Welcome to the Auditorium Chamber Music Series

The mission of the Auditorium Chamber Music Series is to bring outstanding performances of a wide variety of chamber music to the region and to offer high-quality musical experiences and education.

2022-2023 Season

SPA Trio – October 11, 2021
Cann Duo – November 15, 2021
Telegraph Quartet – January 26, 2022
Akropolis Reed Quintet – April 11, 2022

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SPA Trio
October 11, 2022 at 7:30 PM

Songs from the British Isles:

*It’s a Long Way to Tipperary* (1912)  
Harry Williams (1879-1922)  
arr. Stephen Hough (b. 1961)

*Sing Me to Sleep* (1902)  
Edwin Greene (1856-1915)

*Danny Boy* (1913)  
Frederic Edward Weatherly (1848-1929)  
arr. Stephen Hough

*Roses of Picardy* (1916)  
Haydn Wood (1882-1959)  
arr. Stephen Hough

Romance for viola and piano (1905)  
Benjamin Dale (1885-1943)

Songs from Russia:

*Oh, cease thy singing, Maiden fair*, Op. 4, No. 4 (1892)  
Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

*Das Maiglöckchen* (Lily of the Valley), Op. 38, No. 2 (1894)  
Anton Arensky (1861-1906)

*How fair this spot!*, Op. 21, No. 7 (1902)  
Sergei Rachmaninoff

*Spring Waters*, Op. 14, No. 11 (1894)

**INTERMISSION**
Tell Me Beautiful Maiden (Où voulez-vous aller?) (1839)
  Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Evening Song (1871)

Sing, Smile and Slumber (Quand tu chantes) (1882)

Widmung for Voice and Piano, Op. 25, No. 1 (1840)
  Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Widmung for solo piano, S. 566 (1848)
  Robert Schumann
  arr. Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Songs from Italy:
  Ideale (1882)
  Francesco Paolo Tosti (1846-1916)

La Serenata (1888)

For all Eternity (1891)
  Angelo Mascheroni (1852-1941)

Angel's Serenade (1867)
  Gaetano Braga (1829-1907)

Carmela - Canto Sorrentino (1910)
  Ernesto de Curtis (1875-1927)

Texts & translations available online
SPA Trio

Historic recordings of some of the great singers of yesteryear include numerous performances of salon type songs that included an obbligato instrument. Some of these pairings included Enrico Caruso with Mischa Elman, John McCormack with Fritz Kreisler, Marian Anderson with William Primrose, Alma Gluck with her husband Efrem Zimbalist, as well as Bing Crosby and Jascha Heifetz! Susanna Phillips, Paul Neubauer and Anne-Marie McDermott continue this tradition with SPA. This trio of stellar artists first performed together in 2011 in Curacao, in the Netherlands Antilles, and have enjoyed exploring and performing songs that include an obbligato instrument.

Zachary Lewis at The Plain Dealer (Cleveland) sums it up: “But it wasn’t just the lineup, which included the remarkable pianist Anne-Marie McDermott, that made the evening so special. Also unique was the repertoire itself, a fetching blend of art and parlor songs from all over 19th- and 20th-century Europe. Phillips herself required zero assistance. A singer known for starring roles at New York’s Metropolitan Opera, she proved a singular authority, brandishing a golden, powerful instrument and treating each song to generous servings of eloquence and feeling. But how much better to hear Phillips in tandem with Neubauer, a former principal violist of the New York Philharmonic, and witness the gorgeous dovetailing of the viola’s warm, expressive tone with that of the human voice, its closest musical relation. At times, the two were almost indistinguishable.”

Susanna Phillips, soprano
Paul Neubauer, viola
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano
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Cann Duo
November 15, 2022 at 7:30 PM

Sonata No. 4 in E minor
J.S. Bach (arr. Babin)
(1685-1750)

Let My People Go
Max Leibowitz
(1884-1942)

Concerto in C minor (in one movement)
Helen Hagan
(1891-1964)

Suite No. 2 for Two Pianos, Op. 17
Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

Introduction: Alla marcia
Valse: Presto
Romance: Andantino
Tarantelle: Presto

-INTERMISSION-

Andante and Variations in B-flat major, Op. 46
Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story
Leonard Bernstein
(arr. Musto)
(1918-1990)

“Somewhere”
Scherzo
Mambo
Cha-Cha
Meeting Scene
“Cool” Fugue
Rumble
Finale

Carmen Fantasy for Two Pianos
George Bizet
(arr. Anderson & Roe)
(1838-1875)

Program subject to change.
Cann Duo

Sisters Kimberly & Michelle Cann, “darlings of duo pianists,” are consummate musicians passionate about performing a wide range of multi-cultural repertoire throughout the U.S. and to fostering increased appreciation for the arts in their local communities.

Though Kimberly is six years older, they have been studying and performing together ever since Michelle began lessons. They both made their orchestral debuts around age thirteen (Kimberly performing Beethoven’s “Emperor” Concerto and Michelle, Schumann’s Concerto in A minor). Growing up, they accompanied one another and often won the same competitions and played with the same orchestras and artists. Kimberly received her Masters Degree from the Eastman School of Music (studying with Barry Snyder), and in 2006, she accepted the positions of visiting Professor of Music and Artist-in-Residence at Northern Caribbean University (JA). Her students excelled and received national awards for their work. Meanwhile, Michelle received both her BM and MM from The Cleveland Institute (studying with Paul Schenly and Daniel Shapiro) and went on to study at the Curtis Institute (studying with Robert McDonald), receiving an Artists Diploma in 2013.

Currently, the sisters both reside within the Eastern U.S. Kimberly is married to fellow Eastman musician, double bassist Aaron Brown, and the two live in Asheville, NC, with their preschoolers, Isabella and Magnus. Kimberly is the Founding Director of Piano Lab & Music Lab Studios, whose faculty contain fellow concert artists committed to providing a unique, well-rounded music education for all. As an active leader in her community, she has served in various capacities as a VP of the Asheville Symphony and as President of the Asheville Piano Forum. She is also the founding director of Keys for Kidz, a program that provides group piano lessons to under-served children in the area and partners with local universities to mentor young teachers. She performs as both a soloist and
chamber musician, in addition to her commitments as a wife & mother, director, & clinician.

Michelle resides in Philadelphia, PA and maintains a very active schedule, performing in solo and chamber recitals throughout the U.S., China, and South Korea (including the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing and the Kennedy Center). She has frequently been featured on both WRTI 90.1 and WHYY TV in Philadelphia on such shows as Onstage at Curtis and Philadelphia Music Makers. A champion of the music of Florence Price, Ms. Cann performed the New York City premiere of the composer’s Concerto in One Movement with The Dream Unfinished Orchestra in July 2016 and the Philadelphia premiere with The Philadelphia Orchestra and Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin in February 2021, which the Philadelphia Inquirer called “exquisite.” She has also performed Price’s works for solo piano and chamber ensemble for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Music Society of Detroit, and the New World Symphony, among other presenters. Michelle served as a collaborative staff pianist at the Curtis Institute of Music for several years, and in 2020, she joined the faculty as the inaugural Eleanor Sokoloff Chair in Piano Studies.

Kimberly and Michelle began performing professionally as The Cann Duo in 2010 and since then, they have toured extensively throughout the U.S. Their electrifying performances & engaging outreach programs and presentations are all the more meaningful due to the unmistakable sound of their lifelong hereditary connection.

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