Wartmann Artist Series

---Globally Inspired Music---

Saturday, September 21, 2019

Edgerton Performing Arts Center

Funded in part by the William & Joyce Wartmann Edgerton Endowment for the Performing Arts
Apollo Chamber Players

Houston TX based Apollo Chamber Players “performs with rhythmic flair and virtuosity” (The Strad) and has “found fruitful territory” (Houston Chronicle) through innovative, globally-inspired programming and multicultural new music commissions. Recent winner of Chamber Music America’s prestigious Residency Partnership award, the quartet has performed for sold-out audiences at Carnegie Hall twice in the past five years, and it holds the distinction of being the first American chamber ensemble to record and perform in Cuba since the embargo relaxation. Apollo is featured frequently on American Public Media’s nationally-syndicated program Performance Today.

Apollo is a passionate advocate of contemporary music. In 2014, the organization launched a bold project to commission 20 new multicultural works by the end of the decade. Now approaching its conclusion, 20x2020 features a roster of the world’s leading composers including Grammy-winners Libby Larsen and Christopher Theofanidis. The group has collaborated with renowned ensembles and artists including the Houston Ballet and Houston Chamber Choir, Grammy/Emmy winner and Academy Award contributor Vanessa Vo, James Dunham, Ismail Lumanovski, and Indian Classical music star Chitravina N. Ravikiran, among others.
“Ancestral Voices is the most culturally relevant, politically topical, and necessary album of them all.” (American Record Guide) Apollo’s three studio albums have garnered international acclaim, reaching millions of listeners around the world. Apollo’s debut album, European Folkscapes, earned ‘Album of the Week’ honors by WQXR in New York City, and Blurred Boundaries has been lauded as “truly lovely music played exceptionally well by an adventurous and gifted ensemble.” (Audiophile Audition)

Apollo reaches further into the community by partnering with schools, universities, at-risk youth centers, refugee and veterans service organizations, hospitals, airports, and public libraries, providing performances, educational programs, and entrepreneurship lectures that impact a wider, underserved audience.

"...excellent group of musicians." - Seattle CityArts

“Definitely a quartet to hear again.” – Seattle CityArts

"...an approach that has resonated in diverse Houston.”
HOUSTON CHRONICLE

“...performances are thoughtful and thrilling.”
PERFORMANCE TODAY American Public Media

The evening’s concert, Croatian Connections, explores the Croatian inspirations of the 'Father of the String Quartet', Josef Haydn, and music celebrating Croatian cultural heritage. The Wisconsin premiere of a new string quartet inspired by folk music from Croatia and Serbia by NYC-based composer Alexandra du Bois adds a contemporary perspective - a bridge to common ground through ethnic folk music - between oft-warring cultures.

Pannonia Boundless.......Aleksandra Vrebalov
String Quartet Op. 33 No. 3 “The Bird”.....................Haydn

Intermission

Zanni (Serbian/Croatian Tango) from Commedia dell’arte II (2012) 
.....................Ana Sokolović (b. 1968)
String Quartet No. 4 “Obala More”.....................Alexandra du Bois
Matthew J. Detrick is an emerging leader in the professional arts world. He is co-founder, executive and artistic director of Apollo Chamber Players.

Mr. Detrick was appointed concertmaster of the Symphony of Southeast Texas (Beaumont, TX) in 2012 and has since been featured soloist performing Mozart’s Sinfonia Concertante, Vivaldi’s and Piazzolla’s Four Seasons, and the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto. He has also served as guest concertmaster of the Lubbock and Alexandria (LA) Symphonies. In Houston, he performs often with the Houston Grand Opera and Ballet orchestras and with the period ensemble Mercury.

A graduate of Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music, his principal teachers include Kenneth Goldsmith, Collette Wichert and the late Raphael Fliegel, former concertmaster of the Houston Symphony.

Mr. Detrick performs on a 1760 Giuseppe Testore violin and a 1886 Josephy Alfred Lamy bow.

