

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

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Sunday, November 25, 2018, at 5 p.m.

Andrey Tchekmazov, cello **David Oei, piano**

Suite for Cello solo in D major, BWV 1012

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude

Sarabande

Gigue

Five Pieces in Folk Style, op.102

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Mit Humor

Langsam

Nicht schnell, mit viel Ton zu spielen

Nicht zu rasch

Stark und markirt

Intermission

Sonata “Arpeggione”, D. 821

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Allegro moderato

Adagio

Allegretto

Hailed by critics as an “*extraordinary musician*” (*Washington Post*), cellist **Andrey Tchekmazov** is known for his versatility as a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician.

Mr. Tchekmazov was the Grand Prize winner of the Vittorio Gui International Chamber Music Competition and the Premio Trio di Trieste and has performed extensively throughout North and South America, Europe, Russia and Asia, appearing at the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, Osaka Symphony Hall in Japan, New York’s Alice Tully Hall, Brazil’s Sala Cecilia Mereles, Sala Sao Paulo and Teatro Alfa with orchestras such as the São Paulo Symphony, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the Brazil National Symphony, the Kiev Philharmonic and the Teatro Alfa Symphony. He has also been a top prizewinner at the Koussevitzky Cello Competition in New York, the Schadt Competition, Artists International, Premio della Critica in Trieste and the Russian Kobalevsky Competition.

Ever since his critically acclaimed debut at Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall, Mr. Tchekmazov has enjoyed an active career as recitalist and chamber musician, performing at such renowned venues as Zankel Hall, the Caramoor Music Center, Barge Music, the Rhode Island Chamber Music Series, Bar Harbor Festival, Merkin Concert Hall in New York City and Hampden Sydney, where he was invited to perform by the members of The Emerson String Quartet.

As a performer with the Jupiter Chamber Players in New York and at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C, Mr. Tchekmazov “*impressed his audiences with a big, warm tone and Russian brand of virtuosity*” (*The Strad*) by introducing them to rarely-performed jewels of classical music alongside the works of great masters.

He has premiered works and worked closely with contemporary composers such as Alfred Schnittke, Lukas Foss, George Warren, Ira Cremer and Ralf Ytrehus and has recently recorded the Cello Sonata by David Winkler and “Byzantine Chants, The Sacred Concerto for Solo Cello,” by Margarita Zeleniaia, both which were written and dedicated to him. He has also participated in ambitious, unique projects such as performing Dmitri Shostakovich’s entire chamber music repertoire for cello at the Phillips Collection.

An active educator, Andrey Tchekmazov has been a faculty member at the Rio de Janeiro Cello Encounter, the Lakewood Festival, Russish Abend Festival in Germany, He has also performed at Westminster College and Brown, Bowdoin, Seton Hall and Princeton Universities. As an orchestral musician, Mr. Tchekmazov was appointed principal cellist of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra and the São Paulo Symphony. His performances have been featured on WQXR, WGBH, NPR and other TV and radio stations across Eastern and Western Europe and South America.

Born in Moscow into a family of professional pianists, Mr. Tchekmazov studied piano and later cello at the Gnessin Specialized Music School in Moscow. He continued his education at the Moscow State Conservatory with Mstislav Rostropovich’s protégé Nataliya Shakhovskaya, and later at the Juilliard School as a Leonard Rose scholarship student of Harvey Shapiro. At Juilliard he worked closely with members of the Juilliard and Guarneri String Quartets. Mr. Tchekmazov has made several recordings including a recent release on NAXOS with the Russian National Philharmonic as well as a recording for the Delos label.

Mr. Tchekmazov is currently on the faculty of Illinois Wesleyan University, IL.

David Oei, pianist, was a soloist with the Hong Kong Philharmonic at the age of nine and has since performed with major orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Pittsburgh, and Baltimore Symphonies. Mr. Oei is the winner of five Interlochen Concerto Competitions and the Concert Artists Guild, WQXR Young Artists, Young Musicians Foundation and Paul Ulanowsky Chamber Pianists Awards. A perennial fixture on the New York City chamber music scene he has made guest appearances with the Audubon Quartet, Claring Chamber Players, Da Capo Chamber Players, New York Philharmonic Ensembles, St. Luke’s and Orpheus Chamber Ensembles and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. In recent years he performed the Mozart Concerto No. 20, Brahms Concertos No.1 & No. 2, and Beethoven Concerto No.3 with the Strathmere Festival Orchestra and the Schnittke Concerto with the Washington Square Festival Orchestra.

Founding director of the Salon Chamber Soloists and a founding member of the Aspen Soloists, Festival Chamber Music and the Intimate P.D.Q. Bach he is also currently a member of the Elysium Chamber Ensemble, Washington Square Festival Chamber Ensemble and the HD Duo with pianist Helene Jeanney besides enjoying a longtime duo with violinist Chin Kim. A former regular artist at Bargemusic and Chamber Music Northwest he has performed at various festivals including Caramoor, Sitka, Bard, Gretna, Seattle, Chestnut Hill, OK Mozart, Washington Square and Kuhmo.

His television credits include Leonard Bernstein’s Young People’s Concerts, CBS News Sunday Morning and the Today Show. He was the Music Director and Production Advisor for Music-Theatre Group’s productions of Stanley Silverman and Richard Foreman’s *Africanis Instructus* and *Love and Science*. He was also the Music Director for the Sundance Theater Workshop production of the Wallace/Foreman opera *Yiddisher Teddy Bears*. In the summer of ‘07 he conducted the Washington Square Festival Chamber Orchestra in a Gershwin/Weill concert titled *Music as Political Statement*.

He has recorded a wide range of chamber works for Delos, ADDA, Vanguard, CRI, Pro Arte, Arabesque, Albany, Grenadilla and New World Records. A very special project was his recording with Lutz Rath of *The Lay of Love and Death of the Cornet Christoph Rilke* by Viktor Ullmann for piano and speaker. In 2010 he released a duo CD with Eriko Sato titled *Five Not-So-Easy Pieces* on his new label *Prestissimo*. Just finished recording a CD with his frequent duo partner violinist Kinga Augustyn he also just released a solo CD of Steven Christopher Sacco’s *Book of Whimsy* for the American Composers Alliance’s USA label. This

album is now available on Amazon and MP3 downloads are available on CD Baby, Amazon, iTunes and Spotify.

A former longtime faculty of Summertrios, Hoff-Barthelson Music School and the Mannes College of Music, he is currently a faculty member of the Bennington Chamber Music Conference and the Alaria Chamber Music Program. He is a member of the Alaria Chamber Ensemble, which has presented an annual Weill Recital Hall series for over three decades. In the summer of '14 he served as the director of the Smalls Chamber Music Salon at the Smalls Jazz Club and he is currently the director of the Mezzrow Classical Salon with David Oei, a monthly chamber music series at Mezzrow, voted "Best Jazz Club 2015" by the Village Voice. An Artist of the New York Classical Music Society and the recipient of its 2017 Citation of Honor for his work with the Mezzrow series David lives in New York City with his wife, violinist Eriko Sato, and their pit bull Marian.