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 8,000,000 Germans reached these shores. Today, 29% of the total population in the United States claims Germany ancestry.

Invencia Piano Duo

Sunday, February 21, 2010 at 3:00pm
Invencia Piano Duo
Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn

PROGRAM

**Liebeslieder Walzer (Lovesong Waltzes), Op. 52 (1869)**

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

**Bilder aus dem Osten. Sechs Impromptus, Op. 66 (1848)**

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

(Pictures from the East: Six Impromptus)

1. **Lebhaft**
2. **Nicht schnell und sehr gesangvoll zu spielen**
3. **Im Volkston**
4. **Nicht Schnell**
5. **Lebhaft**
6. **Reuig, andächtig**

**Fantasy on Lutheran Hymns (2007)**

Andrey Kasparov (b. 1966)

**INTERMISSION**

**Reflections of Germany, Op. 28 (1905)**

Florent Schmitt (1870-1958)

1. Heidelberg
2. Coblenz
3. Lübeck
4. Werder
5. Vienna
6. Dresden
7. Nuremberg
8. Munich

Program notes will be announced from the stage during the performance.

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

Invencia Piano Duo has won critical acclaim around the world for their compelling interpretations of diverse and adventurous repertoire from Baroque to contemporary composers. Describing the duo’s performances, critics have praised them as flawless, dazzling, electrifying, authoritative, etc.

Hailing from Armenian and Ukrainian families, Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn were educated at the Moscow State Conservatory and came to the United States in the 1990s to pursue advanced studies at Indiana University in Bloomington. They are presently on the faculty at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Additionally, they serve as Artistic Co-Directors of the Norfolk Chamber Consort.

Kasparov and Lutsyshyn are prolific recording artists. Reviewing their CD, *Hommages musicaux*, in the American Record Guide, James Harrington wrote, “Hats off to the Kasparov-Lutsyshyn piano duo team for bringing these fascinating pieces to us in their original forms.” Their most recent CD with piano music by Adolphus Hailstork was released by Albany Records in May ’09, also to high critical acclaim. They are currently recording the entire works by Florent Schmitt for piano duo.

The musicians are active as soloists and collaborators as well, having performed with such renowned artists as violinist Joshua Bell for his BBC documentary, tenor James King, tubist Harvey Phillips, and choreographer Jelon Vieira, among many others. In 1994, Kasparov premiered the newly discovered edition of Béla Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3, revised by the composer himself. Kasparov’s article about this edition was subsequently published by the Hungarian Music Quarterly in Budapest.

Both members of the duo are the recipients of prestigious awards. Lutsyshyn won the Second Prize at the Vienna Modern Masters Third International Performers’ Recording Awards Competition. She was also a prizewinner at the William Kapell International Piano Competition in College Park, Maryland. As a result of the latter award she debuted in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Kasparov won the Albert Roussel Prize at the Orléans (France) International Piano Competition for 20th-Century Music.

In addition to his career as a pianist, Kasparov is an active composer, whose works have been published and recorded, among others, by the Kompozitor Publishing House in Moscow, Russia, and the Atlantic Music Artist Agency in Kiev, Ukraine. He was awarded the Second Prize at the Sergei Prokofiev International Composition Competition in Moscow for his Piano Sonata No. 2.

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Calendar of Events

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<td>Sat. March 6</td>
<td>Women’s Auxiliary Monthly Meeting, 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun. March 7</td>
<td>“Wister and More!” featuring the Wister Quartet, 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. March 12</td>
<td>Selections by Smith, Barber, Tchaikovsky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. March 15</td>
<td>German Society Board Meeting, 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. March 19</td>
<td>Konversationsabend, “Climate Change - Past, Present, and Future”, 7pm</td>
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<td>Sat. March 27</td>
<td>Egg Hunt for Kids, 11:30am</td>
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<td>Sun. May 16</td>
<td>Philly Beer Week Tasting with Marnie Old</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. May 17</td>
<td>Women’s Auxiliary Annual Spring Luncheon, 12:00 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. May 19</td>
<td>Selections by Bach, Chopin, Tchaikovsky and others</td>
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Benefactors of the
2009 / 2010
Classical Concert Series
Hella and Heinz Berndt
Daniel Cosper
Marjorie and James DelBello
Renate and Frank Genieser
Susan Gerrity and Edward Taffel
Dr. Harold Glass

Majorie and Dr. F. Peter Kohler-
Anita and William LaCoff
Dr. Victor K. Schutz
Ann and Karl H. Spaeth, Esq.
Sonja and Hanno Spranger
Hardy von Auenmueller

Fredericka L. Heinze - In loving memory of Lois Kunkel
In Memoriam Gunda Hack

Patrons of the
2009 / 2010
Classical Concert Series
Dr. Edmund Cohen
Santo A. Di Donato
Dr. Jan and Nick Goldman
Hannelore and David Hamme
George F. Koch, Jr.

Pat Maron
Doris H.E. Simon
Carl Virgilio
Ingrid M. Virok
M.J. and Roger Whiteman

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Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn

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