In 1991, the Wister Quartet established its own chamber music series of Sunday afternoon concerts at the German Society, featuring some of the greatest quartet literature ever written, as well as unusual and rarely played works. The unique richness and depth of their sound has already won the hearts of critics across the board.

The Wister Quartet

The German Society of Pennsylvania

Today, as in the past, the German Society, founded in 1764, seeks to further the understanding of German and German-American contributions to the growth of American history and culture. The Society achieves this vision through its exciting cultural and educational programs for the general public.

The German Society of Pennsylvania presents the

“Wister and More!” Concert Series

2013/14

611 Spring Garden Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Tel: 215-627-2332
Email: info@germansociety.org
Web: www.GermanSociety.org

Ticket Policy

If available, single tickets will be on sale at the door the day of the concert. Tickets are not refundable, but may be exchanged for other concerts, subject to availability. Unused tickets will also be gratefully accepted for resale to benefit the Society (a tax-deductible contribution).

Wister and More!
Concert Series

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2013/2014 Concert Series at The German Society of Pennsylvania

Our 2013/14 “Wister and More!” concert series hosts our standard favorite, The Wister Quartet, as well as additional concerts from a diverse spectrum of talent—trios, duos, soloists and choral ensembles. Following each Sunday concert, attendees are invited to a reception in the German Society’s Ratskeller for coffee & cake, as well as an opportunity to meet the artists.

For all concerts, we also offer champagne and other refreshments for sale during intermission.

Our elderly or disabled guests will want to make use of our “Beichl Tower” elevator.

Sunday, September 22, 2013, 3:00pm
The Wister Quartet

Staneck:
“In the West Country” (World Premiere)

Haydn:
String Quartet in D Major, Op. 76, No. 5

Beethoven:
String Quartet, Op. 59, No. 3 (“Rasumovsky”)

**Selections include:**
Mendelssohn, Bach, Chausson and Ravel

Sunday, October 27, 2013, 3:00pm
Elissa Lee Koljonen & Natalie Zhu

Selections include:
Mendelssohn, Bach, Chausson, and Ravel

Sunday, November 17, 2013, 3:00pm
The Delius Society presents: The Barnard Trio

O’Neill - Theme and Variations on “Pretty Polly Oliver”

Staneck - “Thanksgiving”

Grieg - Piano Trio in C Minor

Delius - Double Concerto

Sunday, December 15, 2013, 3:00pm
Ephrata Cloister Chorus

Ephrata Cloister Chorales, Early American Music, and Christmas Selections

Sunday, January 5, 2014, 3:00pm
Claire Huangci, piano

Selections include works by:
Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, and Prokofiev’s Romeo and Juliet

Sunday, February 2, 2014, 3:00pm
The Delius Society presents: Davyd Booth & Michael Stairs

Selections include:
Schubert, Delius, C. W. Orr, Bach, Cyril Scott, Norman O’Neill and Edward German

Sunday, March 2, 2014, 3:00pm
The Bach Choir of Bethlehem and Bach Festival Orchestra - Conductor Greg Funfgeld

Young Master Bach:
Libretto by Bill Byly, and the Coffee Cantata by J. S. Bach

Sunday, March 23, 2014, 3:00pm
The Wister Quartet

Rachmaninov - String Quartet

Schubert - String Quartet in Bb Major, D. 18

Dvorak - String Quartet in C Major, Op. 106

Sunday, April 27, 2014, 3:00pm
American Virtuosi

W. A. Mozart:
Trio in B-flat major

Johannes Brahms:
Serenade #1 (Violin and Piano)

**Selections include works by:**

Frederic Chopin:
Introduction and Polonaise Brillante (Cello and Piano)

David Popper:
Hungarian Rhapsody (Cello and Piano)

Astor Piazolla:
Le Grand Tango (Cello and Piano)

Sunday, May 18, 2014, 3:00pm
E-Strella Piano Duo

“From Russia with Love”

**Selections include:**

Rachmaninoff, Brahms, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky, and Gavrilin

**All programs are subject to change.**

**Biographies**

Elissa Lee Koljonen & Natalie Zhu are both linked to the Curtis Institute of Music. Elissa received international acclaim when she became the first recipient of the prestigious Henry Stroh Foundation Award. Natalie began her piano studies at age six in her native China, at eleven she emigrated to the USA, and by fifteen was enrolled at Curtis where she received the Rachmaninoff Award.

The Barnard Trio comprises pianist Davyd Booth, violinist Nancy Bean and cellist Lloyd Smith. They take their name from Boyd Barnard, a prominent Philadelphia businessman, music lover and longtime friend, who was instrumental in helping all three musicians in their chamber music careers.

The Ephrata Cloister Chorus was formed in 1959 by Russell Getz, Prof. of Music at Lebanon Valley College. He worked to transcribe early Cloister music into modern notation, and his pioneering work continues to serve as the Chorus’ repertoire.

Clare Huangci was born in Rochester, New York, started playing piano at six years of age. She was accepted into the Settlement Music School, Curtis Institute of Music, and is currently studying at the Hannover Hochschule für Musik in Germany.

Davyd Booth & Michael Stairs are both members of the Delius Society, play it frequently and have made a number of recordings at Longwood Gardens. Davyd is a member of The Philadelphia Orchestra since 1973. Michael, a former Curtis student, is the official organist of The Philadelphia Orchestra since 1996.

The Bach Choir of Bethlehem was founded in 1898 and is the oldest American Bach Choir. Its mission is to perform the works of J. S. Bach and to promote and encourage appreciation of their aesthetic and spiritual value through education and performance.

American Virtuosi is a trio of Borowsky siblings Elizabeth and Emmanuel and their mother Cecylia Barczyk. In 2008, they presented pre-Olympic concerts in China, and have performed in Washington, Baltimore, New York, as well as Germany, Poland, and the Ukraine.

E-Strella Piano Duo burst on the musical scene in 2011 with a series of concerts celebrating the great Russian masterpieces for piano duos. Elena Drozdovskaya and Svetlana Belsky both share their Russian heritage and training, and their enthusiasm for playing together.