

Early Music America Emerging Artists Showcase

Saturday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m.
Auer Hall

RACHELL ELLEN WONG

Violin

Larghetto and Fugue, Op. 10, No.5 Bartolomeo Campagnoli
(1751-1827)

Sonata No.1 for Violin Solo, CzaR 80 Friedrich Wilhelm Rust
(1739-1796)

I. Grave

II. Fuga

Violin Sonata in G minor, Bg. 5, "Devil's Trill" Giuseppe Tartini
(1692-1770)

I. Larghetto

IV. Andante - Allegro assai

Rachell Ellen Wong is at home both with the modern and the baroque violin. Originally from Seattle, Washington, Wong has soloed with orchestras across the US and abroad. Recent concerts include national tours with Juilliard415, solo performances with the National Symphony Orchestra of Panama, a multiple concert tour with the New Zealand String Quartet, and recitals with world renowned pianists Anton Nel and Byron Schenkman. She was the final Grand Prize winner in the 52nd Sorantin International String Competition. Recent awards include the 2014 Heida Hermanns International Music Competition, and Grand Prize winner at the 2013 International Crescendo Music Awards.

Wong often performs and teaches with Heifetz on Tour, a performing group and residency school program that is part of the Heifetz International Music Institute. She is a proud Kovner Fellow in the Historical Performance program at The Juilliard School. Wong received her Masters of Music on full scholarship as a Jacobs Fellow from Indiana University, where she studied with Mark Kaplan and Stanley Ritchie. She received her Bachelor of Music on full scholarship as a Starling Distinguished Violinist from the University of Texas at Austin, in the studio of Brian Lewis. In her free time, Wong loves to explore her multi-race heritage by studying diverse styles, including the Scottish fiddle. She also loves her bunnies.

ADRIANA RUIZ, soprano
BENJAMIN KATZ, harpsichord

Selections Barbara Strozzi
(1619-1677)

Amor dormiglione, from Op. 2
Che si può fare, from Op. 8
Così non la voglio, from Op. 7
Tradimento, from Op. 7

Adriana Ruiz began her studies in piano at the age of seven and completed her studies in voice and choral conducting at the Cuban Conservatory of Music “Esteban Salas”. Ruiz was part of the distinguished Cuban choir, Orfeon Santiago, directed by the laureate director, Electo Silva. In this ensemble, Ruiz was featured in recordings as a soloist and lead soprano, and participated in tours around Europe and the Caribbean. As the first prize winner of the 2013 French Song Contest held in Havana, Cuba, she performed in several venues in Paris, France. Ruiz has studied with renowned early music soprano Julianne Baird and lutenist and director of Tempesta di Mare, Richard Stone, at the Amherst Early Music Winter Workshop. At Florida International University (FIU), she studied with Vindhya Khare and performed with the Collegium Musicum, most notably in the lead role in John Blow’s *Venus and Adonis*. She has frequently performed with lutenist David Dolata at FIU and in the community on behalf of the Miami Bach Society. In addition to her performances of Renaissance and Baroque music, Ruiz performs Medieval music, while accompanying herself on the Medieval harp.

Benjamin Katz has performed as a harpsichordist since 2001, playing early and contemporary music. He studied harpsichord with Arthur Haas in NYC, with Lisa Crawford and Webb Wiggins at Oberlin Conservatory, and with Peter Sykes at Longy School of Music of Bard College. He has performed as a soloist and with ensembles including A Far Cry (Boston), The Knights (NYC) and Night Music (Philadelphia). He has commissioned new works for harpsichord from composer Steven Long, with pieces premiered at ISSUE Project Room (NYC) in 2005 and 2009. Katz was a recipient of the Frank Huntington Beebe Fund award in 2013-14. He spent the year in London as an Early Career Research Associate at the Institute of Musical Research, University of London, studying partimento manuscripts in the British Library. Recent projects have included a Bach@7 concert with Philadelphia Choral Arts, a presentation on Nicola Porpora’s partimenti at the Stile Galante International Porpora Conference (Amsterdam, NL), and an Alexander Hamilton themed concert presented in collaboration with soprano Julianne Baird and Ed Mauer at Rutgers University (New Brunswick).

COSTANOAN TRIO
Derek Tam, fortepiano
Cynthia Black, violin
Frédéric Rosselet, cello

From Piano Trio in G Major, Op. 1, No. 2 Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)

Adagio—Allegro vivace

From Piano Trio (Sonata) in C Major, Op. 47 Anton Reicha
(1770-1836)

Adagio

From Sonata (Trio) in D Major, Op. 12, No. 4 Luigi Boccherini
(1743-1805)

Allegro molto

Menuetto militare

From Piano Trio in G Major, Op. 1, No. 2 Beethoven

Finale. Presto

The Costanoan Trio takes its name from the Spanish word for the San Francisco Bay Area natives, coined in the second half of the 1700s when Western culture was being brought to the “new coast” while early classical music was being composed on another continent. Based in the San Francisco Bay Area, the members of the Costanoan Trio played together in various period ensembles over the past few years before deciding to join forces to perform music from the Classical era. The group explores the piano trio repertoire of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, with special interests in lesser-known composers and recreating the world of domestic music-making in intimate concert spaces.

Intrigued by the extensive collection of piano trios from the late eighteenth century, the trio originally came together to sight-read some music for fun. Although it became obvious that the bulk of this repertoire is not democratic “chamber music” the way they imagined its counterparts from the string quartet repertoire, ensemble members discovered music they wanted to perform. In addition to continuing to find the gems in the vast repertoire of late 18th-century piano trios, the ensemble hopes to push its historical timeline forward into the 19th century, which holds a wealth of music for their forces, much unknown and rarely performed.