

Blair School of Music

Presents

Stephen Miahky and Friends

Stephen Miahky, violin

with

Craig Nies, piano

Cameron Zweber and Samuel Zhu, violins

Rachel Haber, viola

Olivia Hunt, cello

Thursday, November 14

8:00 p.m.

Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

**Presented with gratitude to Delphine and Ken Roberts
for their generous support of the Blair School**

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Sonata in E-flat major, K. 481 (1785) W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)
Molto Allegro
Adagio
Allegro con variazioni

Réve d'enfant, Op. 14 (1901) Eugène Ysaÿe
(1858 – 1931)

Craig Nies, piano

Rondo in A major, D. 438 (1816) Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Cameron Zweber and Samuel Zhu, violins
Rachel Haber, viola
Olivia Hunt, cello

Intermission

Sonata No. 3, Op. 25, in the popular Romanian Style (1926) Georges Enescu
(1881-1955)
Moderato malinconico
Andante sostenuto e misterioso
Allegro con brio

Craig Nies, piano

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Praised for his “sweet, luxurious” sound (Fanfare) and the "thoughtfulness and seriousness" (Nashville Scene) of his interpretations, violinist **Stephen Miahky** holds the Joseph Joachim Chair of Violin and is First Violin of the Blair String Quartet at Vanderbilt University. He has garnered acclaim for his performances as a recitalist and a chamber musician throughout North and South America, Europe, and Asia in concert halls and music festivals. His most recent engagements include performances New York City's Symphony Space, Merkin Hall, and Barge music, Atlanta's Pro Mozart Society, the Princeton Chamber Music Society, the Southwest Virginia Festival of the Arts, Vancouver's Sonic Boom Festival, the American Academies in Rome and Berlin, the Netherlands' De Lakenhal, NPR's Performance Today, and for the Dalai Lama.

As a chamber musician, Miahky has performed at Monadnock Music, the Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival, Kneisel Hall, Chamber Music Ann Arbor, with the Michigan Chamber Players, the Bryant Park Quartet, and the iO Quartet. He has performed with such distinguished musicians as Lynn Harrell, Joseph Silverstein, Glenn Dicterow, Cho-Liang Lin, Nicholas Eanet, Martin Beaver, Norman Fischer, Steven Doane, members of the Arianna, Chester, Concord, Tokyo, and Los Angeles Piano Quartets, as well as members of the Berlin Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Miahky is currently a member of Brave New Works, and a rotating concertmaster with the IRIS Orchestra in Memphis, Tenn. He has also served as guest concertmaster of the Columbus ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, the Illinois Symphony, the Kansas City Symphony, Orchestra Kentucky, and the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra in Houston.

In addition to the standard repertoire, Miahky is a noted performer and interpreter of contemporary music. Having performed with the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, Brave New Works, Alarm Will Sound, and the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Miahky has worked closely with composers William Bolcom, Steven Stucky, Fred Lerdahl, Christopher Rouse, Kevin Puts, Jonathan Leshnoff, Sydney Hodkinson, Marcos Balter, Sean Shepherd, Yotam Haber, Mario Diaz de Leon, Leslie Bassett, Gabriela Lena Frank, Marilyn Shrude, Felipe Lara, and Helmut Lachenmann. He can be heard on the AMP, New Dynamic, Edition Modern, Albany, MSR and Naxos record labels, and his performances have been rebroadcast across the country on national and regional public radio affiliates. He was recently appointed the solo violinist of the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble for its 2020 season.

A native of Akron, Ohio, Miahky received his D.M.A. from Rutgers University, where he received the Bettenbender Award for outstanding artistic achievement. He received his B.M. and M.M. from the University of Michigan and remains the university's only two-time winner of the Earl V. Moore Award for outstanding achievement. Miahky studied chamber music with Andrew Jennings, Martin Katz, and members of the Cleveland, Juilliard, American and Tokyo String Quartets, and received additional training at the Aspen Music Festival, the Meadowmount School, the Perlman Music Program, Canada's National Arts Centre, and the Blossom Festival. His major teachers include Arnold Steinhardt, Paul Kantor, and Alan Bodman.

He has served on the faculty of the Point Counterpoint Chamber Music Camp, Montecito Music Festival, Cornell University, Ohio University, Bowling Green State University, and has given master classes throughout North America, South America, and Asia. At Vanderbilt, Miahky teaches violin, chamber music, and directs the Adult Chamber Music Institute. His students have gone on to attend the most prestigious conservatories and music festivals, and can be found as performers and teachers around the country.

Craig Nies has been on the piano faculty at the Blair School since 1991, serving as co-chair of the piano department for 14 years. Prior to that, he was an adjunct Assistant Professor at the Yale School of Music for six years. Since 2006, his summers have included teaching and performing at the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina.

