



University of Maryland School of Music Presents
MUSIC IN MIND: 12 STRINGS AND 88 KEYS

November 16, 2016 . 8PM
GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL
at The Clarice

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND

SOM
SCHOOL of MUSIC

University of Maryland School of Music

**MUSIC IN MIND:
12 STRINGS AND 88 KEYS**

Featuring:

Irina Muresanu, violin
Katherine Murdock, viola
Eric Kutz, cello
Rita Sloan, piano

Piano Quartet in E-flat Major KV 493 W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Allegro
Larghetto
Allegretto

Piano Quartet op. 67.....Joaquin Turina
(1882-1949)

Lento - Andante mosso
Vivo
Andante - Allegretto

INTERMISSION

Piano Quartet in c minor, op. 60..... Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Allegro non troppo
Scherzo: Allegro
Andante
Allegro Comodo

*This performance will last approximately 2 hours,
which includes one 15-minute intermission.*

Romanian violinist Irina Muresanu has won the hearts of audiences and critics alike with her exciting, elegant and heartfelt performances of the classic, romantic and modern repertoire. The Boston Globe has come to praise her as *“not just a virtuoso, but an artist”* and the Los Angeles Times has written that her *“musical luster, melting lyricism and colorful conception made Irina Muresanu’s performance especially admirable”* while Strad Magazine called her Carnegie/Weill Hall performance *“a first-rate recital”*. Irina Muresanu’s performances have been frequently cited as among the Best of Classical Music Performances by the Boston Globe, and her recital in the Emerging Artist Celebrity Series was named one of the Top 10 musical events by the TAB Magazine.

Early on Muresanu achieved international acclaim as an outstanding young soloist, recitalist and chamber musician winning top prizes in several prestigious international violin competitions including the Montreal International, Queen Elizabeth International, UNISA International String, Washington International, and the Schadt String Competition. She is the winner of the Pro Musicis International Award, the Presser Music Award, the Kate Kinley Fellowship Award from the University of Illinois, and the Arthur Foote Award from the Harvard Musical Association.

Muresanu has performed in renowned concert halls throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Her recent solo engagements include concerts with the Boston Pops, the Miami Symphony Orchestra, the Williamsburg Symphony, the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande (Geneva), the Syracuse Symphony, the Metropolitan Orchestra (Montreal), the Transvaal Philharmonic (Pretoria, S. Africa), the Romanian National Orchestra, the Orchestre de la Radio Flamande (Brussels), the Boston Philharmonic, the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra, the New England String Ensemble amongst others.

In 2013, Muresanu introduced her “Four Strings Around the World” project, a solo violin recital featuring works of composers inspired by various musical cultures around the world. In November 2015 she received a Creative and Performing Arts Award from the University of Maryland that will allow the commissioning of new works for this project. An early reviewer of a “Four Strings Around the World” performance wrote that *“[W]hen the D Major section moves into D minor [in Bach’s Chaconne], it seemed as if the violin had had its heart broken and was crying. Muresanu’s performance was simply spectacular.”*

Her recent recording releases include the Thomas Oboe Lee's Violin Concerto (dedicated to Ms. Muresanu) on the BMOP label, works of Elena Ruehr (also dedicated to Irina Muresanu) on Avie Records label and the complete William Bolcom's Violin and Piano Sonatas on Centaur label with pianist Michael Lewin (a recording that was funded by a Copland Recording Grant). In Europe, her recording of the Guillaume Lekeu and Alberic Magnard late Romantic Violin and Piano Sonatas with pianist Dana Ciocarlie for the AR RE-SE French label has sparked enthusiasm. Fanfare noted the recording with *"singing and soaring... [a] sizzling performance."* Ms. Muresanu has also recorded chamber music works of Gerhard Schedl with the Walden Chamber Players, the world premiere recording of Marion Bauer's Sonata for Violin and Piano with pianist Virginia Eskin on Albany Records, and a CD featuring chamber works of Erich Korngold released by the VPRO Radio Amsterdam. Adding to her other competition laurels, Ms. Muresanu was granted a Special Commendation award for her recording of Schoenberg's Fantasy for Violin and Piano at the 3rd International Vienna Modern Masters Performers Recording Competition.

