



2016-17 WINTER PROGRAM BOOK

138TH SEASON // UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN | ANN ARBOR

You have a part to play.

Uncommon and engaging experiences. A sense of connection between audience and artist. Moments of clarity, inspiration, and reflection. The performing arts provide us with these elemental experiences, offering a shortcut to our creative selves.



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Your gift will help in the following areas:

ACCESS AND INCLUSIVENESS

Helping make tickets more affordable. Helping create free educational events and community-building activities. Providing opportunities for all to experience the transformative power of the arts.

ENGAGED LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS

Integrating performing arts into the student experience. Creating meaningful connections between the arts and life. Encouraging creative thinking, collaboration, and experimentation.

BOLD ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP

Commissioning work that reflects our commitment to tradition and innovation. Solidifying and elevating our position as a recognized national and international artistic leader. Unique and bold programming.

As a Leader and Best among arts presenters, UMS wants anyone and everyone, students and community alike, to experience the transformative power of the performing arts. We seek generous partners who want to help us achieve our goal.

Visit us online or call the UMS Development Office to make your gift today.

Be Present

UMS unleashes the power of the performing arts in order to engage, educate, transform, and connect individuals with uncommon experiences. The Winter 2017 season is full of exceptional, world-class, and truly inspiring performances.

Welcome to the UMS experience. We're glad you're present. Enjoy the performance.



When you attend a UMS performance,
you're part of a larger equation:

nonprofit **ARTS**
+ **CULTURE**
= **ECONOMIC**
PROSPERITY
in the greater Ann Arbor Area
\$100 million annually

Together, we invest in our local community's vibrancy.



Ann Arbor Area
Community Foundation

aaacf.org



Thank You, Ken...

Welcome to this UMS performance! We are delighted that you are joining us in our 138th season, a season that is bittersweet for the UMS staff and family; UMS President Ken Fischer will retire at the end of June, following 30 years of leadership and service to UMS, the University of Michigan, and to our community.

Ken has fostered a culture of openness, honesty, and out-of-the-box thinking at UMS — a supportive professional environment that can be measured in part by the 21-year average tenure of the UMS management team.

Beyond Ken's lasting contributions to UMS, which include an organizational commitment to Education and an increased focus on commissioning new work, Ken has had an impact that isn't always apparent outside of the organization. His dedication to mentorship and service is vast, and includes hosting weekend tours to prospective University students interested in the arts; tirelessly serving on boards of directors within the arts industry regionally, nationally, and internationally; and generously offering his time and knowledge in connecting others.

He has achieved some of the highest recognitions in our field, including the 2016 Chamber Music America Richard J. Bogomolny National Service Award, the 2011 Association of Performing Arts Presenters Fan Taylor Distinguished Service Award, and UMS's recognition as a 2014 National Medal of Arts recipient. From the Vienna Philharmonic concerts led by Leonard Bernstein in 1988, to the first Royal Shakespeare Company residency in 2001, through the remounting of *Einstein on the Beach* in 2012, Ken has held true to his lifelong motto: "Everybody In, Nobody Out."

Ken, we wish you all of the best in the final few months of your tenure. Thank you for all that you've done for our community!

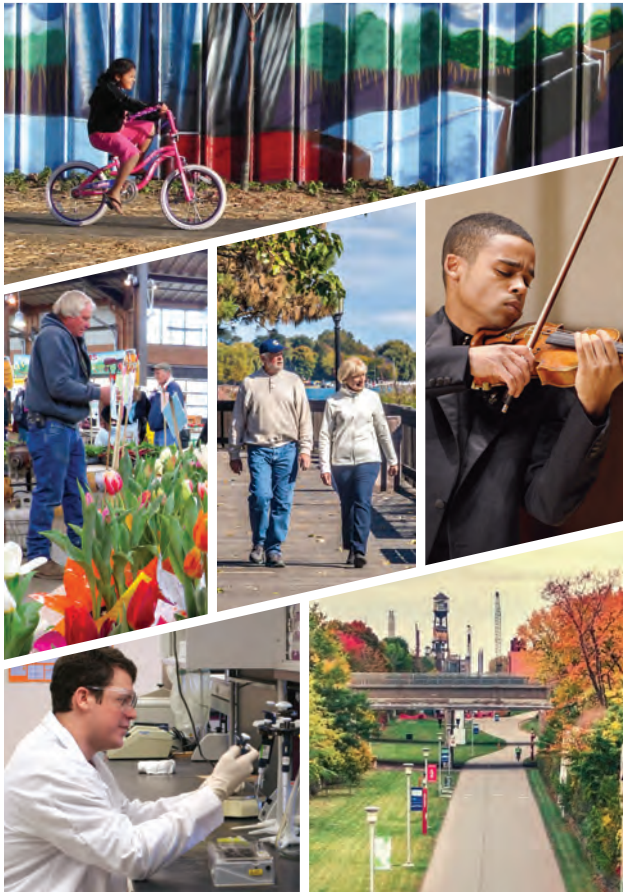
The UMS Family

Community Foundation

FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

Thanks to thousands of generous individuals, families and businesses, the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is a permanent source of community capital, dedicated to creating lasting positive benefit in our region. Through grantmaking, education and leadership on community issues, we help improve the quality of life for all residents of Southeast Michigan.

