



The
Frederick
Gunn
School

Louis Spohr
Grand Nonetto in F major, op. 31

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Thursday, February 17, 2022
The Frederick Gunn School
Thomas S. Perakos
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Washington, CT

Susan Rotholz, flute
Jo-Ann Sternberg
Keisuke Ikuma, oboe
Patrick Milando, horn
Alex Davis, bassoon

Doori Na, violin
Sarah Adams, viola
Eliot Bailen, cello
Peter Weitzner, bass

PROGRAM

Grand Nonetto in F Major Op. 31
For Woodwind Quintet and Strings

Louis Spohr
(1784-1859)

Allegro
Scherzo – Allegro – Trio I – Trio II
Adagio
Finale - vivace

Louis Spohr

Grand Nonetto in F major, op. 31



The first work to actually bear the title of *Nonet* was the piece you are hearing today: Louis Spohr's *Grand Nonetto in F major, op. 31* (1813), for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, violin, viola, cello, and double bass.

A nonet is a musical composition which requires nine musicians for a performance, or a musical group that consists of nine people.

Louis Spohr's nonet was so successful that its instrumentation became the standard for subsequent nonets down to the present time. Though nonets have been scored for other instruments, the combination of a wind quintet and a string quartet remains the tradition.

During his time, Louis Spohr (1784-1859), was somewhat of a rock star, touring across Europe, working with the famous musicians of the time, including Beethoven.

He composed almost 300 works: operas, concerti, art songs, oratorios, symphonies and chamber music (this nonet remains his most cherished chamber work).

He was hailed as a violinist and violin teacher with over 200 students some who became quite well-known. He is credited with inventing the chin-rest for the violin and the rehearsal mark for musical scores.

The style of his music falls between the Classical and Romantic periods; he was influenced by Haydn and Beethoven and was an inspiration to no less than Mendelssohn.

Like Bach, after his death, Spohr fell into obscurity but, luckily for us, in the last 40 years his music has been revived in the concert halls.

In 1808, Spohr visited Beethoven at his home and assisted him as he was composing his piano trio nick-named *The Ghost*. He later wrote of this visit that his piano was out of tune and that Beethoven's playing was harsh or careless. We must assume that Beethoven's encroaching deafness was already taking effect.

We hope you enjoy Spohr's *Nonet* today. Please don't hesitate to ask us questions afterwards about the piece, our instruments or our lives as musicians!

- *Eliot Bailen, Artistic Director
The Sherman Chamber Ensemble*

“As close as it gets to the ideal of a chamber music concert.”
That's how the New York Times described the
Sherman Chamber Ensemble. And with good reason!

Since 1982, the Sherman Chamber Ensemble has inspired audiences with creative programming and brilliant performances.

Guided by our mission to bring world class musicians to our communities to perform a diverse range of music with an approach that is intimate and inclusive, we offer Baroque programs, jazz-inspired concerts, classical, children's and family concerts.

Whatever your taste in music, join us for something special throughout the year!

THIS EVENING'S PERFORMERS



Eliot Bailen has an active career as artistic director, cellist, composer and teacher.

"At Merkin Hall (NYC) cellist Eliot Bailen displayed a warm focused tone, concentrated expressiveness and admirable technical command always at the service of the Music."

- Strings Magazine

Founder and Artistic Director of the Sherman Chamber Ensemble, now in its 35th year, whose performances the New York Times has described as "the Platonic ideal of a chamber music concert," Mr. Bailen is also Founder and Artistic Director of Chamber Music at Rodeph Sholom in New York and has recently been appointed Artistic Director of the New York Chamber Ensemble.

Principal cello of the New Jersey Festival Orchestra, New York Chamber Ensemble, Orchestra New England, New York Bach Artists, Teatro Grattacielo and the New Choral Society, Mr. Bailen also performs regularly with the Saratoga Chamber Players, Cape May Music Festival, Sebago-Long Lake Chamber Music Festival as well as with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, New York City Opera and Ballet, American Symphony, Stamford Symphony and New Jersey Symphony. Heard frequently in numerous Broadway shows, in 2015 he was solo cellist for *Allegiance*.

As a composer, Mr. Bailen's commissions include an Octet ("For Ellen") for 3 winds and strings (2013), a *Double Concerto for Flute and Cello* (2012) commissioned by the Johns Hopkins Symphony Orchestra and *Perhaps a Butterfly* (2011), for Soprano, child soprano, flute and string trio. His *Saratoga Sextet*, commissioned by the Saratoga Chamber Players, premiered in June, 2014 ("The crowd loved it!" writes the *Schenectady Daily Gazette*).

Recently Mr. Bailen's musical, *The Tiny Mustache*, received a third grant for further development from the Omer Foundation after its successful debut.

