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## Biava Quartet to Perform Three Free Concerts

The Biava Quartet, winner of the prestigious Naumburg Chamber Music Award in 2003, is the ensemble-in-residence at this year's festival.

The quartet will play at two evening concerts, July 17 and 19, and at

three community venues, including the South Providence Neighborhood Ministries and the South Kingstown Senior Center (at times and dates to be announced).

The community concerts are free and open to the public.

## TICKETS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Tickets for all six concerts in 2006 were sold out, most of them in advance, so you are encouraged to get your tickets early for 2007.

They are available on our Web site or at the following locations:

- Saywell's Craft and Gift Gallery, 344 Main St., Wakefield.
- The Standard Times office, 13 West Main St., Wickford.
- Askham & Telham, 12 Main St., Wickford.

Tickets are also available by mail by

sending a check and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to P.O. Box 1733, Kingston, RI 02881.

Single tickets are \$15 — with no reserved seating. Concert subscriptions are available at \$55 for four concerts, \$65 for five, and \$75 for all six.

*If you haven't sent your tax-deductible contribution, it's not too late to be listed in this season's program book as a Friend of the Festival. Deadline for inclusion is June 20.*

**David Kim**, artistic director

at the University of Rhode Island  
PO Box 1733, Kingston, R.I. 02881

Kingston Chamber Music  
festival

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# Kingston Chamber Music FESTIVAL NOTES

Spring 2007

David Kim, artistic director

Vol. 9, No. 2

## 19th Season Promises To Be Best Ever

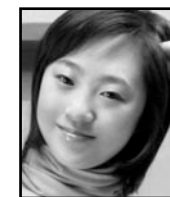
### Returning to Kingston:



■ Paavali Jumppanen  
piano



■ Ricardo Morales  
clarinet



■ Natalie Zhu  
piano

The 2007 Kingston Chamber Music Festival — six concerts from July 17-27 — features a diverse cast of artists, from Finland to San Diego, playing a wide array of instruments, from harp to tuba.

All six concerts, on July 17, 19, 21, 23, 25 and 27, will be held at 8 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall

at the University of Rhode Island.

"As we celebrate our 19th year and continue plans for our 20th anniversary season, I can only say to our passionate

audiences, don't look ahead!" says festival Artistic Director David Kim. "There is much spectacular music to be made this season!"

Among the artists making their Kingston debuts in 2007 will be the first woman named to a principal brass position in one of the world's major orchestras, tuba player Carol Jantsch of the Philadelphia Orchestra; the Biava Quartet, winner of the 2003 Naumburg Chamber Music Award and one of today's top young American quartets; and flutist Demarre McGill, principal flute of the San Diego Symphony.

Returning for his third appearance in Kingston is the brilliant Finnish



### Introducing The Biava Quartet

■ The Biava Quartet, from left, Mary Persin, viola; Hyunsu Ko and Austin Hartman, violins; and Jason Calloway, cello, is the ensemble-in-residence at this year's festival.

pianist Paavali Jumppanen, who is nearing the middle of his presentation of all 32 Beethoven sonatas in a series of concerts at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. He will perform one of those sonatas on opening night, July 17, in Kingston, and will be featured in several other works on July 19 and 21.

On July 23, Jantsch will play her own arrangement, for tuba and piano, of Saint-Saens' Concerto in A minor for cello and orchestra.

The Biava Quartet will be the festival's ensemble-in-residence for 2007, performing Beethoven's String

Quartet in E flat at the July 17 concert and Debussy's String Quartet in G minor on July 19. They will also play free concerts at three community venues. (See story, on page 4.)

Returning for their second or third appearances in Kingston are three other principal players from the Philadelphia Orchestra, harpist Elizabeth Hainen, clarinetist Ricardo Morales, and cellist Efe Baltacigil.

Hainen and McGill will be featured on July 21 in a festival premiere of Jolivet's Chant de Linos for flute, harp, violin, viola and cello.

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## HAINEN'S HEAVENLY HARP TO BE HEARD AT INTIMATE SALON CONCERT

The heavenly sounds of a concert grand harp, combined with delicious wine and food tastings, are the ingredients for an intimate festival fund-raiser set for 7 p.m., Friday, July 22.

Elizabeth Hainen, principal harpist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, will play solo works and be joined for duos by other festival artists: flutist Demarre McGill, violist Anna Marie Ahn Petersen and violinist David Kim.

Only 40 tickets are available for this exceptional event, to be held at Store Four, next to Wakefield Liquors, at 673 Kingstown Road in South Kingstown.

Guests will have the opportunity to greet Festival Artistic Director David Kim and other musicians appearing at the 2007 festival. Hainen will also play at the festival's regular evening concert on Saturday, July 21.

