



International
Presentations of
Music & Dance

THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Eliot Fisk

Guitar

Gary Karr

Double Bass

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 5, 1987, AT 4:00
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

- Sonatine LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
- *Sonata in A minor ("Arpeggione") FRANZ SCHUBERT
Allegro moderato
Adagio
Allegretto
- **Chaconne J. S. BACH
- *Sonata in D major GEORG PHILIPP TELEMANN
Lento
Allegro
Con tenerezza
Vivace

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

- *Sonata in G major GIUSEPPE TORELLI
Adagio non troppo
Allegro
Adagio
Allegro
- Danza Paraguaya AUGUSTIN BARRIOS-MANGORÉ
- Contemplación BARRIOS-MANGORÉ
- El Colibrí JULIO SAGRERAS
- **Capriccio No. 24 NICCOLO PAGANINI
- The Last Contrabass in Las Vegas EUGENE KURTZ
- Variations on Mozart's *The Magic Flute* FERNANDO SOR
- *Variations on Mozart's *Don Giovanni* FRANZ DANZI

- *Transcribed by Fisk/Karr
**Transcribed by Eliot Fisk

The Musical Society gratefully acknowledges the generosity of Ford Motor Company Fund for underwriting the costs of this house program.

About the Artists

Double bass virtuoso **Gary Karr** has revolutionized the art of an instrument described as "the bullfrog of the orchestral lily pond." Since his concert debut in 1961, he has enjoyed a career as a recitalist and as a soloist with orchestras the world over. He has performed with hundreds of ensembles as a guest artist, among them the Berlin Symphony, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Hong Kong and New York Philharmonics, and the Toronto Symphony.

Mr. Karr's extensive repertoire includes over forty works with orchestra, ranging from baroque to modern. During 1983 he performed Dvořák's Cello Concerto on double bass in Japan with the Osaka Philharmonic, which was released on a recording that made the Top 10 "record hits" list in the Orient. He is a champion of contemporary music and has premiered works composed for him by Alexander Brott, Hans Werner Henze, Ned Rorem, Gunther Schuller, and Alec Wilder, among others. His success on television has led to profiles on CBS's "Camera Three," appearances on the "Bell Telephone Hour," his own series "Gary Karr and His Friends" on CBC, and a children's series called "Bass is Beautiful" on British television. He has been featured on TV programs in Africa, Belgium, England, France, Norway, and Switzerland, with major appearances on Japanese television. A one-hour film called the "Amazing Bass" was released by the BBC in 1985, a profile of Mr. Karr's life as a bassist.

The artist maintains an active teaching schedule and, as a master teacher, has inspired and nurtured a new generation of promising bass players. He has taught at the Hartt School of Music, Juilliard, Yale, New York University, North Carolina School of the Arts, New England Conservatory, Indiana University, and the University of Wisconsin.

Gary Karr has pioneered the development of new designs for the double bass and advanced playing techniques. His collection of instruments includes an Amati made in 1611, owned by Koussevitzky and presented as a gift by Madame Olga Koussevitzky; an eighteenth-century Italian bass viol; and a custom-designed bass built in 1978 by Michael Kosman. These and other fine instruments will someday be owned by the Karr Double Bass Foundation, formed in 1983, ensuring that these great instruments will be played by talented artists at no cost to them. The Foundation presented its first fine instrument on loan in 1985.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Gary Karr is a seventh-generation bass player. He began studying at age nine and later worked with Herman Reinshagen, principal bassist of the New York Philharmonic under Toscanini, cellist Gabor Rejto at the University of Southern California, Stuart Sankey at Aspen and Juilliard, cellist Leonard Rose, pianist Leonard Shure, and conductor Alfredo Antonini in New York.

This afternoon's concert marks Gary Karr's second Ann Arbor appearance; his first was in March 1983 with I Solisti Aquilani.

Eliot Fisk, making his Ann Arbor debut this afternoon, has earned an international reputation as a master of the classical guitar. He rose to prominence with his 1976 Alice Tully Hall debut, followed by tours throughout the United States and a First Prize at the 1980 International Classical Guitar Competition in Italy. In recent seasons he has made celebrated appearances in recital and as soloist with orchestras in the finest concert halls of America and Europe. He performs regularly in New York City, has toured in Europe with the Israel Sinfonietta, and performed with the Jerusalem Symphony conducted by Sergiu Comissiona. His festival appearances include performances at the Spoleto Festival, both in South Carolina and in Italy, and his debut at the Hong Kong Festival in 1985. Mr. Fisk is deeply committed to chamber music as well, and has collaborated with such noted artists as soprano Victoria de los Angeles, violinist Gidon Kremer, flutists Paula Robison and Carol Wincenc, double bassist Gary Karr, and in 1983 made his television debut as guest soloist with the Juilliard String Quartet at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Much in demand as a teacher, Eliot Fisk was appointed professor of music at the Musikhochschule in Cologne, West Germany, in 1983, and became founder and head of the guitar department of the Yale School of Music, his alma mater. In July 1985 he gave a series of master classes at the Conservatory of Vienna. As a reflection of his position among today's American guitarists, Mr. Fisk was elected to serve as president of the First Guitar Congress of America, held at the University of Maryland in June 1986. The congress covered all aspects of the classical guitar, from the music of Bach to a lecture on "Economic Survival for Guitarists."

Eliot Fisk's dedication to the enrichment of the guitar's classical repertoire has led him to transcribe many works by Scarlatti, Bach, Frescobaldi, Froberger, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Paganini. On recommendation of Andrés Segovia, Mr. Fisk was chosen to revive a guitar concerto by the great Spanish composer Ernesto Halffter, a work he performed at Madrid's Teatre Real in October 1985 to great public and critical acclaim. Just last February he gave the concerto its first New York performance. Mr. Fisk also seeks to widen the repertoire through commissions of new works.

Born in Philadelphia in 1954, Eliot Fisk studied with Oscar Ghiglia for several summers at Aspen, and he expanded his musical education at Yale where harpsichordist Ralph Kirkpatrick became his mentor and sparked an interest in the scholarly side of music. Mr. Fisk's recordings are found on the Musicmasters/Musical Heritage and EMI labels.

Tomorrow: First day of series ticket sales for new 1987-88 season.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

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