

Bard Conservatory String Quartet

Xinran Li, Zongheng Zhang, violins

Weilan Li, viola

Robert Martin, cello

with

Margaret Jones, solo violin

Saturday, April 27, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Historic Plaza Hotel Ballroom

Las Vegas, New Mexico

String Quartet No. 15 in A Minor (op. 132)

Assai sostenuto – Allegro

Allegro ma non tanto

Molto adagio – Andante

Alla marcia – assai vivace

Allegro appassionato

Ludwig van Beethoven

(1770-1827)

I N T E R M I S S I O N

Avian Fields

Phillip Schroeder

(born 1956)

String Quartet No. 14 in G Major (K. 387)

Allegro vivace assai

Minuetto

Andante cantabile

Molto allegro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(1756-1791)

Presented by

Meadow City Academy of Music

Ronald Maltais, Artistic Director

Please silence all electronic devices before the program begins. Unauthorized video and audio recordings of Meadow City Academy events are not permitted.

About the Artists

Xinran Li, violinist, is a fourth-year student from Hangzhou, China, who studies with Weigang Li and Shmuel Ashkenasi. She attended the middle school affiliated with the Shanghai Conservatory of Music before coming to the Bard Conservatory. Her second major is studio arts.

Zongheng Zhang, violinist, is a third-year student from Wuhan, China, who studies with Todd Phillips. He completed middle and high school at the Wuhan Conservatory of Music and performed with the Wuhan Youth Symphony. He has participated in the Great Wall International Music Academy in Beijing, 2015 summer International Cultural Festival in Hammelburg, Germany, and NapaValley Festival in California. His second major is psychology.

Weilan Li, violist, a fourth-year student from Shenzhen, China, studies at the Bard Conservatory with Steven Tenenbom. She attended the middle school at the Xinghai Conservatory of Music where she studied with Donglei Hou, and won second place for viola at the Hong Kong International String Competition. Her second major is anthropology.

Robert Martin, cellist, is the founding Director of the Bard Conservatory and Vice President for Policy and Planning and Professor of Philosophy and Music at Bard College. Martin was the cellist of the Sequoia String Quartet from 1975 to 1985, during which time the ensemble made many recordings and toured internationally. Martin studied cello at the Curtis Institute of Music with Leonard Rose and Orlando Cole, and liberal arts at Haverford College. During his doctoral studies in philosophy at Yale University, he was the principal cellist of the New Haven Symphony and cellist of the Group for Contemporary Music. After receiving his Ph.D., he pursued a dual career in music and philosophy, holding joint appointments at SUNY Buffalo and Rutgers University.

Margaret Jones (b.1962) has enjoyed a diverse career as a concert violinist. She was a founding member of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra - later performing with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. She toured for five years as soloist and chamber musician with Mikhail Baryshnikov (White Oak Dance Project) and has also worked on Broadway (*Peter Pan*), with the American Ballet Theater, and the Opera Orchestra of New York. She has toured with *The Lion King*, Andy Williams, Perry Como, Natalie Cole, and many others. In addition to continuing a performance career, Margaret Jones is a Labor and Delivery nurse at Alta Vista Regional Hospital in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Phillip Schroeder (b.1956) lives and works in Las Vegas, New Mexico. His music has been described as "...full of elegant nuance" (Ron Schepper, *Textura*) and "...luminous, meditative, and deeply spiritual..." (Richard Moule, *Signal to Noise*). His music has been performed in the US and Europe and he has presented his own works on more than 250 concerts. Born in Rancho Cordova, California, his musical life began early and paralleled the diversity of his surroundings, living in eleven states, playing trumpet in concert bands and electric bass in rock and jazz bands, singing in choirs, conducting orchestral and chamber groups, improvising with a variety of ensembles, and concertizing as an ensemble pianist. Recordings of his music are available on the Innova, Cold Blue Music, Ravelo/Capstone, Boston, Albany, and Vienna Modern Masters labels. During 32 years in academia Schroeder taught at Henderson State University, Sam Houston State University, the University of Iowa, Hamilton College, Butler University, and Grinnell College. He received music degrees from the University of Redlands, Butler University, and a Ph.D. from Kent State University. Among the significant influences on his life and work are mystical traditions, daily meditations, nature, astronomy, geology, stillness, cats, baseball, and the love and patience of his wife, Margaret Jones.

Program Notes

Avian Fields

There are eight short pieces, additionally the source for the 18 fragments, extracted and paired from developed and opening segments, with silence always as the backdrop. The length of the silence between fragments and pieces is determined by the performer, resulting in a spontaneous, 'organic' flow, sometimes rather quick, others with more time. There was no attempt to imitate the music of birds; *Avian Fields* only alludes to the cycles and processes of the 'avian.' *Avian Fields* was written for Margaret Jones - violinist, nurse, and my wife.

String Quartet No. 14 in G Major, K. 387

Often referred to as the "Spring" quartet, Mozart composed this work in 1782 shortly after moving to Vienna; likely edited in 1783. This is the first of the Haydn Quartets, a set of six string quartets he wrote in Vienna in honor of the composer Joseph Haydn, who is generally viewed as the father of the string quartet form. The quartet features chromatic passages in the first movement, a dark, unsettling mood in the trio section of the Minuetto, and a fugal final which some view as foreshadowing the finale of the Jupiter Symphony.

String Quartet No. 15 in A Minor, Op. 132

The String Quartet, Op. 132, written and premiered in 1825, was dedicated to Count Nicolai Glitzin. It is actually the thirteenth quartet to be written by Beethoven but the fifteenth to be published. The first movement has been described as a sort of 'triple exposition' instead of a standard sonata development. Beethoven wrote this quartet after recovering from a serious illness which he had feared would be fatal. One finds in Beethoven's sketches that this rondo was originally meant for an instrumental conclusion to his 9th Symphony, but it was abandoned for the choral ending we are familiar with.

The **Meadow City Academy of Music**, founded by artistic director Ronald Maltais in the spring of 2017, has set out to provide excellent musical/dance training and performances for the Las Vegas, New Mexico community. The **Castañeda Concert Series**, launched in September 2016, seeks to present professional New Mexico musicians and dancers in venues throughout our city. As we proceed in our third season, we are proud to announce that the Castañeda Concert Series has featured over 50 New Mexico artists since its founding in 2017. Due to the generosity of our donors, we are now awarding music scholarships for talented Las Vegas youth.

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Historic Plaza Hotel Ballroom

Admission: \$ 20, Cash Bar

Advance tickets available on May 1st at the Plaza Hotel

Students admitted free

