

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

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Saturday, October 13, 2018

Isabel Gehweiler, *cello* Grigory Smirnov, *piano*

Program

Improvisation No. 1	Isabel Gehweiler / Grigory Smirnov
Credo (2015)	Grigory Smirnov
Gedicht (2015)	Isabel Gehweiler
Rubinium (2018)	Isabel Gehweiler
Chaconne (2013)	Grigory Smirnov
Improvisation No. 2	Isabel Gehweiler / Grigory Smirnov

Juilliard-trained cellist **Isabel Gehweiler** is a Prizewinner of the European Artistic Grant, one of the highest European awards for young musicians, previously conferred in the main chamber of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, on such artists as violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter and cellist Sol Gabetta.

Ms Gehweiler has appeared at such festivals as the Kronberg Cello Festival (Germany), Richard Wagner Festspiele Bayreuth (Germany), Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Germany), focus! Festival (USA), Klangspuren Festival Schwaz (Austria), Impuls Festival Graz (Austria), Verbier Festival (Switzerland), Lucerne Festival (Switzerland), Podium Festivalen Haugesund (Norway) and Interlaken Classics (Switzerland). Since 1994 Ms. Gehweiler has taken part in many regional, national and international competitions both as a soloist and as a member of chamber music groups. She has received numerous first prizes.

Ms Gehweiler is a recipient of the “Kunstpreis” Artist Award made by the Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg (2011) and the “Markgräfler Kulturpreis” (2012); she is a scholar of the Richard Wagner Society (2013) and a recipient of scholarships from the Rotary International Foundation, the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), the Richard Wagner Society, The Juilliard School of Music, Elaine Lambert Scholarship and the Art Foundation Baden-Württemberg. Currently Ms Gehweiler is scholar of the Notenstein Academy in Switzerland.

Ms Gehweiler works closely with composers, and several new works are dedicated to her. She also composes herself; several of her compositions have been performed in Switzerland and Germany.

Ms Gehweiler is currently teaching as a cello tutor at Hannover Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien in Hanover (Germany) and as a pedagogy tutor at Zurich University of Arts (Switzerland). She has a guest contract at Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg and Schauspielhaus Zürich, both in plays directed by Christoph Marthaler.

Isabel Gehweiler plays a cello by Ersen Aycan (2009).

A native of Siberia, Russia, **Grigory Smirnov** is a composer and pianist based in New York City.

His compositions have been performed around the globe in major venues, such as Lincoln Center, Tanglewood, Merkin Concert Hall, Moscow Philharmonic Society and The Copenhagen Opera House. His recent CD album *Dowson Songs • Chaconne*, released by Naxos Records (*Critic's Choice* in *Opera News* magazine) features a largescale song cycle *Dowson Songs*, commissioned by The ASCAP Foundation and premiered at Merkin Concert Hall. Grigory Smirnov's music has been featured on WQXR, America's leading classical music radio station, and in a number of festivals worldwide, including Tanglewood Music Center (MA, USA), Brevard Music Center (NC, USA), Composers Now (New York), ppIANISSIMO (Sofia, Bulgaria), Chamber Music Sessions (Kiev, Ukraine), CTAM Festival (Moscow, Russia), Blue Lake Summer Arts Festival (MI, USA). He was a Tanglewood Music Center Fellow.

As a pianist, Grigory Smirnov performs classical, contemporary and improvisational music. He has taught at Rutgers University and is currently on the faculty at Lindeblad School of Music, NJ Academy of Music and Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, and serving as an organist at First Presbyterian & Trinity Church in South Orange, NJ.

Born in Novosibirsk, Russia, Grigory Smirnov studied as a pianist at the Novosibirsk Music College and as a composer with Yuri Yukechev at the Glinka Novosibirsk State Conservatory. During his years in Russia he was awarded a composition prize at the IV Prokofiev International Competition and debuted as a composer of orchestral music with his composition *Pastorale*, which was premiered by the Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra. Since moving to the United States, he has received his Master of Music degree in composition from The Juilliard School in New York, where he was a full scholarship student in the studio of Christopher Rouse.

More information can be found at www.grigorysmirnov.com



The Nicholas Roerich Museum has been offering regular concerts and recitals for the last 70 years. They have always been—and continue to be—free to the public, financed by the Museum's own budget and your donations. We have been able to keep organizing these concerts without either help from the city or any grants. Essential to our endeavors are the continued interest, care and participation of the musicians. Your donations are very important to us. We would like to thank everybody who decides to leave a contribution and so help keep the concert programs going.