Performances have ranged from his work with 10 Pulitzer Prize-winning composers to his recent 10-concert series featuring Bach's complete *Well Tempered Clavier*, which included Beethoven's Diabelli Variations and Hammerklavier Sonata, along with Rachmaninoff's First and Second Sonatas. Other recent series have included the complete piano sonatas of Mozart and Schubert, along with Bach's *Goldberg Variations* in eight recitals, and the complete Beethoven piano and string sonatas in five concerts with members of the Blair String Quartet and Blakemore Trio.

While teaching at Yale, Nies performed the complete solo works of Debussy, which were broadcast on National Public Radio. During the 2011 season at Brevard, his performance of the 24 Preludes of Debussy was streamed live over the Internet. Media performances include radio and television in Russia, England and Germany. His concerto performances have ranged from recent performances of Mozart's 25th and Shostakovich's First to Rachmaninoff's Third and Brahms' Second. He has performed chamber music with members of the Mendelssohn, Franciscan, Alexander, Audubon and Blair String Quartets, members of the New York Woodwind Quintet, flutists Marianne Gedigian and Dilshad Posnock, and pianists Leah Bowes and Mark Wait in duo piano concerts. New York performances include Tully Hall, Merkin, Kaufmann and Town Hall. Premiere performances by Nies include three in New York City; the December 2012 premiere of four piano etudes by Richard Danielpour; and nine works by Blair composer Michael Alec Rose, including his piano concerto in Prague and Olomouc, Czech Republic.

Nies holds degrees from the Curtis Institute of Music, Yale School of Music and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. His teachers have included Mieczyslaw Horszowski, Rudolf Serkin, Beveridge Webster, Claude Frank and Gilbert Kalish.

Cameron Zweber began playing violin at the age of 5 in Charlotte, Vt. While attending high school outside of Boston, he studied with Valeria Kuchment at the New England Conservatory and was a principal in the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. While in Boston, Zweber toured Europe as a principal with YOA Orchestra of the Americas. He has participated in numerous festivals, including several summers at the Aspen Music Festival and School. He was recently featured on WPLN *Live in Studio C* as part of the Blair student showcase. Zweber is currently a senior musical arts student of Stephen Miahky at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University.

Originally from Cary, NC, **Samuel Zhu** is a sophomore musical arts student studying at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music under the tutelage of Stephen Miahky. After learning to play the violin at age 5, he and excelled in local ensembles, and later participated in All-State and All-National Orchestras. Most recently, he has been a principal violin of the Vanderbilt University Orchestra. An avid chamber musician and soloist, he has received master classes from members of the Juilliard Quartet, Aizuri Quartet, Perlman-Quint-Bailey Trio, Blair Quartet, and Copperstone Quartet.

Rachel Haber is currently a senior at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University studying with Kathryn Plummer. She served as principal of the Vanderbilt University Orchestra in the 2018-2019 season. She has performed at Lincoln Center as a winner of the Young Musicians series in April of 2016, and in addition, placed first in the MTNA chamber music competition in March 2018 with her piano quintet. She has attended the Point Counterpoint chamber music festival, the Manhattan in the Mountains chamber music festival, and has spent two summers at the Aspen Music Festival studying under Masao Kawasaki.

Senior cello performance major **Olivia Hunt** grew up in Milton, Georgia where she began her musical studies at the age of 9. At Vanderbilt she studies with Felix Wang and is an active performer in the Vanderbilt University Orchestra. She has attended various summer programs including the Vanderbilt Music Académie in Aix-en-Provence, the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, the National Music Festival, and the Brancaleoni International Music Festival. Following graduation, she plans on pursuing a master's degree in music.

Upcoming Blair Events

Marko Feri, guitar

Saturday, November 16

7:00 p.m.

Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Great Slovenian guitarist Marko Feri will present the second concert of the Fall 2019 Virtuoso Classical Guitar Series at the Blair School of Music. Feri plays regularly in important music festivals across Europe, the United States, Mexico, Australia and Japan. He also enjoys an active career as a recording artist, with a dozen CDs, both as soloist and as chamber musician, to his credit.

For more information: www.middletennesseeguitaralliance.org

Vanderbilt Commodore Orchestra

Sunday, November 17

2:00 p.m.

Ingram Hall

The Vanderbilt Commodore Orchestra brings together undergraduate and graduate students from all of Vanderbilt's colleges and professional schools as well as members of the Nashville community who are united in their love of making music.

Vanderbilt Commodore Orchestra's fall program includes Rossini's Barber of Seville Overture; Mendelssohn's A Midsummer Night's Dream, Incidental Music, Op. 61, No. 7 Nucturne; Saint-Saëns' Danse Macabre; and Franck's Symphony in d Minor.