An active chamber musician and recitalist, Ms. Muresanu is a member of the Boston Trio. She has appeared in such festivals and venues as Bargemusic in New York, the Rockport Festival in Massachusetts, Bay Chambers concert series and Bowdoin Festival in Maine, the Strings in the Mountains and San Juan Music Festival in Colorado, Maui Chamber Music Festival in Hawaii, Reizend Music Festival in Netherlands, Festival van de Leie in Belgium, and the Rennccontres des Musiciennes Festival in France. Ms. Muresanu regularly performs with Mistral and the Walden Chamber Players.

Irina Muresanu currently serves on the faculty the University of Maryland and Boston Conservatory and has taught in the Harvard and MIT Music Departments. At UMD, Ms. Muresanu is the recipient of the Tretter Distinguished Faculty Fellowship in Violin. She received the prestigious Artist Diploma degree and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the New England Conservatory. She plays an 1849 Giuseppe Rocca violin and an Etienne Pajeot bow.

Violist Katherine Murdock has performed as soloist and chamber musician in the musical capitals of the U.S., Europe, Canada, New Zealand, and South America. A frequent guest at music festivals throughout the world, she has appeared at the Edinburgh, Salzburg, Spoleto, and Gulbenkian festivals, the International Musicians Seminar at Prussia Cove in Cornwall, and in the U.S. at Ravinia, Saratoga, Wolftrap, Mostly Mozart, Tanglewood, Aspen, and the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. A past participant at the Marlboro Music Festival, she has toured with Music from Marlboro, and was invited to perform on the Marlboro Fortieth Anniversary Concerts in Philadelphia and New York's Carnegie Hall. She has appeared on the Great Performers Series at Lincoln Center as a guest of the Beaux Arts Trio.

Born in Burlington Vermont to music loving parents, Ms. Murdock moved with her family to Toronto at the age of ten. A recipient of two Canada Council Arts Awards, she received her musical training at Oberlin and Boston University, and pursued graduate studies at Yale School of Music. She studied viola with Karen Tuttle and Joseph Silverstein, and for two summers she attended the Banff School of Fine Arts to study with the late William Primrose. She has studied chamber music with such teachers as Felix Galimir, Mischa Schneider, Sandor Vegh, and Eugene Lehner.

From 1988 to 1994 Ms. Murdock was a member of the Mendelssohn String Quartet. With this group she toured internationally and premiered many new works for string quartet, including works of Augusta Read Thomas, Bruce Adolphe, Tobias Picker, Bernard Rands, Tina Davidson, and Ned Rorem. She has also been a member of the Boston Chamber Music Society, the Cambridge Chamber Players, the N.Y. Philomusica, and has toured New Zealand as a guest of the New Zealand String Quartet. In concert she has collaborated with the Vermeer, Emerson, and Guarneri string quartets, members of the Juilliard and Cleveland quartets, and has performed with such artists as pianists Peter Serkin, Leon Fleischer, Claude Frank, and Menahem Pressler, violinists Salvatore Accardo and Jaime Laredo, cellist Janos Starker, and flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal.

Active in the field of contemporary music, she was a member for ten years of the contemporary chamber ensemble Boston Musica Viva, with whom she recorded and performed internationally. She has recently premiered several pieces written for her, including a work for viola and piano by

Nathaniel Tull Phillips; her trio Polaris with her husband oboist Mark Hill has trios for viola, oboe, and piano by Steven Burke and Dana Wilson.

As a member of the Mendelssohn Quartet, Ms. Murdock served as Artist-in-Residence at Harvard University and the University of Delaware. She has previously been on the faculties of Wellesley College, the Boston Conservatory, the Hartt School of Music, and for eight years at Stony Brook. In the summer she is a member of the artist faculty the Yellow Barn and Kneisel Hall chamber music festivals, and is on the faculty and Co-Director of the Chamber Music Program at the National Orchestral Institute. She served on the juries of the Juilliard Concerto Competition, the Peabody *"Concours"*, and the Banff International String Quartet Competition.

Ms. Murdock's extensive orchestral experience includes performances, tours, and recordings with the Boston Symphony, the National Symphony, and the New York Philharmonic; for ten years she toured and recorded with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Murdock has recorded for Deutsche Grammophon, Columbia, Delos, CRI, Nonesuch, and John Marks Records; her discography includes a newly released Dorian DVD of Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht*. She has been broadcast live and in recordings on NPR, West German Radio, the BBC Radio and TV, and the NBC *"Today Show."* Ms. Murdock currently performs and records as a member of the Los Angeles Piano Quartet, and is a member of the Left Bank Quartet and the Left Bank Concert Society of Washington D.C.