cfsem.org. 1-888-WeEndow





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Druid



Bruckner Orchester Linz
with Angélique Kidjo

Sarah Chang



Batsheva Dance Company

Snarky Puppy



Winter 2017 Season

January

- 1/7-8** Batsheva Dance Company
- 1/12-14** Igor and Moreno
Idiot-Syncrasy
- 1/15** NT Live: Harold Pinter's
No Man's Land
- 1/19** Prague Philharmonia with
Sarah Chang, violin
Andrew Von Oeyen, piano
- 1/20** Meredith Monk &
Vocal Ensemble
On Behalf of Nature
- 1/21-22** Takács Quartet
Beethoven String Quartet
Cycle, Concerts 3 & 4
- 1/22** NT Live: *The Audience*
- 1/29** Inon Barnatan, piano
Anthony McGill, clarinet
Alisa Weilerstein, cello

February

- 2/2** Bruckner Orchester Linz
with Angélique Kidjo
- 2/3** Estonian Philharmonic
Chamber Choir
- 2/5** M-Prize Winner:
Calidore String Quartet
- 2/10** Budapest Festival Orchestra
with Richard Goode, piano
- 2/18** Ping Chong + Company
*Beyond Sacred: Voices of
Muslim Identity*
- 2/19** *Jelly and George*
Aaron Diehl and
Cécile McLorin Salvant

March

- 3/4** Jazz at Lincoln Center
Orchestra with
Wynton Marsalis
- 3/9-11** Druid
*The Beauty Queen of
Leenane*
- 3/11** Beethoven's
Missa Solemnis
- 3/16** Snarky Puppy
- 3/17-18** Kidd Pivot and
Electric Company Theatre
Betroffenheit
- 3/18** Steve Reich @ 80
Music for 18 Musicians
- 3/24** Mitsuko Uchida, piano
- 3/25-26** Takács Quartet
Beethoven String Quartet
Cycle, Concerts 5 & 6
- 3/29** DakhaBrakha
- 3/30-4/1** Complicite
The Encounter

April

- 4/1** Michael Fabiano, tenor
Martin Katz, piano
- 4/12** A Far Cry with
Roomful of Teeth
- 4/15** Sanam Marvi
- 4/21** King Sunny Adé
- 4/22** Yo-Yo Ma, Edgar Meyer &
Chris Thile
- 4/25** Handel's *Ariodante*:
Opera in Concert

May

- 5/21** NT Live: Ibsen's
Hedda Gabler



Ann Arbor, we're
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Chris Ballard
Christine Phillips
Tom Forster

Not pictured:
Rick Manczak
Jack Panitch

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Education & Community Engagement

Educational experiences for everyone.



Berliner Philharmoniker principal flutist Emmanuel Pahud leads a master class at the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance; photo: Peter Smith/UMS.

At UMS, our mission goes beyond performance. We want you to create, to explore, and to experience extraordinary new things. That is why we offer a fascinating lineup of artist Q&As, conversations, workshops, and interactive experiences, each designed to bring you closer to performance and creation, and to expand your comfort zone. If you want to experience something new, different, highly engaging, and eye-opening, we invite you to participate in events inside and outside of the theater.



THE
GILMORE
2016-2017
SEASON

PRESENTING
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& RISING STARS

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thegilmore.org

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

As longtime patrons of the arts,
Honigman and its Ann Arbor attorneys
are proud to support UMS.

For more information, please contact David Parsigian
at 734.418.4250 or DParsigian@honigman.com.

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EDUCATION

Pre-Concert Lecture Series: Exploring Beethoven's String Quartets

Saturday, January 21 // 7 pm

Rackham Amphitheatre
915 E. Washington St.
Fourth Floor

Join Beethoven scholar and U-M professor of musicology Steven Whiting for a series of lectures in conjunction with the Takács String Quartet's complete Beethoven cycle.