Mr. Bailen has received over thirty commissions for his "Song to Symphony" project, an extended school residency program that presents children's original musicals in an orchestral setting (subject of a NY Times feature article Sept. 2006). This project was recently awarded a special Alumni Grant from the Yale School of Music.

In 2002 he received the Norman Vincent Peale Award for Positive Thinking. Mr. Bailen received his Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) from Yale University and an M.B.A. from NYU and is a member of the cello and chamber music faculty at Columbia University and Teachers College.



Sarah Adams has appeared as viola soloist with the Riverside and Jupiter Symphonies in Alice Tully Hall, Orchestra of St. Luke's at Caramoor, Berkshire Bach Ensemble, Washington Square Music Festival, Philharmonia Virtuosi, and Adelphi Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Adams appeared as recitalist for the Hong Kong Chamber Series, Houston Chamber Music Society, Parnassus, New York Viola Society, Long Island Composer's Alliance, Brooklyn Philharmonic's Off the Wall series and at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC.

Ms. Adams is a long-time member of Sherman Chamber Ensemble and the New York Chamber Ensemble, and former violist of the Cassatt, Tahoe, and Roerich Quartets. She performed and recorded with Smithsonian Chamber Players, Windham Chamber Orchestra and Parnassus, and appeared as guest artist with the Amernet Quartet, Haverford College Music Series, Bard Summerscape, Friends of Mozart, Claring Chamber Series, New Jersey Chamber Music Society, Speculum Musicae, Si-Yo Chamber Concerts, and the Metropolitan Museum Chamber Series.

Ms. Adams is principal violist of the Riverside Symphony, a member of American Ballet Theatre, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Little Orchestra Society and New York City Opera, and performs frequently with New York City Ballet.

She was formerly principal violist of the Brooklyn Philharmonic, associate principal violist of the Houston Symphony Orchestra, guest principal violist of American Symphony Orchestra, and appeared frequently with Orpheus, the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera. Summer festivals include NYC Ballet at SPAC, Festival Napa Valley, Classical Tahoe, Cape May Music Festival, Windham Music Festival, Seal Bay American Chamber Music Festival, Music Mountain, and Bargemusic.

Sarah's Broadway credits include Jerome Robbins's *Broadway*, *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*, *Candide*, *Aida*, and *La Boheme*. She has recorded for the Atlantic, Dorian, Koch, Nimbus, Nonesuch and Virgin labels, and performs on a Hiroshi Iizuka viola, circa 1982.

Ms. Adams has been a Music Associate at Columbia University since 1993, where she teaches viola and chamber music, and is director of Viola Hour. Sarah and her family live in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y, where she is an amateur gardener, bread baker, mandolinist, and chief dog walker.



Alexander Davis is a New York City based freelance bassoonist who has performed with orchestras and series such as Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Erie Philharmonic, CityMusic Cleveland, Brooklyn Orchestra, The Songwriters Orchestra, Martha Graham's Dance Company, Bach and Beyond Festival, and Western New York Chamber Orchestra.

Mr. Davis has performed with many influential chamber artists including Carol Wincenc, Frank Morelli, Stephen Taylor, William Purvis, WindScape, and the Imani Winds.

He has performed in summer festivals such as Tanglewood, Banff Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Maine Chamber Music Seminar, American Wind Symphony Orchestra, and Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival.

In addition to performing, Mr. Davis has had an extensive career in both teaching and outreach. He has taught and held artist

residencies at the New York School for Orchestral Studies, Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival, SUNY Fredonia, College of the Holy Cross, Stony Brook University, Connecticut Summerfest, and is a teaching artist at The Park Avenue Armory.

He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and Performance from SUNY Fredonia, a Masters in Performance from Stony Brook University, a Performers Certificate in Orchestral Performance from Manhattan School of Music and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Music at Stony Brook University.



Japanese-born oboist, English horn player, and conductor, **Keisuke Ikuma**, studied Law at Keio-Gijuku University. He studied oboe and received his Bachelor of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music, where he was a full-scholarship student of Joseph Robinson, former principal oboist of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

He studied conducting with Constantine Kitsopoulos and David Gilbert.

Mr. Ikuma is currently a member of the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and the Stamford Symphony. He also performs regularly with the New York Philharmonic, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and numerous Broadway shows.

He made his Broadway conducting debut in the 2015 Tony Award-winning production *The King and I* at Lincoln Center Theater. He is on the Woodwind Faculty at Bard College Conservatory of Music.

In June of 2017, Mr. Ikuma conducted the Broadway Chamber Players in an acclaimed performance of the chamber ensemble version of Mahler *Symphony No. 4* with soprano Amy Justman.