Anabel Ramirez Detrick began studying the violin at age six in her native country of Mexico with Russian violinist Gari Petrenko. Anabel is also a member of the Houston Grand Opera and the Houston Ballet Orchestras, and Mercury Chamber Orchestra.

By 1991 she had twice won the National Violin Competition in Mexico and the following year Ms. Detrick was awarded a full scholarship to study at the Ollin Yoliztly School of the Arts in Mexico City. She won the ‘Carlos Chavez’ competition in 1992. At age 16, she came to the US to study at the University of Houston under the sponsorship of the Starling Foundation Scholarship Fund, where she completed her Bachelor’s of Music Performance. She subsequently completed her Masters Degree at the University of British Columbia.
Whitney Bullock, Viola, Education Director

Violist Whitney Bullock is active as a performer, teaching artist, and educator. She serves as the Apollo’s Education and Outreach Director, bringing the organization’s distinctive, multicultural programming to life in schools and underserved areas of Greater Houston.

Ms. Bullock serves as staff viola instructor for the Michael P. Hammond Preparatory Department at Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music. Ms. Bullock is one of the founders of the Houston Viola Society, and she has given chamber music and solo masterclasses at Concordia College (Moorhead, MN) and Texas Lutheran University. Ms. Bullock is currently in her tenth season as Principal Viola of the Symphony of Southeast Texas.

Ms. Bullock is a graduate of Rice University and Vanderbilt University, where she earned degrees in both music performance and women’s studies. Her principal teachers include James Dunham, Steve Wyryczynski, and John Kochanowski.

Matthew Dudzik, Cello, Chief Financial Officer

Cellist Matthew Dudzik has been a member of Apollo Chamber Players since 2009. Mr. Dudzik performs with the Houston Grand Opera and Ballet and Theater Under the Stars. A frequent performer in Japan, he has appeared with acclaimed violinist Takayoshi Wanami.

A dedicated and enthusiastic educator, he maintains a vibrant private studio at his home, and he serves as a teaching artist for the Houston Youth Symphony’s MELODY program and the American Festival for the Arts (AFA).

Mr. Dudzik began playing the cello under the guidance of Minnesota Orchestra cellist Sachiya Isomura. He continued his studies with Ko Iwasaki at Southern Methodist University and Norman Fischer at Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music, where he earned his undergraduate and master’s degrees in music, respectively.
Alexandra du Bois, Composer

Described as “an intense, luminous American composer” (Mark Swed, Los Angeles Times) and “a painter who knows exactly where her picture will be hung,” (Vivien Schweitzer, New York Times), the music of Alexandra du Bois is often propelled by issues of indifference and inequality throughout the United States and the world.

Alexandra du Bois (Ph.D. Stony Brook University; M.M. The Juilliard School; B.M. Indiana University Jacobs School of Music) is a Vermont and Manhattan based composer and violinist whose musical imagery has continually attracted commissions created to honor or mourn world events both historical and contemporary. Her music has been performed in concert halls across five continents—her travels connecting her tangibly to the countries that inform and inspire her work.

Born in Virginia Beach, Virginia and a Northeast coast resident for most of her life, du Bois found her early musical voice through the violin, beginning lessons at the age of two years old. After a move to rural Virginia after growing up by the sea, she began hearing music in the natural world around her. It was this intimate connection to nature and reflection combined with solitude that inspired her to begin writing and underscores her music to this day.

Alexandra du Bois’ music has been performed in concert halls across the United States and throughout France, Argentina, Spain, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Vietnam, Austria, Armenia, the Netherlands, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Canada, Slovenia and the United Kingdom. Her works and arrangements have been released or are about to be released on: Harmonia Mundi, Kronos Quartet, Perspectives Recordings, Parma Recordings, and Arabesque Records labels. Alexandra du Bois has lived in Manhattan since 2005 and recently chose to split her time between New York and Vermont in order to receive the oxygen her life and work had long needed. Alexandra du Bois is a member of BMI (Broadcast Music Inc.).
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Thank you Two Brothers for providing the catering for our Artists and Crew!

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- Edgerton School District Board of Education and Staff
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