Saturday, March 25 // 7 pm

Michigan League
Koessler Room
911 N. University Ave.
Third Floor

In collaboration with the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



EDUCATION

You Can Dance

Ever wonder what it's like to be a dancer? Join dancers from each company on the UMS season for beginner movement workshops exploring each of the company's movement styles. No dance training or experience necessary, and all levels, ages 13 and up, are welcome. Free, but first come, first served until studio reaches capacity. Sign-up begins at the Y 45 minutes prior to the start of class.

Educational events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Batsheva Dance Company

Saturday, January 7 // 12 noon–1:30 pm
Ann Arbor Y
400 W. Washington St.

Igor and Moreno

Saturday, January 14 // 2-3:30 pm
Ann Arbor Y
400 W. Washington St.

Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble

Saturday, January 21 // 2-3:30 pm
Ann Arbor Y
400 W. Washington St.

Kidd Pivot

Saturday, March 18 // 2-3:30 pm
Ann Arbor Y
400 W. Washington St.



WELCOME TO GRADUATE ANN ARBOR—

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ANN ARBOR | 48104
M I

Tradition Builds the Future



In our 138th season, we continue to showcase traditional performances alongside contemporary artists for an offering that is unlike anything available in the Midwest. UMS grew from a group of local members of the University and townspeople in the 1870s who gathered together for the study of Handel's *Messiah*. Led by Professor Henry Simmons Frieze and conducted by Professor Calvin Cady, the group assumed the name The Choral Union. Many Choral Union members were also affiliated with the University, and the University Musical Society was established soon after in December 1880.

Since that first season, UMS has expanded greatly and now presents the very best from a wide spectrum of the performing arts: internationally renowned recitalists and orchestras, dance and chamber ensembles, jazz and global music performers, and contemporary stagework and classical theater. Through educational programming, the commissioning of new works, youth programs, artist residencies, and collaborative projects, we continue to strengthen our reputation for artistic distinction and innovation.

Leadership Donors

We recognize the donors who have made multi-year campaign commitments of \$100,000 or more during the last year.



**BERTRAM ASKWITH (1911-2015)
PATTI ASKWITH KENNER**

“The arts made a significant difference in my father’s life and in my life, too. My father wanted every U-M student to have the opportunity to experience the impact of the performing arts at UMS. This is why I am continuing to offer every first- and second-year student one free ticket — Bert’s Ticket — to introduce them to a cultural experience at Michigan and keep my father’s passion for the arts alive.”



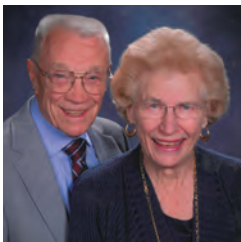
MAURICE AND LINDA BINKOW

“Our love of opera and the human voice, rivaled only by our affection for the Brooklyn Dodgers and Jackie Robinson, began nearly 70 years ago as teenagers in New York City. That’s why we are so pleased to create an endowment that will bring song recitals to UMS audiences for generations to come.”



STEVE AND ROS FORREST

“As students, we benefited from low-cost student tickets, fostering a lifelong love of the performing arts. Our donation will help to ensure that affordable tickets will be available to today’s students.”



ILENE FORSYTH AND KARL HAUSER

“An endowment is a gift which keeps on giving forever, so it is rewarding to know — while we are yet living — that our gift will still be giving when we’re not here.”



MAXINE AND STUART FRANKEL

“We are delighted to partner with UMS for the sixth year of Renegade. Supporting Renegade programming allows UMS to provide experiences for the curious, adventurous, and experimental audience member — allowing us to challenge our existing beliefs and push our own boundaries.”



EUGENE AND EMILY GRANT

“We are proud to support UMS and the many programs they offer University students. It is great to know that students will have access to the greatest performing artists from around the world. The arts are an important part of a Michigan education.”



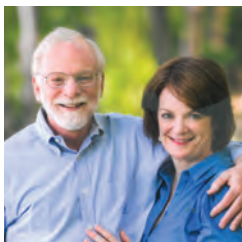
DAVID LEICHTMAN AND LAURA MCGINN

“UMS is an inspiration — from the Big House of the Arts to the master classes taught to University students. This organization contributes significantly to the culture of Ann Arbor and to the University we love. We are pleased to support its mission.”



STUART AND LINDA NELSON

“Our connection to the University of Michigan is through our grandson’s incredible experience as a student. We are dazzled by the array of cultural events available to everyone on campus and beyond. At the heart of this phenomenon is UMS, where Ken Fischer’s legacy will continue its magic long after his retirement. We feel privileged to participate in the UMS Endowment Fund in his honor.”



MAX WICHA AND SHEILA CROWLEY

“We are delighted and proud to support UMS and the rich, diverse programs they offer each season. The arts play a vital role in enhancing the quality of life in our community, while bringing beauty and meaning to everyday life. UMS is a gem we treasure and will continue to do so, for many years to come.”

