



# The German Society of Pennsylvania

presents

Amit Peled, cello, and  
Elizabeth Borowsky, piano



Sunday, March 6, 2016 at 3:00pm

The German Society of Pennsylvania  
[www.germansociety.org](http://www.germansociety.org)

611 Spring Garden Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123

# Calendar of Events

## March 2016

- Wed. Mar. 2 Planned Giving Seminar, 5.00pm  
Sat. Mar. 5 **Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting**, 10.00am  
Wed. Mar. 9 Konversationsabend: **Hans Kueng's "Die Frau in Christentum,"** 6.30pm  
Sat. Mar. 12 Buchclub: **Daniel Kehlmann's "F"**, 1.30pm  
Fri. Mar. 18 Friday FilmFest: *Die geliebten Schwestern* (German with German subtitles), 6:30pm

## April 2016

- Sat. Apr. 2 Hamburgerabend, 6.00pm  
Sat. Apr. 2 Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting in the Ratskeller, 10.00am  
Wed. Apr. 13 Konversationsabend: Language and Philosophy with Dr. John Hoffmeyer, 6.00pm  
Fri. Apr. 15 Friday FilmFest: *Elser (13 Minuten)*, 6.30pm

## May 2016

- Sat. May 7 **Women's Auxiliary Anniversary Luncheon**, 12.00pm  
Wed. May 11 Konversationsabend: **Heine's Songs and Schumann's Music**, 6.00pm  
Fri. May 20 Friday FilmFest: *Die Mannschaft*, 6.30pm

## **Save the Dates for our Next of "Wister and More!" Concerts...**

- Sun. Mar. 20: The Wister Quartet, 3.00pm  
Selections include works by Haydn, Barber, and Schubert
- Sun. Apr. 24: The Delius Society presents: The Conwell Woodwind Quintet, 3.00pm  
Various transcriptions of works by Frederick Delius
- Sun. May 15: The Wister Quartet, 3.00pm  
Selections include works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, and four Tangos

Elizabeth Borowsky, piano, and Amit Peled, cello

***“Journey with My Jewishness”***

Kol Nidre, Op. 47

Max Bruch  
(1838 - 1920)

Cello Suite No. 3, BWV 1009

*Prélude*

*Allemande*

*Courante*

*Sarabande*

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

From Jewish Life

Prayer (*Andante moderato*)

Supplication (*Allegro non troppo*)

Jewish Song (*Moderato*)

Ernest Bloch  
(1880 - 1959)

Kaddish

Mark Kopytman  
(1929 – 2011)

Hungarian Rhapsody, Op. 68

David Popper  
(1843 – 1913)

There will be one 15-minute intermission. We offer refreshments from our bar during that time.

Your ticket to our concert also invites you to a complimentary reception with the artist in the Ratskeller (downstairs) following the performance.

# Program Notes

Kol Nidre (“All Vows” in Aramaic) is a prayer sung by the cantor at the beginning of the evening service of Yom Kippur, the holiest day in Judaism. The declaration came into existence in the early middle ages during a period of extreme persecution when Jews were forced at sword point to convert (either to Christianity or Islam). Kol Nidre helped nullify that forced conversion.

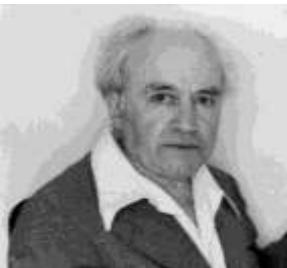


Max Bruch was a Protestant who became acquainted with the Kol Nidre and other Hebrew melodies when his teacher introduced him to the Lichenstein family, the head of whom was the chief cantor in Berlin. Bruch published his Kol Nidre in Berlin in 1881.

Perhaps the luthier Matteo Gofriller had **Johann Sebastian Bach** in mind when he crafted his own masterworks. It is believed Bach wrote his *Suites á Violoncello Solo senza Basso* in Anhalt-Cöthen around 1720, while in the service of Prince Leopold, the patron for whom Bach would compose many works for string and wind instruments.



Musicologist Anna Wittstruck wrote on the six suites: **“Not only** was Bach the first non-cellist composer to give the cello its first big break as a lead actor and soloist; **his ‘monophonic’ compositions** are masterfully contrapuntal. **Thus Bach’s imposed compositional constraints** – writing implied harmony for a solo voice – and his idiomatic technical demands and empowerment of the instrument prompt us still to marvel **over a single man’s creation**, and view this music as sustaining, canonical, and transcendent.”



**Ernest Bloch** was Swiss-born composer who after traveling and living throughout Europe settled in the United States in 1916. *From Jewish Life* was composed in Cleveland in 1924 and the composition belongs to a distinctive and unmistakable genus of compositions in which **Bloch’s personal voice was now powerfully established as being “Jewish” in utterance above all else.**

**Kaddish** (Aramaic for “Holy”) is a hymn of praise to God found in the Jewish prayer service. The central theme of the Kaddish is the **magnification and sanctification of God’s name**. In the liturgy different versions of the Kaddish are used functionally as a separation between sections of the service. **The Lord’s Prayer is believed to have arisen** as an adaptation of the Kaddish prayer by the early disciples of Jesus.



