2-10-2000

Concert: Edgar Meyer, double bass

Edgar Meyer

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“It is my plan to build a school of music second to none.”

—William Grant Egbert (1867–1928) Founder, Ithaca Conservatory of Music
ITHACA COLLEGE CONCERTS 1999-2000

Edgar Meyer, double bass
Amy Dorfman, piano

Sonata in A Minor
   Largo
   Allegro
   Largo
   Allegro   Vivace

Henry Eccles
(1670-1742)

Suite No. 1 for unaccompanied cello in seven movements

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Suite Hebraique
   Rapsodie

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

Romanian Dances 1-7

Béla Bartók

INTERMISSION

Original works to be announced from stage

Edgar Meyer

Ford Hall
Thursday, February 10, 2000
8:15 p.m.

Edgar Meyer appears by arrangement with IMG Artists, 420 West 45th Street, New York, NY 10036.

Edgar Meyer records for Sony.
THE ARTISTS

Prominently established as a master instrumentalist, **Edgar Meyer** elates his audiences both as a vibrant performer and an innovative composer. Hailed by *San Diego Magazine* as, "...quite simply, the best bassist alive," Mr. Meyer's virtuosity and musicianship in combination with his gift for composition have brought him to the fore, where he is appreciated by a vast, varied audience.

Fruitful collaborations are the cornerstone of Mr. Meyer's work. From 1986 to 1992, he was a member of the progressive bluegrass band "Strength in Numbers," whose members include Sam Bush, Jerry Douglas, Béla Fleck, and Mark O'Connor. He performs regularly in a neuvo bluegrass trio with guitarist Russ Barenberg and dobroist Jerry Douglas, and works with pianist Amy Dorfman, his longtime accompanist for solo recitals featuring both classical repertoire and his own compositions. Mr. Meyer is also involved in an inventive trio project with Béla Fleck on banjo and mandolin player Mike Marshall, performing original compositions marrying bluegrass, classical and other traditional styles. In October 1997, the Fleck/Marshall/Meyer trio opened the 1997-98 season of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) in conjunction with the release of their Sony disc, *Uncommon Ritual* and continue to tour this project. To further explore his interests in a variety of musical genres, Edgar Meyer organized a quartet with violinist Joshua Bell, Mike Marshall, and legendary bluegrass musician Sam Bush for a collaboration featuring a unique fusion of classical and bluegrass musical styles. Their first performances were in June of 1998 at the Aspen Music Festival and Indiana University. The project was released in fall 1999 with a New York performance at (CMS) and an extensive North American tour. Their *Short Trip Home* recording, which has been nominated for the Grammy award in the Best Classical Crossover Album category, is currently available on Sony. Mr. Meyer's vast musical interests have also lead him to be a widely sought after guest bass player for an assortment of recording artists, such as Garth Brooks, Bruce Cockburn, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Hank Williams, Jr., Emmylou Harris, James Taylor, the Chieftains, T-Bone Burnett, Reba McIntyre, the Indigo Girls, Travis Tritt and Lyle Lovett.

An exclusive Sony artist and ever involved in imaginative projects, Mr. Meyer and colleagues Yo-Yo Ma and Mark O'Connor have been widely acclaimed for the Sony release of *Appalachia Waltz*, which soared to the top of the charts and remained there for 16 weeks. The *Appalachia Waltz* project toured extensively in the United States and
the trio was featured both on the “Late Show with David Letterman” and the televised 1997 Inaugural Gala. *Appalachia Waltz II* is scheduled to be released this month. *The Storyteller*, a narrative work with orchestra for children, was debuted at Carnegie Hall in 1997. Most recently, his violin concerto written for violinst Hilary Hahn was premiered and recorded in October 1999 by Ms. Hahn with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra led by Hugh Wolff. Also with this ensemble, Mr. Meyer has just recorded a concerto album featuring Bottesini’s Gran Duo with Joshua Bell; Meyer’s Double Concerto for Bass and Cello with Yo-Yo Ma; Bottesini’s Bass Concerto No. 2 and Meyer’s Concerto for Bass. A frequent guest at music festivals, Mr. Meyer has appeared as performer and composer at Aspen, Caramoor, Chamber Music Northwest, Marlboro and Tanglewood. At the Sante Fe Chamber Music Festival, he was a regular guest from 1985 to 1993, and composed six works for the festival during that time. In 1994, Mr. Meyer joined CMS and continues to perform regularly with this ensemble. Currently, he is also Visiting Professor of Double Bass at the Royal Academy of Music.

Edgar Meyer, Jr. began studying bass at the age of five under the instruction of his father, and continued later with Stuart Sankey. He is the winner of numerous competitions and in 1994 became the first bassist to receive the Avery Fisher Career Grant. Mr. Meyer premiered his bass concerto in 1993 with Edo de Waart and the Minnesota Orchestra, and in 1995, he premiered his Quintet for Bass and String Quartet in collaboration with the Emerson String Quartet. Also, in 1995, he premiered his Double Concerto for Bass and Cello, in collaboration with Carter Brey, cello and Jeffrey Kahane conducting the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival Orchestra.

**Amy Dorfman** has performed as a chamber musician and soloist throughout the United States and in Europe. Her chamber music career has taken her to Garrison Keillor’s “Prairie Home Companion,” and with long-time collaborator and bass virtuoso Edger Meyer, Amy has appeared on National Public Television’s “Lonesome Pine Special” and NPR’s “St. Paul Sunday Morning”. She has performed as guest artist at the Primrose Series in Atlanta and at the Sedona Music Festival in Arizona. She has appeared with the Blair String Quartet, the Nashville Symphony and the Tennessee Dance Theatre. Ms. Dorfman also collaborates with pianist Enid Katahn in their much-acclaimed Dorfman/Katahn Duo. Amy has been a performing artist for Humanities Outreach of Tennessee and the Nashville Institute for the Arts. She was a recipient of the 1990 Individual Artist Award from the Tennessee Arts Commission. Ms. Dorfman is currently on the faculty of the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.