Corporate Champions

We thank the following businesses for their commitments of \$5,000 or more for the 2016–17 season.



ALICIA M. TORRES

Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, Altarum Institute

“The arts stimulate the mind and inspire creativity. Hence, we at Altarum are thrilled to support UMS and provide inspiring and enjoyable cultural opportunities for our team and our community. Altarum Institute serves the public good by solving complex systems problems to improve human health through objective research, technology, analysis, and consulting leadership skills.”



SCOTT DAWSON

Vice President of Engineering, Arbor Networks

“Ann Arbor is a thriving hub for both the arts and technology. With the arts playing such a critical role fostering innovation and creativity, we are delighted to support UMS this season.”



TIMOTHY G. MARSHALL

President and CEO, Bank of Ann Arbor

“We take seriously our role as a community bank. While there have been sizable cuts in arts funding over the years by both the private and public sectors, Bank of Ann Arbor is delighted to continue to sponsor UMS year after year. We are firm believers that the arts are vital to the vibrancy of our cities, both culturally and economically.”



ALMAZ LESSANEWORK

Owner, Blue Nile Restaurant

“At the Blue Nile, we believe in giving back to the community that sustains our business. We are proud to support an organization that provides such an important service to Ann Arbor.”





LARRY BRYANT

Ann Arbor Region President, Comerica Bank

“As a company with a long-standing commitment to diversity and our community, Comerica is proud to continue its support of UMS. We salute UMS on its efforts to enrich our community by showcasing the talents of performing artists from around the world. Congratulations to the leader and best in the performing arts.”



CHRIS CONLIN

President, Conlin Travel, Inc.

“Conlin Travel has been a proud supporter of UMS for over 50 years. I will never forget attending one of my first UMS concerts in 1975, listening to Vladimir Horowitz perform Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Schumann, and others. UMS makes Ann Arbor the most vibrant cultural community in Michigan today.”



FAYE ALEXANDER NELSON

President, DTE Energy Foundation

“The DTE Energy Foundation is pleased to support exemplary organizations like UMS that inspire the soul, instruct the mind, and enrich the community.”



NANCY AND RANDALL FABER

Founders, Faber Piano Institute

“We are proud to support UMS in its tradition of program excellence and outreach that enriches our thoughts, our families, and our community.”



JAMES G. VELLA

President, Ford Motor Company Fund

“Experiencing the world through music and the arts makes us better as individuals while bringing us together as a community. We are proud to support UMS and the important role it plays in enriching our lives.”



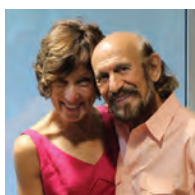
Ford Motor Company Fund



DAVID N. PARSIGIAN

Ann Arbor Office Managing Partner, Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP

“In our firm’s tradition of supporting major cultural institutions, Honigman has been a long-time supporter of UMS. Our Ann Arbor office is proud to carry on that tradition on behalf of all of our attorneys, especially those who work and live in the Ann Arbor area. We all view the exceptional cultural experiences that UMS provides as key to the success of our community and our firm.”



JOHN AND JACKIE FARAH

Owners, Imagine Fitness & Yoga

“My wife Jackie and I share a deep devotion to our hometown of Ann Arbor and all the opportunities it presents. UMS is a huge part of this community. The programming that UMS offers is internationally recognized and Ann Arbor would not be the same without it. Imagine Fitness & Yoga is honored to support such a great organization and community.”



MOHAMAD ISSA

Director, Issa Foundation

“The Issa Foundation is sponsored by the Issa family, which has been established in Ann Arbor for the last 30 years, and is involved in local property management as well as area public schools. The Issa Foundation is devoted to the sharing and acceptance of culture in an effort to change stereotypes and promote peace. UMS has done an outstanding job bringing diverse and talented performers to Ann Arbor.”

ISSA FOUNDATION



ROBIN WEBER POLLAK

President, Journeys International

“Journeys International and UMS have a lot in common: we both provide opportunities for powerful and impactful experiences. Founded and based in Ann Arbor, Journeys has been crafting life-changing international travel adventures for nearly four decades. We are thrilled to support UMS and its programs that change people through the performing arts.”



JAMES HOFFMAN

Michigan Market President, KeyBank

“KeyBank remains a committed supporter of the performing arts in Ann Arbor and we commend UMS for bringing another season of great performances to the community. Thank you, UMS, for continuing the tradition.”





MICHAEL CONLIN

Director of Business Development, Level X Talent

“Level X Talent enjoys supporting UMS and its ongoing success bringing world-class artistic talent to the community. Please join us in congratulating UMS. As with the arts, consistently finding and attracting exceptional talent in Advanced Technology can be difficult. Level X Talent partners with our clients to meet that challenge.”