Don't miss this opportunity for an enjoyable evening and the chance to help the festival. Tickets are \$75 per person, of which \$40 is a tax-deductible donation. Tickets can be purchased at Saywell's Craft and Gift Gallery, 344 Main St., Wakefield, or by mail, at Box 1733, Kingston, RI 02881. To check availability, e-mail [business@kingstonchambermusic.org](mailto:business@kingstonchambermusic.org).



■ Elizabeth Hainen  
harp

**Tuesday, July 17****A Double-Dose of Beethoven**

**KHACHATURIAN** Trio in G minor for violin, clarinet, and piano  
**BEETHOVEN** Piano Sonata No. 9 in E major  
**CHOPIN** Ballade No. 4 in F minor  
**BEETHOVEN** String Quartet in E flat

Opening night festivities include the festival debut of a talented young string quartet, and the return to Kingston of two brilliant musicians, Finnish pianist Paavali Jumppanen and one of the world's premiere clarinetists, the Philadelphia Orchestra's Ricardo Morales. Austin Hartman, first violinist of the The Biava Quartet, says Beethoven's late string quartets, which include the String Quartet in E flat, are perhaps his finest musical achievements. The composer "pushes the extremes in possibility through the expansion of musical form and style, while maintaining his signature schizophrenic dynamic contrasts," Hartman says. Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas are all thought of as masterpieces today. Jumppanen performs No. 9 in E major, one of the composer's most intimate, and follows that with one of Chopin's powerful Ballades, No. 4 in F minor. Opening the 2007 festival will be the richly melodic music of Khachaturian's Trio in G minor, featuring Morales on clarinet.



■ Anna Marie Ahn Petersen  
viola



■ Demarre McGill  
flute



■ Carol Jantsch  
tuba

**Saturday, July 21****Three Sparkling Gems**

**JOLIVET** Chant de Linos, for flute, harp, violin, viola, and cello  
**SCHUBERT** Piano Sonata in G major, D.894  
**DVORAK** Quintet in A major for piano, two violins, viola, and cello

Dvorak's great piano quintet could appropriately anchor any chamber music concert, but by no means will it overshadow two other festival-premiere works to come before it on this night. Parisian Andre Jolivet's Chant de Linos is an excellent example of the sensuousness of French music of the early 20th century. Harpist Elizabeth Hainen said the first time she played the piece was at Marlboro, where flutist Demarre McGill was part of the five-piece ensemble, as he is here. "It's really a tremendous showpiece for the flute and he plays it brilliantly," Hainen says. "The other thing I remember is basically holding my breath for the last few pages of the piece and not coming up for air until it was over! It is a challenging work that will leave the audience breathless." Pianist Gail Niwa says Schubert's Sonata No. 18 in G major is "an elegant blend of simplicity and drama." As for the Dvorak, the piano quintet is arguably the composer's greatest chamber music composition "thanks to its memorable melodies and sheer panache... It has a virtuoso keyboard part and equally demanding and brilliant parts for the string players," according to "The Rough Guide to Classical Music."

**Monday, July 23****Piano Won't Be Leaving The Stage**

**MAHLER** Quartet for piano and strings in A minor  
**SAINT SAËNS** Concerto No. 1 in A minor for cello and orchestra (arranged for tuba and piano)  
**BRAHMS** Quartet No. 3 in C minor for piano, violin, viola, and cello

Two quartets for piano and strings and one never-used format — a concerto for tuba — will be heard on this evening. There are no concertos for tuba, probably because no composer ever figured the tuba could be played as a virtuoso instrument. But then along came Carol Jantsch, the first woman, and possibly the youngest person, ever appointed principal tuba of a major orchestra. "About a year and a half ago, I was looking for music to program on my senior recital at the University of Michigan," Jantsch says. "I wanted something totally amazing, and tuba music just wasn't cutting it. I listened around and came across a box set of Jacqueline Du Pre's 'Favorite Cello Concertos.' Every track was incredible, but when I heard the Saint-Saens, I thought, 'I have to play that!' And that was that. It was destiny." Jantsch did her own arrangement of the Saint-Saens concerto, claiming the cello part for her own tuba and the symphony's part for the piano. Brahms' C minor piano quartet is a ferocious, personal work that probably reflected some of the turmoil the composer felt over his hopeless love of Clara Schumann. A favorite in Kingston, Natalie Zhu, takes the lead on piano in the Brahms. Gustav Mahler wrote very little chamber music that survives today. One that did is the first movement of a quartet for piano and strings that was first performed in 1964. Pianist Gail Niwa says this performance of the Mahler quartet will be her first.