Cellist Eric Kutz has captivated audiences across both North America and Europe. He comes to the University of Maryland School of Music from Luther College, where he served on the faculty from 2002-2015. At UMD, Mr. Kutz is the recipient of the Barbara K. Steppel Memorial Faculty Fellowship in Cello. He is active as a teacher, a chamber musician, an orchestral musician, and a soloist. His diverse collaborations cut across musical styles, and have ranged from cellist Yo-Yo Ma to jazz great Ornette Coleman. Mr. Kutz is also a founding member of the Murasaki Duo, a cello and piano ensemble that will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2016.

The Murasaki Duo, which consists of Mr. Kutz and Canadian pianist Miko Kominami, toured Scandinavia in 2005. Advocates for new music, the Duo actively commissions new works, in

addition to performing the classics. The Duo's second CD, "Duo Virtuoso," was recently released on the Delos label and features several show pieces as well as Brahms E minor Sonata. The Duo's debut compact disc appeared on the Centaur Records label; this disc was reviewed by the *Journal of the Atlanta Audio Society* as "ebullient" and "brilliant throughout." The Duo's next recording project, entitled "The Commissions," will include five works commissioned and premiered by the Murasaki Duo, all written during 2007-2012.

The Duo has performed at leading festivals, such as the Niagara International Chamber Music Festival, the Icicle Creek Music Center, Malibu Friends of Music, and Lutheran Summer Music, and it has repeatedly been broadcast on Iowa Public Radio's program, "Know the Score." Hailed by *New York Concert Review* as having "an easy virtuosity, and an unusually high level of ensemble playing," after its Weill Hall debut, the Duo regularly performs on chamber music series throughout the nation.

Prior to his appointment at Luther College, Mr. Kutz was the cellist of the Chester String Quartet for four years. The Quartet, called "one of the best and brightest of the country's young string quartets" by the *Boston Globe*, was in residence at Indiana University South Bend. The Quartet gave two tours of Europe during Kutz's tenure, and performed from coast to coast.

As an orchestral musician, Mr. Kutz summers in Chicago as a member of the Grant Park Orchestra's cello section. He has also appeared in the section of the New York Philharmonic, the Minnesota Orchestra, and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. He has been principal cellist of the Houston Grand Opera Orchestra and the Juilliard Orchestra, and he has performed under the batons of Sir Georg Solti, Kurt Masur, and Seiji Ozawa.

In 1997 Mr. Kutz traveled to the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow as a visiting artist, performing new chamber works by American composers. Other performance highlights include a tour of Germany and a concert in New York's Avery Fisher Hall as part of Lincoln Center's Mozart Bicentennial celebration. Mr. Kutz has premiered over two-dozen works, and has been broadcast live on WQXR and WNYC, both of New York City, WFMT Chicago, as well as nationally on PBS television's *Live from Lincoln Center*.

Mr. Kutz received his Bachelor of Music degree *magna cum laude* from Rice University; his Master and Doctoral degrees are from the Juilliard School in New York City. He performs on a cello by Raffaele Fiorini (Bologna, 1877), and a bow by F.N. Voirin (Paris, 1880).

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Rita Sloan is acknowledged internationally as a leading teacher of piano, collaborative piano and chamber music. In 1999, she was appointed a piano faculty member and director of the collaborative piano program at the University of Maryland. As an Artist Faculty Member at the Aspen Music Festival, Ms. Sloan founded their Collaborative Piano Program. She has performed as soloist with both the Aspen Festival Orchestra and Chamber Symphony as well as in chamber music with many of Aspen's distinguished guest artists including pianists Wu Han and Orli Shaham, violinists Sarah Chang and Nadia Salerno-Sonnenberg, cellist Gary Hoffman, bassist Edgar Meyer and flutist Emmanuel Pahud. Teaching residencies and master class presentations have included Tainan National University of the Arts and National Normal University in Taiwan, China Conservatory in Beijing, China, leading universities in Seoul, Korea, London's Royal College of Music, American universities and conservatories including numerous visits to the Juilliard School in New York. Ms. Sloan has performed with orchestra, in recital, and in chamber music throughout the U.S., Europe, South America and Japan. She has been a guest in many chamber music venues and has performed with members of the Emerson and Guarneri String Quartets. Born in Russia to Polish parents, Ms. Sloan graduated from the Juilliard School, where she studied with Martin Canin and Rosina Lhévinne. Further studies were with Leon Fleisher, Aube Tzerko, Herbert Stessin and Vladimir Ashkenazy.



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