LEVEL X TALENT

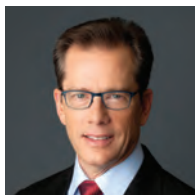


DENNIS SERRAS

Owner, Mainstreet Ventures, Inc.

“As restaurant and catering service owners, we consider ourselves fortunate that our business provides so many opportunities for supporting UMS and its continuing success in bringing internationally acclaimed talent to the Ann Arbor community.”

MAIN STREET
— DELICIES —
DISTINGUISHED CATERING



KEITH ALLMAN

President and Chief Executive Officer, Masco

“Masco is proud to support UMS and salutes its commitment to providing excellent and diverse programs that spark a lifelong passion for creativity. Thank you, UMS, for allowing all of us to experience the transformative power of the performing arts!”

MASCO



THOMAS B. MCMULLEN

President and CEO, McMullen Properties

“A Michigan–Ohio State football ticket is still the best ticket in all of sport. However, a UMS ticket always provides the best in educational and artistic entertainment.”

MCMULLEN
PROPERTIES
FOUR GENERATIONS IN ANN ARBOR REAL ESTATE



STEVE ARWOOD

CEO, Michigan Economic Development Corporation

“We are proud to support UMS, an outstanding organization bringing world-class artists to Michigan. By partnering with UMS to bring the Berlin Philharmonic to our state, we are showing once again the wide variety of offerings Michigan has that enhance our quality of life and help to make our state an amazing place to live, work, and do business.”

M E D C
MICHIGAN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
PURE MICHIGAN



STEPHEN G. PALMS

Principal, Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C.

“Miller Canfield proudly supports UMS for enhancing our quality of life by bringing the unfiltered immediacy of live performing arts to our community.”



TODD CLARK

Regional President, Old National Bank

“At Old National Bank, we’re committed to community partnership. That’s why, last year alone, we funded over \$5 million in grants and sponsorships and our associates donated almost 100,000 volunteer hours. It’s also the reason we’re pleased to once again support UMS as a corporate sponsor for the 2016–17 season.”



RICHARD L. DEVORE

Detroit and Southeast Michigan Regional President, PNC Bank

“PNC Bank is proud to support the efforts of UMS and the Ann Arbor community.”



TODD KEPHART

Managing Partner, Retirement Income Solutions

“With strong roots in the community for more than 30 years, our team of investment advisors is proud to support UMS. We salute Ken Fischer on his marvelous stewardship and applaud his team’s ongoing commitment to presenting authentic, world-renowned artists to the Ann Arbor community.”



SAVA LELCAJ

Chief Executive Officer, Savco: Hospitality

“One of Ann Arbor’s greatest assets is UMS, which brings amazing, best-in-class performances to our city season after season. Savco Hospitality is honored to support UMS and its mission of engaging, educating, transforming, and connecting the arts to our community.”





JOE SESI

President, Sesi Lincoln Volvo Mazda

“UMS is an important cultural asset for our community. The Sesi Lincoln Volvo Mazda team is delighted to sponsor such a fine organization.”



JOHN FITZPATRICK

President, StoryPoint

“At StoryPoint we strive to inspire and enable seniors to shine every day. Our mission to create the absolute best experiences does not end within our buildings; we aim to enrich the communities we serve. Music is a language that every person — young and old — understands and enjoys. We are proud to support UMS, who inspires our community through artistic expression and talented performers.”

STORYPOINT
Shine. Everyday.



JOHN W. STOUT

President, Stout Systems

“Supporting UMS is really a labor of love — love of music and the performing arts and love of arts advocacy and education. Everyone at Stout Systems knows we cannot truly be successful without helping to make our community a better place. It is an honor to be part of the UMS family.”



TOM THOMPSON

Owner, Tom Thompson Flowers

“Judy and I are enthusiastic participants in the UMS family. We appreciate how our lives have been elevated by this relationship.”



OSAMU “SIMON” NAGATA

President, Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc.

“Toyota Technical Center is proud to support UMS, an organization with a long and rich history of serving diverse audiences through a wide variety of arts programming.”





TIFFANY FORD

President and CEO, University of Michigan Credit Union

"The University of Michigan Credit Union is excited to launch 'Arts Adventures' with UMS and UMMA! With this endowment, we promote the celebration of the arts through amazing experiences and exceptional learning opportunities for the entire community."

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
CREDIT UNION



MARK SCHLISSSEL

President, University of Michigan

"The University of Michigan is proud to support UMS as a natural extension of our academic enterprise. UMS's outstanding performances and educational programs add tremendous value for our students, faculty, alumni, and regional community."



