

DMITRY KOUZOV, CELLO



A versatile performer, cellist Dmitry Kouzov has performed on five continents with orchestras, in solo and duo recitals, and in chamber music performances. He has appeared with such orchestras as the St. Petersburg Symphony (Russia), as well as National Symphony of Ukraine, and the South Bohemian Chamber Philharmonic (Czech Republic), and the Symphony Orchestra "Classica" (Russia), to name a few.

He was awarded First Prize at the International Beethoven Competition in the Czech Republic and he is a two-time laureate of the International Festival-Competition "Virtuosi of the Year 2000" in Russia and is winner of the New York Cello Society Rising Star Award. His credits include numerous performances at many prominent concert venues

throughout his native Russia, including both St. Petersburg Philharmonic Halls, the conservatoire halls of Moscow and St. Petersburg, respectively, and the Mariinsky Theater. Mr. Kouzov made his New York orchestral debut at Alice Tully Hall in 2005, under the baton of Maestro Raymond Leppard.

A consummate chamber musician, Mr. Kouzov has collaborated with Joshua Bell, Yuri Bashmet, Krzysztof Penderecki, Donald Weilerstein, Ilya Gringolts, and Pacifica Quartet among others.

In addition to his concert activities, Mr. Kouzov is a devoted teacher. Currently Mr. Kouzov is an Assistant Professor of Cello at the University of Illinois. Prior to this appointment he was on faculty at the Juilliard School and Oberlin Conservatory.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THEIR WEBSITE AT
WWW.MANHATTANPIANOTRIO.COM**

MICHAEL KLOTZ, GUEST VIOLA



Born in Rochester, NY, Michael Klotz made his solo debut with the Rochester Philharmonic at the age of 17. He has also appeared as soloist with the Miami Symphony, Bucharest Radio Orchestra, FIU Symphony, Eastman Philharmonia, and the World Youth Symphony in London, England, to name a few.

Mr. Klotz joined the Amernet String Quartet in 2002 and has toured the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Israel, Japan, South Korea, Romania, Colombia, Belgium, and Spain with the ensemble.

A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, he is also one of the few individuals to be awarded a double Master's Degree in violin and viola from the Juilliard School. A dedicated teacher,

Mr. Klotz is Senior Instructor and Artist-in-Residence at Florida International University, where he teaches viola and chamber music.



Manhattan Piano Trio

April 24, 2017 - Sugden Community Theatre

Wayne Lee, Violin
Dmitry Kouzov, Cello
Milana Strezeva, Piano
Michael Klotz, Guest Viola

PROGRAM

Piano Trio in B-flat major, op.97 "Archduke" L. van Beethoven
(1811) (1770 - 1827)
Allegro moderato
Scherzo: Allegro
Andante cantabile ma però con moto - Poco piu adagio
Allegro moderato - Presto

INTERMISSION

Piano Quartet in C minor, op. 15, No. 1 Gabriel Fauré
(1883) (1845-1924)
Allegro molto moderato
Scherzo - Allegro vivo
Adagio
Allegro molto

Special thanks to Maestro Noll for the use of his Steinway Concert Grand Piano

This evening's concert is generously sponsored by

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We sincerely appreciate his continuing support.

MANHATTAN PIANO TRIO

Hailed by critics as “a grand departure from the usual” (*News Herald*), the Manhattan Piano Trio is one of the most creative, exciting, and dynamic young ensembles in America. Now in its 13th season, MPT has been among the busiest groups in the classical music scene, having performed hundreds of concerts for enthusiastic audiences in almost 40 states, and in venues such as Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, and the Ravinia Festival. *The Washington Post* described the Trio as “impressive” and “outstanding”, while the *Sarasota Herald Tribune* said “one seldom is privileged to enjoy music of such a wide range of styles performed with self-effacing skill and relaxed assurance.” Their third album, a disc of Schumann and Chopin trios in honor of the composers’ bicentennials, was successfully released in 2010 on the Marquis Classics label.

The Manhattan Piano Trio is an ensemble that embodies, in the deepest sense, the borough that provides its namesake: these three American musicians represent starkly different backgrounds, and yet connect on a fundamental level to enjoy making music together. Wayne Lee, violinist, is a native of San Francisco; Dmitry Kouzov, cellist, was born in St. Petersburg, Russia; and Milana Strezeva, pianist, is originally from Chişinău, Moldova.

In the 2016-17 season, MPT will continue to bring their ardent music-making to cities across the United States, with engagements at Classic Chamber Concerts in Naples, Florida, the Beaches Fine Arts Series in Jacksonville, Brown County Civic Music Association in Wisconsin, Marco Island Historical Society, and at St. James Episcopal Church in Ormond Beach.

Past seasons have brought the Manhattan Piano Trio to virtually every part of the country. Highlights include performances and return engagements at the Franciscan University, William and Mary College, Shenandoah University, Fairmont Chamber Music Society, Young Harris Methodist College, St. Simon’s Island Concert Association, Oxford College of Emory University and Lakes Chamber Music Festival in Minnesota. The Trio has also toured South Africa and Italy, performing in Pretoria, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Durban, as well as in Bologna, Rovereto, and Portici.

In addition to their rigorous concert schedule, the members of MPT are teachers, soloists, and recitalists who have performed internationally. The performers all completed graduate degrees at the Juilliard School, and the group still enjoys an active presence in Manhattan.



WAYNE LEE, VIOLIN



Wayne Lee, a violinist originally from San Francisco, is a chamber musician equally active with the Manhattan Piano Trio and the Formosa Quartet. A member of the Trio since 2008, he has performed well over a hundred concerts with the group in Europe as well as the United States, where the Trio has carved out a unique niche for itself by nurturing chamber music in small towns throughout the country alongside performances at major venues.

Since 2012, he has been a member of the Formosa Quartet, a Taiwanese-American ensemble that has won acclaim worldwide since winning the London International String Quartet Competition. He has previously been a member of the iO Quartet, which was devoted to performing a diverse range of contemporary music in New York City.

A dedicated teacher, Mr. Lee lives in New York City, where he maintains a large private teaching studio, coaches chamber music for the New York Youth Symphony, and serves as a teaching assistant at Juilliard. With the Formosa Quartet, he teaches and performs every summer at the newly inaugurated Formosa Chamber Music Festival in Hualien, Taiwan. Mr. Lee holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the Juilliard School; his teachers have included Ronald Copes, Glenn Dicterow, and Laurie Smukler. He plays on a 2001 Joseph Curtin violin.

MILANA STREZEVA, PIANO

Praised by the critics for her “technically fluid, dramatically convincing, and sonically full-bodied supportive collaborations” (*Boston Globe*) - Milana Strezeva is a Moldovan-American pianist.

At the age of 11 she began playing chamber music with her clarinetist father and her mother, a renowned soprano. Milana’s love for family collaboration eventually grew into a passionate advocacy of vocal and instrumental chamber music. A founding member of the award-winning Manhattan Piano Trio, Milana has performed with them in over 30 American states, Australia, South Africa and Italy, and in venues such as Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, and the Ravinia Festival.

Milana received her Bachelor and Master degrees from The Juilliard School on a full scholarship under the guidance of Bella Davidovich and Julian Martin.

Born in Chisinau, Moldova, Milana lives in Naples, FL with her husband and is an Event Coordinator at Euro Pianos Naples, an official Fazioli dealer in Florida.