**Mark Kopytman** was born in what is now the Ukraine and immigrated to Israel in 1972. He composed the original version of Kaddish for cello and piano in 1966 and composed an orchestral version for cello and orchestra in 1982. **Kopytman’s music displays a strong individual style, fusing elements of Jewish folklore with use of modern music innovations.**

Franz Liszt first developed the **Hungarian Rhapsody** with a series of 19 compositions, the first 15 were written between 1846 and 1853. The rhapsodies incorporated many themes heard in western Hungary. A Hungarian Rhapsody contains two main structural elements of typical Gypsy improvisation. The rhapsody begins with the *lassan*, a slow improvisational section and ends with the *friska*, a fast virtuosic section.



**David Popper** was a Bohemian cellist and composer. A prolific composer of music for the instrument, he is best remembered for his educational etudes. One of his best known and popular works is his **Hungarian Rhapsody**, written in 1894. Originally composed for cello and orchestra, the piece is both challenging and unique, strikingly exhibiting the Hungarian style for which it is named.



## About the Artists

**Amit Peled** is a virtuosic talent, a star among the exciting instrumentalists in classical music today. He grew up on a kibbutz in Israel, playing basketball and listening to recordings of Casals. His talents were recognized at an early age and he received advanced musical education with Uri Vardi in Tel Aviv and, after military service, institutions in the United States. In addition to his studies under Bernard Greenhouse, Mr. Peled studied with Aldo Parisot at Yale University, and with Boris Pergamenschikow in Berlin, Germany.



Mr. Peled has performed as a solo artist and with symphonies across the world. Highlights of the current season include the culmination of a 20-city U.S. recital tour at the Kennedy Center of Performing Arts in Washington D.C., a recording of the Schumann Cello Concerto with the Washington Chamber Orchestra, an extensive tour with his two chamber music groups, The Tempest Trio and the Goldstein-Peled-Fiterstein Trio, and return engagements with the Tucson Symphony and Phoenix Symphony.

In addition to performing as a featured artist, Mr. Peled is a faculty member at the Peabody Conservatory of Music at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Elizabeth Borowsky** has earned international recognition both as a chamber musician and as a soloist. The Baltimore native enjoys a versatile musical career as a pianist, composer, educator, speaker, and recording artist. She has performed critically acclaimed recitals and concerts in more than 30 nations. She credits her parents with being her role models, both in terms of their humanitarian and artistic work. Her mother is renowned cellist Cecylia Barczyk. Her father, Charles Borowsky, is recognized for using music as a tool in bridging together people and nations. With her brother and sister, Ms. **Borowsky is a member of “The American Virtuosi.”**



## History of the German Society of Pennsylvania

In 1683 thirteen families from Krefeld under the leadership of Frankfurt lawyer, Franz Daniel Pastorius, founded the first German colony in America: Germantown — today part of Philadelphia. Many of these immigrants formed clubs that enabled them to preserve their cultural heritage. They also formed clubs that emphasized a specific geographic area, such as the Swabians, Bavarians, Saxons, Danube Swabians, Plattdeutsche, Tyroleans, and many others.

The German Society of Pennsylvania, founded in 1764, is the oldest German organization in the United States. It was founded to protect German immigrants from unscrupulous shipping agents and to ensure just treatment on their arrival here.

Since that time, the German Society has dedicated its efforts to preserving German heritage. This it does, for instance, by offering a full-fledged German language program as well as scholarships and prizes to students of German. In addition, the Society is a source of cultural programs, lectures, film series, and seminars. These events build bridges and strengthens relations among individuals, organizations, businesses, and governments.

The fine arts program also includes presentations that feature European music and literature as well as access to the *Joseph P. Horner Memorial Library* for education and research. The newly restored Library, holding over 70,000 volumes, is the largest private German library outside the Federal Republic of Germany.

In serving its members and the community, and in all its undertakings, the Society strives to benefit anyone in need of its resources.

Since the time of Pastorius, more than 7,000,000 Germans reached these shores. Today, 15% of the total population in the United States claims Germany ancestry.

Benefactors of the  
2015 / 2016  
Classical Concert Series

Nancy Bean and Lloyd Smith  
Renate and Frank Genieser  
Anita and William LaCoff  
Dr. Marilyn and Robert Lambert  
Michael Rissinger

Dr. Victor K. & Helen Schutz  
Ann and Karl H. Spaeth, Esq.  
Sonja and Hanno Spranger  
Hardy von Auenmueller

In Memoriam Gunda Hack

Patrons of the  
2015 / 2016  
Classical Concert Series

James Crawford & Judith Dean  
Dr. Edmund Cohen

Reinhard & Sue Kruse

Fredericka L. Heinze - In loving memory of Lois Kunkel

We also wish to acknowledge with thanks the generous support received from  
The Arcadia Foundation & The Albert & Hete Barthelmes Foundation, and The Philadelphia Cul-  
tural Fund for this season of our music program.