MARSCHALL RUNGE

Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Michigan, and CEO, University of Michigan Health System

"We are proud to partner with UMS for its 2016–17 season. Music improves the quality of life for all of us, and, increasingly, is recognized as an important ingredient for better health."

M | HEALTH SYSTEM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



Calidore String Quartet

Jeffrey Myers / *Violin*
Ryan Meehan / *Violin*
Jeremy Berry / *Viola*
Estelle Choi / *Cello*

Sunday Afternoon, February 5, 2017 at 4:00
Rackham Auditorium
Ann Arbor

37th Performance of the 138th Annual Season
54th Annual Chamber Arts Series

M-Prize is an international chamber arts competition based in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance which aims to:

- Identify and showcase the highest caliber of international chamber arts ensembles;
- Provide a professional performance and adjudication platform for the chamber arts;
- Help launch and advance the careers of chamber ensembles through prizes and professional development opportunities;
- Evolve the breadth and depth of the chamber arts landscape and associated professional opportunities for exceptional ensembles.

The next competition will be held May 1–4, 2017.

This afternoon's presenting sponsor is Carl Cohen, professor of philosophy at the Residential College at U-M, and long-time supporter of UMS who underwrites a Chamber Arts performance and whose bequest will establish an endowment to support a Chamber Arts performance in perpetuity. This meaningful gift helps ensure continued success at UMS and for future generations.

UMS is proud to partner with M-Prize to present the grand prize winner of its annual competition. The Calidore String Quartet is the inaugural M-Prize grand prize winner, an honor which was awarded in May 2016 in Hill Auditorium.

Media partnership provided by WGTE 91.3 FM.

The Calidore String Quartet appears by arrangement with Opus 3 Artists.

In consideration of the artists and the audience, please refrain from the use of electronic devices during the performance.

The photography, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance is prohibited.

PROGRAM

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

String Quartet No. 15 in d minor, K. 421/417b

Allegro

Andante

Menuetto: Allegretto

Allegro ma non troppo

Caroline Shaw

First Essay: Nimrod

Intermission

Felix Mendelssohn

String Quartet No. 4 in e minor, Op. 44, No. 2

Allegro assai appassionato

Scherzo: Allegro di molto

Andante

Presto agitato

STRING QUARTET NO. 15 IN D MINOR, K. 421/417B (1783)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Born January 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria

Died December 5, 1791 in Vienna

UMS premiere: Flonzaley Quartet; November 1927 in Hill Auditorium.

Snapshot of History...In 1783:

- The Kingdom of Great Britain acknowledges the independence of the United States of America
- The first Waterford Crystal glassmaking business begins production in Waterford, Ireland
- George Washington gives his *Farewell Address to the Army* in November

Mozart did not always compose with the ease and speed one usually associates with his name. Even he had to struggle with some of his compositions. The six string quartets dedicated to Franz Joseph Haydn are a case in point. In paying homage to his older colleague and friend, Mozart subjected himself to an enormous challenge. Haydn had turned the string quartet into one of the most highly developed instrumental genres of his time and, especially after his epoch-making set of six quartets, Op. 33 (1781), he became the undisputed master of the form with an international reputation. Mozart, eager to live up to these high standards, took three years to complete his set of six quartets, which constitute his response to Haydn's Op. 33. Here was music for the connoisseur, sophisticated in technique and complex in elaboration — the work of a genius making a conscious effort to outdo himself (if that is possible at all). For the publication of these quartets, Mozart wrote a beautiful dedicatory letter to Haydn (in Italian,

the international language of music) in which he acknowledged the “long and hard work” the quartets had cost him, and asked Haydn to be a loving “father, guide, and friend” to these “children” which the composer was sending out into the world to live their own lives.

The d-minor Quartet was the second in the set of six. Mozart followed Haydn's custom of including one quartet in a minor key in the group; such works were usually darker, more tragic in tone, and more innovative in harmonic language than their “siblings” in major tonalities. The d-minor Quartet is no exception: its mood is agitated almost from beginning to end. One area of relative calm is the second theme of the first movement, in which the tonality switches to major, in accordance with expectations. Yet when this theme returns in the recapitulation (after a rather stormy development), it undergoes some striking melodic transformations that effectively change its character from lyrical to dramatic.

The second movement is a (mostly) calm “Andante” in F Major. The third is a minuet, but without the usual

graceful character of the dance; this *minuetto serio* (serious minuet) in the tragic key of d minor is filled with chromatic harmonies and complex imitative textures. Its stern atmosphere is relieved by the trio, in which the first violin plays a tune reminiscent of yodeling (a kind of folk singing from the mountainous regions of Austria, characterized by wide melodic leaps).

