Frank Almond, Artistic Director

September 23, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Milwaukee

Season Opener
Frank Almond, violin
Ilana Setapen, violin
Samantha Rodriguez, viola
Alejandro Duque, viola
Madeleine Kabat, cello
Peter Thomas, cello
Todd Levy, clarinet
Sonora Slocum, flute
Megumi Kanda, trombone
Dietrich Hemann, horn
David Cohen, trumpet
Matthew Ernst, trumpet
Elena Abend, piano

PROGRAM

Canzona per sonare No. 1 “La Spiritata”..............................................................................Giovanni Gabrieli
(c. 1157 - 1612)

Adoramus Te........................................................................................................................................... Giovanni Palestrina
(1525 - 1594)

Canzona per sonare No. 3..............................................................................................................................Giovanni Gabrieli
(c. 1157 - 1612)

Flute quartet in D-major, K 285..............................................................................................................Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756 -1791)

I. Allegro
II. Adagio
III. Rondo

Emperor Waltz, Op. 437 ................................................................................................................................. Johann Strauss II,
(1825 - 1899)

arr. Arnold Schoenberg
(1874 - 1951)

– INTERMISSION –

Souvenir de Florence, Op. 70 ..................................................................................................................Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840 - 1893)

I. Allegro con spirito
II. Adagio cantabile e con moto
III. Allegretto moderato
IV. Allegro con brio e vivace
This program was supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the state of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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## BIOGRAPHIES

### Violinist Frank Almond

Violinist [Frank Almond](http://www.franklymusic.org) holds the Charles and Marie Caestecker Concertmaster Chair the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He has also held the Concertmaster position with the Rotterdam Philharmonic with Valery Gergiev and Guest Concertmaster of the London Symphony Orchestra with Kurt Masur.

Frank regularly performs as a soloist with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and as soloist and chamber musician throughout the US and Europe. He is the founder of his own chamber music series in Milwaukee, [Frankly Music](http://www.franklymusic.org), now in its 16th season and consistently recognized for innovative programming and its ability to attract leading performers from around the world. At 17, he was one of the youngest prizewinners in the history of the Nicólo Paganini Competition in Genoa, Italy, and five years later was one of two American prizewinners at the Eighth International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, which was documented in an award-winning PBS film. His extensive recording discography includes a wide range of repertoire on various labels that have garnered multiple Grammy nominations. His most recent series of recordings, *A Violin’s Life*, chronicles the extraordinary history and lineage of his current violin, the 1715 *Lipiński* Stradivarius. This instrument has direct ties to Giuseppe Tartini, Edvard Grieg, Johannes Brahms, and Robert and Clara Schumann.

On January 27, 2014, the *Lipiński* Stradivarius was stolen from Mr. Almond in an armed robbery after a concert. The violin was recovered nine days later, and the story continues to make headlines around the world, most notably in an extensive *Vanity Fair* feature. The robbery and recovery are
the subject of a new documentary film, “Plucked,” which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in April 2019. He was also recently included in a program from Lincoln Center on “The Moth Radio Hour,” the critically acclaimed storytelling program and podcast heard by millions on Public Radio International stations nationwide. Community outreach and giving back to the Milwaukee community are also at the heart of Frank Almond’s artistic priorities. He mentors young musicians of all performing levels and backgrounds, and performs in nontraditional venues where classical music has a rare and unusual presence.

Frank holds two degrees from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Dorothy DeLay. Other important mentors and teachers were Michael Tseitlin, Felix Galimir, and Joseph Silverstein. He currently serves on the Faculty at Roosevelt University in Chicago and is the Artist-in-Residence at the Milwaukee Youth Symphony, one of the largest youth arts programs in the United States. Previous teaching positions include positions at Northwestern University and Texas Christian University.

Frank Almond writes an online column, as he admits, “instead of practicing.” Nondivisi offers his thoughts, hopes and expectations for the present and future of classical music. More information about Frankly Music, A Violin’s Life and the Lipiński Stradivarius is available at frankalmond.com.

