

THE CONCERT SERIES AT ST. COLUMBA'S



Music for a May Afternoon

QUANTUM

Edwin Good, piano
Alexandra Eddy, violin
Mark Carson, percussion



SUNDAY, MAY 12, 1996
AT 3:00 P.M.



Welcome to this afternoon's concert!

WE ARE DELIGHTED to welcome three of the members of Quantum, a chamber music ensemble that specializes in music of the twentieth century for various combinations of instruments.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Brazilian composer Ney Gabriel Rosauro (b. 1952) studied composition and conducting at the Universidade de Brasilia and percussion at the Hochschule für Musik Würzburg and the University of Miami. He was principal percussionist with the Orquestra do Teatro Nacional de Brasilia and has been head of the percussion department at the Universidade Federal de Santa Maria in South Brazil since 1987. *Prelude and Blues* is an unaccompanied piece for four-mallet vibraphone, with influences from jazz and New Age music.

Because May 20, 1996, is the centenary of Clara Schumann's death, we celebrate her not only as a famous pianist, wife of Robert Schumann, but also as a composer of fine music. She wrote the *Romances* as a gift for the violinist Joseph Joachim, and they often performed them together. In this work we hear her gift for melody and her thoughtful harmonic imagination.

The first woman to receive a doctorate in composition from Juilliard, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (b. 1939) won the Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1983 for her First Symphony. She has gone on to important commissions from major orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic and the San Francisco Symphony. The *Sonata in Three Movements* was written for her late husband, Joseph Zwilich, who recorded it. This early piece, composed while she was studying with Roger Sessions and Elliott Carter, exhibits Zwilich's power of musical communication and the tough, sinewy, and compellingly profound poetry of her conception.

A member of the composition faculty of the Eastman School of Music, David Liptak (b. 1949) has won numerous honors, including the Elise L. Stoecker Prize awarded by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (1995), the Georges Enesco International Competition (1986), and the Minnesota Orchestra's 75th Anniversary Composers' Competition (1975). *Shadower* is a suite of five pieces written for Liptak's wife, violinist Catherine Tait, who gave the premiere performance with percussionist Ben Toth in September, 1991. The first movement uses drums, the second vibraphone, the third two suspended cymbals, the fourth bowed vibraphone and bowed cymbals, and the fifth two woodblocks. In this work the violin part leads and the percussion part follows, with music derived from that of the violin: hence the title. In the composer's words, "There is malevolence here, with the lurking percussionist who 'shadows' the violinist's every move."

Born in Essex in 1951, Alan Danson studied horn, piano, and orchestration at the Royal Academy of Music in London. He has directed the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in commercial work, worked as an arranger for BBC TV, and performed widely in London as a free-lance horn player. *Four Movements in a Jazz Idiom*, commissioned by the Duo Dunamis, opens with a "Dance" featuring cross-rhythms of two against three. "Quasi Rag" borrows from 1930's-style ragtime, and the "Ballad" begins with an expressive improvisatory violin solo. "Blues Plus One," named for its 13-bar pattern (one more than the standard 12-bar blues), is indebted to stride piano. This delightful work exploits the characteristic rhythms and harmonies of jazz, and requires a wide range of sounds and effects from the violin.

Program

Prelude and Blues (1994)

Ney Rosauero

B. 1952

Three Romances, opus 22 (1855)

Clara Schumann

Andante molto

1819-1896

Allegretto: Mit zartem Vortrage

Leidenschaftlich schnell

Sonata in Three Movements (1973-74)

Ellen Taafe Zwilich

Liberamente; Tempo giusto

B. 1939

Lento e molto espressivo

Allegro vivo e con brio

~ INTERMISSION ~

Shadower (1991)

David Liptak

♩ = c. 112

B. 1949

♩ = c. 46

♩ = c. 66-72

♩ = c. 40

♩ = c. 104

Four Movements in a Jazz Idiom

Alan Danson

Dance

B. 1951

Quasi Rag

The Ballad of an Original Theme

Blues Plus One



*The audience is invited to join the performers
at a reception in the Common following the concert.*

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ABOUT THE MUSICIANS

Pianist Edwin Good, one of Quantum's founding members, also performs regularly with the Rock Creek Chamber Players and sings in the Oratorio Society of Washington. Before coming to Washington in 1991 to do research at the Smithsonian on the Steinway Company, he was Professor of Religious Studies at Stanford University and pianist of the Manzanita Quartet in Palo Alto. He is the author of *Giraffes, Black Dragons, and Other Pianos*, a technological history of the piano.

Alexandra Eddy, a founding member of Quantum, performs full-time as a free-lance violinist in the Washington area. She appears frequently with the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestra, the Washington Concert Opera, the Washington Chamber Symphony, the National Gallery Orchestra, and the Washington Bach Consort, among others. Before moving to the area in 1991, she was Assistant Professor of Music at Sweet Briar College in Sweet Briar, Virginia. She holds the Ph.D. in Music from Stanford University.

Principal percussionist with the United States Air Force Band Ceremonial Brass, Mark Carson is also an active free-lance performer. He has performed with such entertainers as Diane Schuur, Ray Charles, and Tommy Tune, and has recorded commercials and soundtracks for feature films and TV shows, including "America's Most Wanted." A featured performer at several conventions of the Percussive Arts Society, he has recently premiered several works for percussion.

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