The last movement is a set of variations on a theme in which the rhythm of the *siciliano* dance is imbued with a strong proto-Romantic feeling. Contrary to what happens in many minor-key works where the tensions are eased by a final modulation to the major, in this movement the variation in the major remains a passing episode and the work ends on a rather disconsolate note.

Program note by Peter Laki.

FIRST ESSAY: NIMROD (2016)

Caroline Shaw

Born 1982 in Greenville, North Carolina

UMS premiere: This piece has never been performed on a UMS concert.

Snapshot of History...In 2016:

- The World Health Organization announces an outbreak of the Zika virus
- The United Kingdom votes in a referendum to leave the European Union
- The US and China ratify the Paris global climate agreement

From the composer:

First Essay: Nimrod began as a simple exercise in translating the lilt and rhythm of one of my favorite authors, Marilynne Robinson, into music. She writes beautifully and bravely on notions of the human soul, weaving delicately in and out various subjects (politics, religion, science) in each of her rich, methodical essays. In addition to thinking deeply about how the Calidore String Quartet approaches music and who they are as musicians, my jumping-off-point for this piece was considering Robinson and other writers. Usually my music is inspired by visual art, or food, or some odd physics quirk, but this time I wanted to lunge into language, with all its complex splintering and welding of units and patterns! The piece begins with a gentle lilt, like Robinson herself speaking, but soon begins to fray as the familiar harmony unravels into tumbling fragments and unexpected repetitive tunnels. These unexpected musical trap doors lead to various worlds that are built from the materials of the beginning, like the odd way dreams can transform one thing into another. The title refers to the legendary biblical figure Nimrod,

who oversaw the construction of the Tower of Babel — a city designed to be tall enough to reach heaven but which resulted in confusion and scattering of language. This image of chaos and fragmentation, but also of extraordinary creative energy, may serve as a framework for listening to this musical essay.

I have written *First Essay: Nimrod* particularly for the wonderfully thoughtful Calidore Quartet, whose performances of and investigations into the rich string quartet repertoire are an inspiration to me.

*Program note by composer
Caroline Shaw.*

STRING QUARTET NO. 4 IN E MINOR, OP. 44, NO. 2 (1837)

Felix Mendelssohn

Born February 3, 1809 in Hamburg, Germany

Died November 4, 1847 in Leipzig

UMS premiere: Detroit Philharmonic Club; November 1887 in Hobart Hall.

Snapshots of History...In 1837:

- Victoria becomes Queen of England
- Samuel Morse invents the telegraph
- Alexander Pushkin is killed in a duel

“I want the ideas to be expressed more simply and more naturally, but to be conceived in a more complex and individual fashion,” Felix Mendelssohn wrote to a friend in 1834. It is a wonderfully clear artistic statement, remarkable in the fine distinction it makes between complexity in the ideas and simplicity in their expression. In other words, the composition has to be simple without being simplistic, natural without being clichéd. Mendelssohn was able to practice what he preached, and the three string quartets published as Op. 44 with a dedication to the Crown Prince of Sweden are a case in point. This music speaks a language that is immediately comprehensible to an audience familiar with the works of Beethoven (Mendelssohn’s great model), but it has some highly personal things to say in that language.

The choice of a minor key virtually guarantees a passionate, emotionally-charged tone, and in fact, the work is framed by an “*appassionato*” opening and an “*agitato*” closing movement. Both abound in powerful *sforzato* accents (individual notes given special emphasis), a strong rhetorical device that greatly increases the intensity of the musical phrases. Of course, classical

musical form demands a certain amount of contrast, and episodes of relative calm occur in both movements; but by and large, a dramatic “storm-and-stress” atmosphere prevails. Nor does the second-movement scherzo provide any relief: it is a light-footed but rather agitated piece that uses the device of tremolo (very fast repeats of the same note) to great effect. Significantly, Mendelssohn forgoes the chance to relax in a contrasting trio section (as he had already done in his brilliant *Octet in E-flat Major, Op. 20* for strings, written at the age of 16). The only real respite occurs in the third-movement “*Andante*,” an expansive instrumental aria over which Mendelssohn wrote the warning words: “This movement must by no means be dragged.” The first violin is the leader almost throughout (playing even a passage resembling a virtuoso cadenza from a concerto). Yet when the melodious first theme returns, it is surprisingly given to the cello. But the first violin soon reclaims its primacy and leads the movement to its idyllic ending — a reverie from which we will be awakened by the irruption of the “*Presto agitato*.”

Program note by Peter Laki.





