

1-22-2014

Faculty and Guest Recital: Fritz Gearhart and Susan Waterbury, violins

Fritz Gearhart

Susan Waterbury

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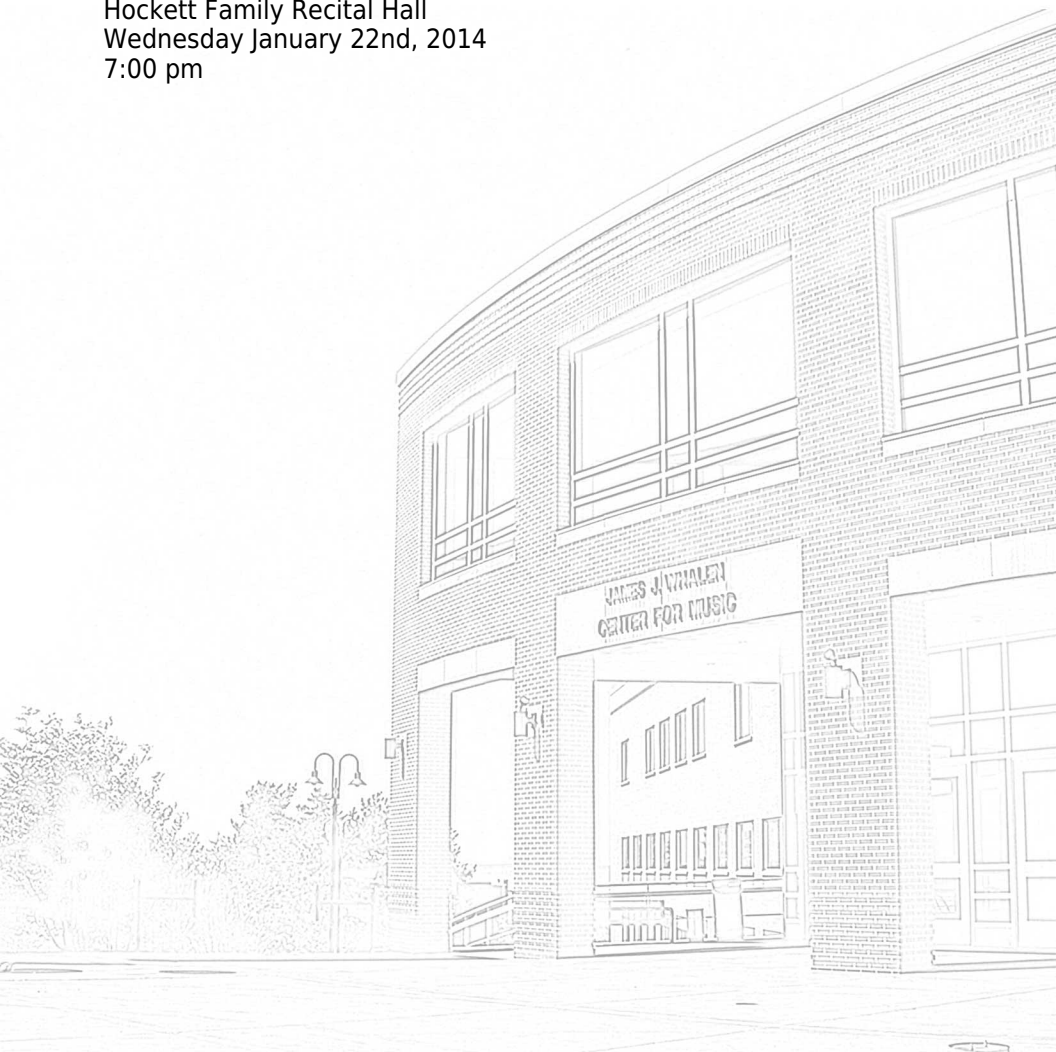
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Faculty and Guest Recital

Fritz Gearhart and Susan Waterbury, violins

Diane Birr, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Wednesday January 22nd, 2014
7:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

Sonata in A Major, K. 402
Andante, ma poco Adagio
Allegro Moderato

W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

*Fritz Gearhart, violin
Diane Birr, piano*

"Take Me Home" for Solo Violin (2013)
Intimately, plaintively
Freely, dramatically, with energy!
Susan Waterbury, violin

Dana Wilson
(b. 1954)

Four pieces for L.G.
I. Lament
II. Scherzo
III. Chorale
IV. Rondo

Fritz Gearhart
(b. 1964)

Fritz Gearhart, violin

Suite in G minor for Two Violins and Piano,
Op. 7

Maurice Moszkowski
(1854-1925)

I. Allegro energico
II. Allegro moderato
III. Lento assai
IV. Molto vivace

*Fritz Gearhart and Susan Waterbury, violins
Diane Birr, piano*

Biographies

Violinist **FRITZ GEARHART** has performed for audiences from coast to coast. He has appeared in major halls around the country including the Kennedy Center, the 92nd Street Y in NYC, Alice Tully Hall, and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie (six times since 1998). He is heard frequently on National Public Radio, including past live broadcasts on WFMT Chicago, WQXR in New York as well as Public Radio's nationally syndicated program *Performance Today*. Several compact discs featuring Gearhart have been released to rave reviews. A sampling from the press: "...a sizzling performance..."(*The Wall Street Journal*), "...supple and imaginative..."(*The New York Times*), "...a superlative evening of musicmaking..."(*New York Concert Review*), and "Gearhart is a bold assertive player..."(*Strad*).

