

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015 AT 1:00PM
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall

Meet the Music!

with musicians from The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

BRUCE ADOLPHE, *Inspector Pulse*

AMPHION STRING QUARTET

KATIE HYUN, *Violin*

DAVID SOUTHORN, *Violin*

WEI-YANG ANDY LIN, *Viola*

MIHAI MARICA, *Cello*

“INSPECTOR PULSE POPS A STRING”

BÉLA BARTÓK
(1881-1945)

String Quartet No. 4 (1928)
Allegretto pizzicato
AMPHION STRING QUARTET

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN
(1732-1809)

String Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 33, No. 2,
“The Joke” (1781)
Finale: Presto
AMPHION STRING QUARTET

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
(1770-1827)

String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 130,
“Razumovsky” (1825-26)
Cavatina: Adagio molto espressivo
AMPHION STRING QUARTET

**BRUCE ADOLPHE/
INSPECTOR PULSE**
(b. 1955)

String Thing
AMPHION STRING QUARTET

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
(1770-1827)

String Quartet in F Major, Op. 59, No. 1 (1806)
Thème russe: Allegro
AMPHION STRING QUARTET

Dear Kids,

Some people say I'm high strung, but the day I popped a string in my piano I realized that pianos are much more highly strung than any human could possibly be. Did you know that there are 230 strings in a grand piano? I never even realized there were any strings at all inside a piano until I opened the lid to look in there for a cheese sandwich I had misplaced. The sandwich wasn't there, but wow there were a lot of strings in there! I counted them and it took me so long that I was even hungrier than when I opened the lid. I found the sandwich later in my banjo case.

Of course, those piano strings are not like the strings you use to tie up a package. They are similar to the strings on a violin, viola, cello, bass, guitar, banjo, mandolin, or saxophone. Wait! Forget saxophone, because I don't think it has strings.

But these piano "strings" are really wires. A piano is definitely not a wireless device like a cell phone. These wires are made from tempered high-carbon steel. You can use them to cut cheese, but it is more interesting to listen to a Beethoven sonata. But you can't eat a Beethoven sonata. However, a Beethoven sonata is better for you than sliced cheese. Of course, had I found my cheese sandwich inside the piano, I could have used the piano strings (or wire) to cut the cheese into thinner slices and to play a Beethoven sonata.

I am interested in all sorts of strings, and so I am going to study some other string instruments, including violin and cello. I already play the banjo (my cousin Billy-Bob Pulse taught me how) and my banjo has five strings, which is one more than a violin or cello has. So violin and cello should be one string easier to play. Of course, my piano has 230 strings so I should be able to play a four-stringed instrument easily. Well, I recently started taking violin and cello lessons, and I soon discovered that I would need to practice a lot to play the violin or cello! But practicing is actually the most fun thing in the world, after slicing cheese with piano wire.

And what about being expressive and musical on a string? I know you can put your finger down on a string in different places and get different musical sounds, but I am determined to figure out how to make strings sound expressive — sweet, ferocious, timid, nervous, happy, sad — that sort of expressive! Well, I suppose that takes practice, too. And I will practice! But first, my cheese sandwich calls.

Love, Inspector Pulse

Meet the Artists!



When he was a child **Bruce Adolphe** watched both Victor Borge and Leonard Bernstein on TV, and after seeing them, he began “playing piano” on the breakfast table and cracking jokes with a Danish accent. Having no choice, his parents bought him a toy piano, at which Bruce pretended to be Schroeder of the Peanuts cartoons. Soon after the toy piano was pecked apart by the family parakeet, Bruce’s parents purchased a real piano and a larger bird. By age ten, Bruce was composing music, and no one has been able to stop

him since. As a “tween,” Bruce studied piano, clarinet, guitar, bass, and—as a teen—the bassoon. All this time, he wrote music and improvised accompaniments to everything that happened around him, as if life were a movie in need of a score. His favorite summers were spent at the Kinhaven Music School and he loved his Saturdays at The Juilliard School’s Pre-College Division. Today, Bruce spends his time composing chamber music, playing the piano, and performing in concerts for people like you. He lives in New York City on the Upper West Side with his wife, pianist Marija, his daughter Katja, and his opera-and-jazz-singing parrot PollyRhythm, the same bird he has had since he was 10 years old. Bruce performs weekly on public radio’s *Performance Today*, playing his Piano Puzzlers (familiar tunes in the styles of the great masters) and you can catch that show on WQXR or on iTunes, or as a podcast from American Public Media. Many great musicians have performed Bruce’s music, including cellist Yo-Yo Ma, violinist Itzhak Perlman, the Brentano String Quartet, and over 60 symphony orchestras around the world, and of course lots of amazing players from The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, where Bruce has been making music since 1992. If you want to check out Bruce’s CDs and educational pieces for all ages, please visit the website of The Learning Maestros. You might enjoy his book *The Mind’s Ear: Exercises for Improving the Musical Imagination*, published in 2013 by Oxford University Press.



The members of the **Amphion String Quartet** come from all over the world, as far east as Romania and Taiwan, and as close as right here in the United States. They first got together to play Bartók's first string quartet at Katie's graduation recital in 2009 at the Yale School of Music. Since then they have won a few competitions and joined Concert Artists Guild and the Chamber Music Society's CMS Two program. They've enjoyed traveling around the globe to Korea and to make a recording in England. They've flown all over the United States and have played in Texas, California,

Oregon, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and many many other states! While they enjoy performing for audiences everywhere, they especially love playing for audiences like you. Katie and David take turns playing first violin. They decide who plays first violin by arm wrestling, and Katie wins a lot!

There's dreadful news from the symphony hall...a Musical Murder Mystery

The Composer is Dead!

—PLUS—

Bewitching music of Harry Potter and Baba Yaga await you and your family!

Saturday May 16, 2015 2:30pm
A PSO BRAVO! CONCERT / Princeton Symphony Orchestra
 Richardson Auditorium at Princeton University

ROSSEN MILANOV, conductor JULIAN GRANT, narrator
 Nathaniel Stookey / The Composer is Dead (text by Lemony Snicket)
 John Williams / Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone Anatol Liadov / Baba-Yaga, Op. 56

Ages 4 and Up / General Admission: Adults \$10, Children \$5

PSO BRAVO!

princetonsymphony.org 609 497-0020

Dates, times, programs, and artists subject to change