ARTISTS

The **Calidore String Quartet**, one of the most acclaimed and sought-after chamber ensembles of their generation, has been heralded as “the epitome of confidence and finesse,” (*Gramophone*) and “a miracle of unified thought” (*La Presse*, Montreal). The Quartet made international headlines as the Grand Prize winner of the 2016 and inaugural M-Prize International Chamber Music Competition, the largest prize for chamber music in the world. Other major highlights of 2016 include being named a BBC Next Generation Artist for the 2016–18 seasons and becoming the first North American ensemble to win the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship. Additionally, the Quartet begins a three-year residency with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Two for the 2016–2019 seasons. In fall 2016, the Quartet was named Visiting Guest Artists at the University of Delaware and will serve as Visiting Artists-in-Residence at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance. The Calidore String Quartet regularly performs throughout North America, Europe, and Asia and has debuted in such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Lincoln Center, Seoul’s Kumho Arts Hall, Schneider Concerts (NYC), and at many significant festivals including Verbier, Ravinia, Mostly Mozart, Rheingau, East Neuk, and Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

In addition to winning the M-Prize, the Calidore String Quartet won grand prizes in virtually all the major US chamber music competitions, including the Fischhoff, Coleman, Chesapeake, and Yellow Springs competitions, and captured top prizes at the 2012 ARD Munich International String Quartet Competition and Hamburg International Chamber Music Competition.

As protégés of the Emerson Quartet, the Calidore String Quartet was featured in a performance of Mendelssohn’s Octet with the Emerson Quartet presented by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center to commemorate the Emerson’s 40th anniversary season. Other highlights of the 2016–17 season include the Quartet’s Chinese debut in Hong Kong as well as debuts on major series in Berlin, New York, Chicago, Houston, Portland, and Ann Arbor; a world-premiere of a quartet by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw at SOKA University; and collaborations with David Shifrin, Anne-Marie McDermott, and members of the Emerson, Borodin, and Vogler string quartets.

In February 2015, the Calidore String Quartet released its critically-acclaimed debut recording of quartets by Mendelssohn and Haydn. Additionally, in February 2016 the Quartet released an album on the French label Editions Hortus, with music by Hindemith, Milhaud, Stravinsky, de la Presle, and Toch commemorating the World War I centennial. The Quartet was featured as Young Artists-in-Residence on American Public Media’s *Performance Today* and their performances have been broadcast on National Public Radio, BBC, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Korean Broadcasting Corporation, Bayerischer Rundfunk (Munich), Norddeutscher Rundfunk (Hamburg), and were featured on German national television as part of a documentary produced by ARD public broadcasting.

The Calidore String Quartet has collaborated with many esteemed artists and ensembles, including Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Joshua Bell, Inon Barnatan, Paul Coletti, Ronald Leonard, Paul Watkins,

Raphael Merlin, and the Quatuor Ebène. Formed in 2010 at the Colburn School of Music, the Calidore has studied closely with such luminaries as the Emerson Quartet, David Finckel, Andre Roy, Arnold Steinhardt, Günther Pichler, Gerhard Schulz, Heime Müller, Guillaume Sutre, Gabor Takacs-Nagy, Paul Coletti, Ronald Leonard, Clive Greensmith, Martin Beaver, and the Quatuor Ebène.

As a passionate supporter of music education, the Calidore String Quartet is deeply committed to mentoring and educating young musicians, students, and audiences. From 2014–16 the Calidore served as artists-in-residence at Stony Brook University. The Quartet has conducted master classes and residencies at Princeton, Stanford, the University of Michigan, UCLA, and Mercer University as well as at Chamber Music Connection in Columbus, Ohio. The Calidore was previously on the faculty of the Ed and Mari Edelman Chamber Music Institute at the Colburn School.

Using an amalgamation of “California” and “doré” (French for “golden”), the ensemble’s name represents a reverence for the diversity of culture and the strong support it received from its home of origin — Los Angeles, California — the “golden state.” The Calidore String Quartet aims to present performances that share the passion and joy of the string quartet chamber music repertoire.

For more information about the Calidore String Quartet, please visit www.calidorestringquartet.com and www.facebook.com/calidorequartet.

UMS welcomes the Calidore String Quartet as the ensemble makes its UMS debut this afternoon.

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- 3/25 Pre-Concert Lecture Series: Exploring Beethoven's String Quartets
(Michigan League Koessler Room, Third Floor, 911 N. University Ave., 7:00 pm)

Educational events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

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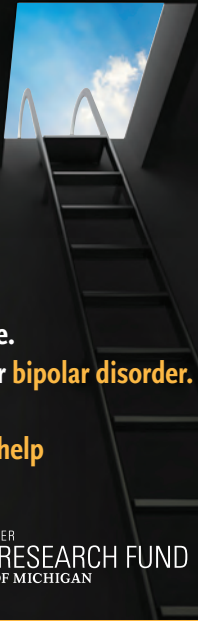


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