**Thursday, July 19****The Very Best of Mozart?**

**POULENC** Sonata for flute and piano  
**DEBUSSY** String Quartet in G minor, Opus 10  
**MOZART** Quintet in A major for clarinet and strings

Virtually all of the superlatives that describe Mozart's vast repertoire can be applied to his great Quintet in A major for clarinet and strings. "Intensely romantic... wonderful melodies... almost unbearable yearning... extreme emotional contrasts" are just a few of the descriptions that apply here. The featured instrumentalist is Ricardo Morales, principal clarinet of the Philadelphia Orchestra. The Biava Quartet's Austin Hartman calls the String Quartet in G minor by Debussy "a pioneering work" that "pushed the conventions of tradition to the extreme of what is possible for the string quartet... Debussy seeks to expand the palette of musical possibility." Poulenc's flute sonata was instantly hailed as one of the composer's finest works when Jean-Pierre Rampal played its premiere performance in 1957. Making his Kingston debut playing the same work will be Demarre McGill, principal flute of the San Diego Symphony, accompanied by pianist Paavali Jumppanen.

**Wednesday, July 25****Dvorak Tweaks The Quartet**

**BEETHOVEN** Piano Trio No. 1 in E-flat major  
**CLARKE** Viola Sonata  
**DVORAK** Quintet in G major for two violins, viola, cello, and double bass

Dvorak gave his Quintet in G major an unconventional makeup by adding a double bass to the standard quartet. The bass will be played here by Fora Baltacigil, associate principal bass of the Minnesota Orchestra, who will perform next to his brother, cellist Efe Baltacigil, as part of an ensemble led by first violinist Nurit Bar-Josef, concertmaster of the National Symphony. They will be joined by David Kim on second violin and Che-Hung Chen on viola. The Dvorak quintet is "disarmingly original... merging Czech and North American Indian melodies," according to a music guide. Violist Burchard Tang says the Rebecca Clarke sonata "has amazing harmonies and colors that really show off the viola's timbre." Tang said he's never performed the sonata but has always wanted to. "I'm really looking forward to playing it, especially with a great pianist like Natalie (Zhu)!" Beethoven's Piano Trio No. 1 in E-flat major was among the composer's first published works. URI music professor Manabu Takasawa takes a turn at the piano, with Kim and cellist Priscilla Lee rounding out the trio.



The Brothers Baltacigil:

■ Efe, left  
cello

■ Fora,  
right  
double bass

**Friday, July 27****An Ethereal Ending To '07 Festival**

**ROSSINI** Duetto in D major, for cello and double bass  
**SHOSTAKOVICH** Sonata in D minor for Cello and Piano  
**BRAHMS** Sextet No. 2 for strings in G major, Opus 36

The Brothers Baltacigil, cellist Efe and double bassist Fora, will kick off this concert with a work familiar to them, but probably not to Kingston audiences. Efe says the Rossini Duetto for cello and double bass is "a charming piece and great fun to play." Because so few pieces are written for the two instruments, Efe says, he and his brother have been playing the work since childhood. Efe will then team with pianist Natalie Zhu, for Shostakovich's intense Sonata in D minor, a work he performed recently at Weill Recital Hall in New York City. The 2007 festival will end with Brahms' great Sextet No. 2 in G major. The work "has an ethereally songful character that makes it one of the most lovable works of a composer to whom that adjective is rarely applied," according to the festival's program notes author, Steven Ledbetter. Commenting on the final movement, Ledbetter says, "This contrast of turbulence and simplicity characterize the entire movement; eventually they join forces to bring the sextet (and the festival) to a vigorous conclusion."

**DAVID KIM IN PEACE DALE**

■ Violinist and festival Artistic Director David Kim talks about his instrument before 150 children at the Peace Dale School last March. Kim visited 12 schools in the region during the festival's annual Schools Outreach Program, which was supported by a generous grant from Ameriprise Financial Community Relations Program.

**Concerts set for July 17-27**

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festival's opening work, on July 17, in Khachaturian's Trio in G minor for violin, clarinet and piano, and, on July 19, in Mozart's beloved Quintet in A major for clarinet and strings.

Violinist Nurit Bar-Josef, concertmaster of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C., returns for her third appearance in Kingston. Fora Baltacigil, associate principal bass of the Minnesota Orchestra, will make his Kingston debut, including a performance with his brother Efe of a Rossini duet for cello and double bass at the final concert, July 27.

Cellist Priscilla Lee, a 2006-'07 member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center artists, returns for her second season at Kingston; and cellist Michelle Djokic, on board every season since the festival's founding, returns to Kingston from her chair in the San Francisco Symphony.

In addition to Jumppanen, pianists — always featured prominently at Kingston — are favorites Natalie Zhu and Gail Niwa, as well as URI's own Manabu Takasawa. Niwa will take a solo turn with a performance of Schubert's Sonata in G major on July 21.

Also making her Kingston debut will be violinist Amy Oshiro, a member of the St. Louis Symphony. Philadelphia Orchestra violinist Lisa-Beth Lambert returns for the second time to Kingston.

Violinists returning to Kingston include Benny Kim, Anna Marie Ahn Petersen, Che-Hung Chen and Burchard Tang. On July 25, Tang and pianist Zhu will perform Rebecca Clarke's Viola Sonata.