He served as oboe/English horn player as well as assistant conductor in the Broadway revival of "My Fair Lady" at Lincoln Center Theater.



Doorri Na, a San Francisco native, took up violin at the age of four and began his studies with Li Lin at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. In the fall of 2018, he made his debut with The San Francisco Symphony performing Bach's Double Violin Concerto with Itzhak Perlman and Michael Tilson Thomas.

Currently living in New York City, Mr. Na plays with numerous ensembles around the city. He has played with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with tours in the US, Japan, and Europe performing in venues such as Carnegie Hall in New York and the Musiverien in Vienna.

He is also a member of Argento Chamber Ensemble performing works of living composers such as Georg Friedrich Haas, Beat Furrer, Tristan Murail, and many more. you can find Mr. Na regularly performing solo works for dance at Yew Chamber Ballet where he has been a part of the company since 2013. Recent tours include performing in Lake Tahoe, Germany, and Guatemala.

Chamber music has also been an integral part of Mr. Na's musical career. He has collaborated with members of the Juilliard String Quartet, Orion String Quartet, New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera and has been fortunate to tour with Itzhak Perlman at venues such as the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Other notable experiences include performing at the Chamber Music Society of Palm Beach with the Bonhoeffer Trio and Les Amies trio.

In addition to performing, Mr. Na has been active in teaching and doing outreach at schools. He has worked at the Juilliard School as a teaching assistant to Catherine Cho as well as working as a coach for the Pre-College Orchestra. Outreach to schools include going to Sarasota, Florida with the Perlman Music Program/Suncoast, Brazil and the United Arab Emirates with Juilliard Global Ventures, and the British International School of Chicago with The Juilliard School President, Joseph Polisi.

Mr. Na attended the Juilliard School with the Dorothy Starling and Dorothy Delay scholarships and holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree where he studied under Itzhak Perlman, Catherine Cho, and Donald Weilerstein. He was concertmaster of the Juilliard Orchestra and was fortunate to play on a Guadagnini and Vuillaume violin from the Juilliard School's prestigious violin collection.



Born in New York, **Patrick Milando** has performed extensively with major musical groups the world over.

In recent seasons, he has been Guest Principal Horn with the Orchestra del Teatro San Carlo, in Napoli, Italy, where his collaborations with several operas have been recorded live for RAI TV.

Mr. Milando has also performed with the New York Philharmonic on many International Tours and has recorded with the Orchestra over a dozen symphonic works. With the Metropolitan Opera, he has also toured Internationally and performed on many Live Broadcast from the Met.

He is among only a few musicians to have a participation Grammy for both the Metropolitan Opera and the New York Philharmonic. Carnegie Hall performances have included concerts with the Vienna Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Orchestra of Paris, St. Petersburg Symphony and Marinskii Orchestra of Russia.

Other engagements have been with the American Symphony Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, New Jersey Festival Orchestra, and with the Palm Beach Opera company.

Mr. Milando has performed as a soloist at Lincoln Center, nationally, and internationally including a live NHK TV Broadcast in Japan. Recently performances include the rarely performed *Serenade for Horn, Tenor and Strings* by Britten.

A member of ASCAP, Mr. Milando has composed and premiered several of his works both in Asia and at Lincoln Center. In addition, he has published with Musicians Publications an orchestration of Dukas's *Villanelle for Horn and Chamber Orchestra*. He has also played on numerous National Radio and TV recordings and more than a dozen Movie Soundtracks.



Praised by the New York Times as “irresistible in both music and performance” flutist **Susan Rotholz** continues to be in demand as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician and teacher.

Winner of Young Concert Artists with Hexagon Piano and Winds and of Concert Artists Guild as a soloist, Ms. Rotholz is Principal flute of the Greenwich Symphony and The New York Chamber Ensemble and a member of the Orchestra of St. Luke's, The New York Pops and the Little Orchestra Society. She has recorded and toured internationally with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

Co-founder of the Sherman Chamber Ensemble, she also appears each season with the Cape May Music Festival, Greenwich Chamber Players, Saratoga Chamber Players and the Sebago Long Lake Chamber Music Festival.

Ms. Rotholz attended the Marlboro Music Festival and was principal and solo flutist with New England Bach Festival for 25 years.

Her recording of the *Bach Flute Sonatas and the Solo Partita* with Kenneth Cooper, fortepiano is described by The Wall Street Journal as “eloquent and musically persuasive.”

Recently, she released *American Tapestry, Duos for Flute and Piano* performing the *Beaser Variations*, commissioned by Susan in 1982, Copland Duo, Muczynski and Liebermann Sonatas presented by Bridge Records as “... brilliant instrumental virtuosity with deep understanding of this quintessentially American repertoire.”

