) but some of us are not. For instance, currently on the Board are a computer research scientist, a former public information officer/writer, a chemist, and a physicist. They all have in common their love of music and their willingness to work collaboratively in order to keep this unique chamber music series in the forefront of the county’s cultural life.

Those volunteers need others to join them, either as Board members with policy-making responsibilities or as equally-valued off-Board associates or committee members. Here are some suggestions for you to consider.

Writers/Editors to help handle our publications, including the subscription flyer (distributed at all spring concerts), the subscription brochure (mailed to an extensive list and distributed in other ways throughout the county), and the two issues (fall and spring) of this newsletter. It’s interesting work, and easy to work into one’s schedule. Actual graphics and printing are

outsourced to outside professionals.

Grants Researchers who can help find new sources of funding and then, with help from our treasurer as needed, apply for them. Currently we receive grants from Westchester County through ArtsWestchester. We also have applied for, and often have received, grants from the New York State Council for the Arts (NYSCA). But our costs each year increase, and such government-sourced grants are sometimes in jeopardy. Hence, the need for new ones.

Arrangements Committee members who can assist in putting on each concert. This can include taking tickets at the door, passing out concert programs, pouring cider at intermission if we lack enough student volunteers, and ordering the flowers that grace our stage.

If these interest you, or you’d like to learn about other opportunities, please contact President Betsy Shaw Weiner at 38 Teatown Road, Croton-on-Hudson, e-mail her at treetops38@aol.com, or call her at 914-391-3164.

We Miss Them

This summer two long-time members of the Friends of Music Concerts Board passed into the great beyond. We will be forever grateful for the differences they had made, to us and to the rest of the community.

William (Bill) Altman had retired from advertising, having run an agency that had specialized in the fine and performing arts. As a member of our Program Committee, he helped us build season rosters that would attract the maximum audience, as we mixed world-renowned artists with up-and-coming ensembles and recitalists, all representing today’s diverse world of chamber music. For our 50th anniversary season he made possible the commissioning of a new work that remains in the chamber music repertoire, Richard Danielpour’s String Quartet No. 5 (In search of “La Vita Nuova”). For several years he also had handled our popular education program, now Partnerships in Education. A 45-year resident of Croton-on-Hudson, he had been active with the Croton Free Library, serving as a member of its Board.

Ray Kaplan was a professor of physics who had taught at Cooper Union, Fordham University, SUNY Maritime College, and most recently at Pace University in Westchester. For many years he, too, was a member of the Program Committee, and for at least 10 years had served as its chairman. In that position he was responsible for the construction of each season, juggling the artists and ensembles that the committee desired with what was actually possible in terms of their schedules and ours. This past season, our 65th, was that last of those he did before his retirement from our Board. He wanted the magnificent Jerusalem Quartet, learned that their tour of the United States from Israel would bring them here in April 2019, and then built the rest of the season around that date. He wholeheartedly embraced our initiative, now in its 11th year, of giving a Performance Award to a winner of the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, which he attended annually. With the assistance of other attending Program Committee members, he selected our 2018 awardee **Zlatomir Fung** (see p. 2).

Members of The Orpheus Chamber Orchestra To Grace Our Stage in November

Famous as an orchestra that performs without a conductor and called “one of the great marvels of the musical world,” the **Orpheus** is sending eight of its instrumentalists to play for us on

Saturday, November 9, 2019, at 8 pm in the Kusel Auditorium of Sleepy Hollow High School, Sleepy Hollow, NY. That night the ensemble will include a clarinet, bassoon, French horn, two violins, a viola, cello, and a double bass. Their program will include

Franz Schubert’s Octet in F Major (1824)

Jean Françaix’s Octet (1972)

Founded in 1972 by a group of like-minded young musicians determined to combine the intimacy and warmth of a chamber ensemble with the richness of an orchestra, Orpheus focuses on presenting a diverse repertoire, and has premiered and commissioned 48 original works. Its more than 70 recordings include the Grammy Award-winning *Shadow Dances: Stravinsky Miniatures* for Deutsche Grammophon as well as others for DG, Sony Classical,

EMI Classics, BMG/RCA Red Seal, Decca, and some under its own label, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra Records.

Orpheus presents an annual concert series in New York City featuring performances at Carnegie Hall and the 92nd Street Y, as well as an intimate Twilight chamber series in the elegant instrument showroom at Tarisio Fine Instruments and Bows in mid-town Manhattan. The orchestra also tours extensively to major national and international venues. This fall, prior to our concert, the group will be in Ottawa and Kingston, Ontario; and in Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Berlin, Hannover, and Bremen, Germany.

Through its program Access Orpheus-NYC, it shares the orchestra’s collaborative music-making process with K-12 public school students from all five boroughs in New York City, scheduling in-class visits, invitations to working rehearsals, Instrument Discovery Days, public master classes, and free tickets for performances at Carnegie Hall. 🎵



P.O. Box 675
Millwood, NY 10546
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

2019 Fall Concerts

Emerson String Quartet
October 12, 2019 – 8 pm

Zlatomir Fung, cello;
Richard Fu, piano
October 26, 2019 – 8 pm

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra
November 9, 2019 – 8 pm

2020 Spring Concerts

PUBLIQuartet
March 28, 2020 – 8 pm

Pacifica Quartet;
Orion Weiss, piano
April 18, 2020 – 8 pm

Han/Setzer/Finckel Trio
May 2, 2020 – 8 pm

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Maximize the Value of Your Annual Gift

Our Partnership in Education program and our excellent concert series don't spring full blown from a conch shell. They need additional financial help each year beyond the price of your subscriptions or single ticket purchases, neither of which even begin to cover the costs of these wonderful programs. As an affiliate and grantee of ArtsWestchester, we are eligible for matching grants from it for all new and increased contributions received this fall; last year we received some such matching funds and would like to do so again.

You can help us meet this matching grant challenge; the deadline for contributions that will be matched is December 16, but don't delay. If you are not already a contributor, please become one now. If you already are, please consider increasing your contribution during this matching grant period. You can do both of these through our website, www.friendsofmusicconcerts.org, or send your contributions to us at P.O. Box 675, Millwood, NY 10514.

Thank you! 

Friends of Music *Notes* is a publication of Friends of Music Concerts, Inc., P.O. Box 675, Millwood, NY 10546, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization. For more information about us and our upcoming concerts, please visit our web site: www.friendsofmusicconcerts.org.

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Pianos by Steinway.