Exploring unique and seldom-heard music, Mr. Gearhart championed the music of American composer Quincy Porter with his release (*Quincy Porter: The Unpublished Manuscripts*) for Koch Entertainment. His next Koch disc was *The Complete Works for Violin by Robert Casadesu* featuring wonderful yet unknown works by this French pianist/composer. Gearhart has premiered several contemporary works for violin, including works by award-winning American composers David Crumb and Robert Kyr.

First violinist of the Chester String Quartet in the early 90's, Gearhart continues to be very active in chamber music and now performs regularly with the Oregon String Quartet, which released two discs on Koch Entertainment: *The OSQ and All That Jazz*, featuring jazz violinist Diane Monroe, and a disc containing music by African-American composer William Grant Still which *Strad* called "Musical Heaven: Oregon String Quartet." Gearhart also occasionally appears as soloist with orchestras. Two recent performances include Bernstein's *Serenade* with the Oregon Festival of American Music and Corigliano's *Red Violin Chaconne* to a sold out audience of over 2000: "Gearhart gave a stunning performance. His warm tone sang out above the orchestra...the technical challenges of the piece did not faze him in the least..." (*Eugene Register-Guard*). Gearhart received his Master's Degree and prestigious Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music where he studied with Donald Weilerstein. Earlier studies at the Hartt School included work with Charles Treger and members of the Emerson Quartet. Mr. Gearhart is currently on the faculty of the University of Oregon School of Music.

Susan Waterbury, violinist, serves as Professor of Violin at the Ithaca College School of Music in Ithaca, NY where she teaches violin and performs regularly with the Sheherazade Trio and the Ariadne String Quartet. Previously, from 1995-99, Waterbury was Associate Professor of Violin at the University of Memphis where she taught violin and performed with the Ceruti String Quartet. On a year's leave of absence from Memphis (1999-2000), Waterbury was Artist-in-Residence and Co-Artistic Director for the Garth Newel Music Center in Hot Springs, VA where she performed chamber music concerts year-round.

Formerly, Waterbury was a founding member of the Cavani String Quartet for 11 years, having served as Quartet-in-Residence at the Cleveland Institute of Music from 1988-95. As a member of Cavani, Ms. Waterbury performed and taught regularly for concert series and festivals throughout the U.S. and

abroad. This included appearances at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and Lincoln Center in New York City, and the Phillips Collection and Corcoran Gallery in Washington D.C. The Cavani Quartet garnered many awards including First Prize in the 1989 Walter W. Naumberg Chamber Music, Cleveland Quartet, and Carmel Chamber Music competitions as well as the 1989 Ohio Governor's Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts.

Waterbury earned a Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music and a Bachelor of Music degree from The Ohio State University School of Music which named her "Distinguished Alumna of 1995". She studied violin with Donald Weilerstein, Jens Ellerman, Michael Davis and Walter Levin (Cincinnati College- Conservatory) and was coached extensively in chamber music by the Cleveland, Tokyo, Emerson, and Juilliard Quartets.

Waterbury is an active performer, playing recitals, concerti, and collaborations regularly with friends locally, and on national and international series and festivals throughout the year. Past and present collaborations include performances with Present Music (new music ensemble), Paul Katz, Colorado Qt., Cleveland Qt., Miami Qt., Frank Cohen, Jesse Levine, Gordon Stout, Josh Smith, David Cerone, Anton Nel, Earl Wild, and Ann Schein. Waterbury has recorded on the Azica, Albany, Pantheon, Polygram, and Cleveland Institute of Music label.

Waterbury has worked with and performed music by composers Christopher Rouse, Kamran Ince, Sally Lamb, Steve Stucky, Jennifer Higdon, Michael Doherty, Joan Tower, John Adams, Donald Erb, Dan Welcher, Marc Mellits, Gordon Stout, George Tsontakis, and Jon Grier, to name a few.

Summers, Waterbury has taught and performed for various festivals, including the Quartet Program, Adriatic Chamber Music Festival (Termoli, Italy), Camerata Deia International Music Festival (Mallorca, Spain), Tuckamore Festival (Newfoundland, Canada), Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory, Music in the Mountains, Bennington Chamber Music Conference, Orvieto Musica (Orvieto, Italy), and Garth Newel Music Festival.

Pianist **Diane Birr** has collaborated with numerous vocalists and instrumentalists in recitals and master classes throughout the United States, and in Russia, Australia, Canada, France, Scotland, Austria, England and Norway. Dr. Birr has served as an official accompanist for the Music Teachers National Association's (MTNA) national competitions, the International Double Reed Society Conference, the International Horn Society Conference and the International Trombone Festival. She is a frequently featured pianist on the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra Chamber Music Series in Ithaca, NY and is currently a member of the Troica trio, which released its first CD entitled Troica - music for trumpet, saxophone and piano in 2010. From 1998-2004 Birr served on the faculty of International Workshops, a two-week music and arts festival held in various locations around the world, performing in recitals with faculty members, as well as coaching chamber music. Birr holds the Doctor of Musical Arts in Accompanying and Chamber Music from the Eastman School of Music, where she studied with Jean Barr. Dr. Birr has been an active member of MTNA for many years, serving in several roles including NYSMTA President, MTNA Eastern Division Director and as a member of the MTNA national Board of Directors.