Ms. Rotholz has been newly appointed as Adjunct Artist in Music at Vassar College and continues to teach at Columbia University/ Barnard College, Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College and the Manhattan School of Music Pre-College. She also was guest performer and teacher at the Colorado College Music Festival.

Ms. Rotholz holds degrees from Queens College (BM) and Yale School of Music (MM). In 2002 she received the Norman Vincent Peale Award for Positive Thinking.



Clarinetist **Jo-Ann Sternberg** leads a diverse musical life in the New York area as a chamber musician, orchestral player, and music educator.

Ms. Sternberg is a member of the Borealis Wind Quintet, the Saratoga Chamber Players, Wind Soloists of New York, the Richardson Chamber Players and the Riverside Symphony; principal clarinet of the orchestras of the Oratorio Society of NY, the NY Choral Society, and St. John the Divine; and regularly performs with

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the American Composers Orchestra, Mark Morris Dance, the American Symphony, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Musicians from Marlboro, and plays often in a number of Broadway musicals.

Following her undergraduate years in the combined Tufts University/New England Conservatory dual degree program (BA in English/BM in Clarinet Performance) where she was mentored by Peter Hadcock, Ms. Sternberg continued her studies at Yale University with David Shifrin and at The Juilliard School with Charles Neidich (MA in Clarinet Performance).

Currently, she serves on the faculties of the Music Performance Program of Princeton University, the Music Advancement Program at Juilliard, the Manhattan School of Music Pre-college, and she maintains an active teaching studio in New York City.

She is also a mentor for the Juilliard Mentoring Program and coaches chamber ensembles for the New York Youth Symphony.

During the summer, Ms. Sternberg lives in Maine where she is the Founder and Artistic Director of The Maine Chamber Music Seminar at Snow Pond, performs and teaches at the Chamber Music Conference & Composers' Forum of the East, and participates in festivals throughout New England, including past residencies at the Portland Chamber Music Festival, Salt Bay Chamber Fest, Mount Desert Chamber Music Festival, Sebago/Long Lake Festival, Bowdoin Summer Music Festival, Marlboro, Norfolk, and North Country Chamber Players.

From September through May, Ms. Sternberg resides in Manhattan with her husband and children. She is a Selmer Artist.



Peter Weitzner, a graduate of The Juilliard School, has performed with Solisti New York, the Jupiter Symphony, EOS Ensemble, SONYC, Philharmonia Virtuosi, Stamford Symphony, Musicians Accord, and the New Jersey Symphony.

As soloist, he has appeared with the Baltimore Symphony and performed the New York premiere of Sheila Silver's Chant for bass and piano. Mr. Weitzner

has been a frequent participant at international music festivals including Mostly Mozart, OK Mozart, Cape May, Festival of the Hamptons, Bratislava Music Festival, and the Bruckner Festival in Linz, Austria.

An avid chamber musician, Mr. Weitzner is currently the curator and host of the BPL Chamber Players in residence at the Central branch (Grand Army Plaza) of the Brooklyn Public Library. He has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Orion, Enso, Daedalus, Formosa and Cassatt Quartets, Trio Solisti, New York Chamber Ensemble, Yale at Norfolk, Kingston (RI) and Cooperstown Chamber Music Festivals, New York Philomusica, North Country Chamber Players (NH), Garden City Chamber Music Society, Sherman Chamber Ensemble and the Berkshire Bach Society.

He has also performed with the dance companies of Lar Lubovitch and David Parsons as well as Merce Cunningham's 80th birthday celebration at the Lincoln Center Festival in the New York premiere of Biped. He participated in a performance at NJPAC (NJ Performing Arts Center) with the re-emerging Alice Coltrane shortly before her passing.

For ten years Mr. Weitzner toured the world as a member of the Giora Feidman Trio. In the spring of 2009, he was invited to become a member of the Quincy Jones Musiq Consortium, an arts education advocacy group comprised of arts related non-profits, musicians and educators.

His work can be heard on the Nonesuch, Albany, Pro Gloria Musicae, New World Records, Musical Heritage Society, Delos, Grenadilla, Berkshire Bach Society and NY Philomusica record labels.

He has also produced recordings of the Brandenburg Concerti with the Berkshire Bach Society and the critically acclaimed complete flute music of J.S. Bach with flutist Susan Rotholz and the late Kenneth Cooper, fortepiano, released by Bridge Records.

His most recent collaboration is as producer of a CD of American flute music with Susan Rotholz and pianist Margaret Kampmeier, also available on Bridge Records. He is a frequent contributor of concert recordings to NPR's Performance Today, hosted by Fred Child.

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