Since her solo orchestral debut at age 15 with the Amarillo Symphony, Ilana Setapen has been flourishing as a violinist with a powerful and original voice. She is currently the associate concertmaster of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and the assistant concertmaster of the Grant Park Festival Orchestra in Chicago. Ms. Setapen has solo performances this season with the Milwaukee Symphony, the Sheboygan Symphony, the Boca Raton Symphonia, and the Gateway Chamber Orchestra. In past seasons, she has performed with the Pasadena Pops, the Riverside Philharmonic, National Repertory Orchestra, the Glacier Symphony, and the Idaho Falls Symphony, among others. She is also a frequent performer on the Dame Myra Hess Recital Series in Chicago. She has participated in numerous festivals such as the Olympic Music Festival, the New York String Seminar, Aspen Music Festival, and the National Repertory Orchestra. Ms. Setapen has won top prizes in many competitions, including the Irving M. Klein International String Competition, the Pasadena Showcase Competition, and the Kingsville International Competition. At the age of 21, she became concertmaster of the Riverside Philharmonic in Los Angeles. She has also held concertmaster positions with the Juilliard Orchestra, the Colburn Orchestra, the American Youth Symphony, the National Repertory Orchestra, and the USC Thornton Symphony. Also a passionate chamber musician, Ms. Setapen was for two years the first violinist of the award-winning Calla Quartet in New York. Her talent has also led her to collaborations with such distinguished artists as Ron Leonard, Lynn Harrell, Toby Appel, Peter Stumpf, Paul Coletti, Cynthia Phelps, the Fine Arts Quartet, Frank Almond, Joe Johnson, Todd Levy, and David Geber. Solo and chamber music performances have brought her abroad to France, Brazil, Holland, England, Monaco, and Italy. She is now the first violinist of the Milwaukee-based Arcas Quartet and a frequent guest on the Frankly Music Series as well as Chamber Music Milwaukee. Ms. Setapen grew up in Amarillo, Texas. She studied with Robert Lipsett both at the University of Southern California and at the Colburn Conservatory. She received her Master of Music Degree from The Juilliard School as a student of Donald Weilerstein and Ronald Copes.
Violist Samantha Rodriguez serves as assistant principal third chair of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Previously, she was third chair of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and a member of their viola section for 9 years. Ms. Rodriguez is also a frequent substitute with the Minnesota Orchestra and is principal violist of the Lakes Area Music Festival, of which she is a founding artist. An avid chamber musician, Samantha plays in chamber ensembles for L.A.M.F. throughout the year for communities in Minnesota, and has performed in groups for audiences across upstate NY, Colorado Springs and central Florida. In 2012, after attending and being inspired by the International Viola congress, Ms. Rodriguez formed a viola trio with her two closest friends. Together, they decided to enter chamber music competitions and thus the Voila viola trio was born. The trio placed 2nd in the M.T.N.A. national chamber music competition and were the very first all viola ensemble to be finalists at the prestigious Coleman competition. Currently, Ms. Rodriguez is making her way in her new city of Milwaukee, and has begun to perform in a few chamber music series with various members of the symphony. As a soloist, Samantha has had the privilege of performing with the Eastman Philharmonia, symphony and chorale, the Geneseeo symphony and the L.A.M.F orchestra. Eastman School of Music being her alma mater, she received a bachelor and master of music, as well as a performer’s certificate under the tutelage of George Taylor. Teaching is a very important part of Ms. Rodriguez’s life. She has enjoyed working with students from age 5 to 80 either. This past year, she was appointed as a teaching artist for the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, as well as M.S.O. concertmaster Frank Almond's honors chamber music program. In her spare time, Ms. Rodriguez loves to sing. She has enjoyed being a member of different choirs and relishes the chance to sing a gospel solo. She also likes to bake and spend lots of cuddle time with her very needy cat named Charles.

Violist Alejandro Duque is one of the newest members of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, having joined in 2018. Previously, he performed with the Austin Symphony and various ensembles in the Texas area including the Kinetic Ensemble and Austin Camerata. He also received fellowships to numerous music festivals such as the Tanglewood Music Center, Aspen Music Festival, Music Academy of the West, and the New York String Orchestra Seminar. More recently, he has been a guest artist at the Sunset ChamberFest, Caroga Lake Music Festival, Lakes Area Music Festival, and with the Fine Arts Quartet. Alejandro received his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Southern California under the mentorship of Donald McInnes and most recently his Master of Music degree at UT Austin under Roger Myers and John Largess. Madeleine Kabat is the newest member of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra’s cello section. She was named Acting Assistant Principal Cellist during the 2017-18 season, where she served as Acting Principal for her first 7 months with the orchestra. Prior to this appointment, she was principal cellist of the Amarillo Symphony in Texas and assistant principal in the Madison Symphony. Ms. Kabat has performed in the cello sections of the Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and the Houston Symphony, and has appeared as guest principal cellist with the Orquesta Filarmónia Mexico, Madison Symphony,
Mansfield Symphony, and CityMusic Cleveland. Following her solo debut with the Cleveland Orchestra at age 18, Madeleine has been featured as soloist with orchestras; most recently the Kettle Moraine Symphony (WI), Amarillo Symphony (TX), Renova Festival Orchestra (PA), Lima International Music Festival Orchestra (Peru), Gulf Coast Symphony (MS), Minot Symphony (ND), Red de Escuelas de Musica Orquesta (Medellin, Colombia), Cleveland Philharmonic (OH), Spoleto Festival Orchestra (SC), Festival Mozaic Orchestra (CA) and Marin Symphony (CA). In 2012 she made her solo debut at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC on an invitation to represent the Oberlin Conservatory. Madeleine has stepped in at the last minute for soloist Alban Gerhardt to rehearse Prokofiev’s Symphony-Concerto with the Madison Symphony, to perform the Dvorak Cello Concerto with the Springfield Symphony in Missouri, and with the Bach Dynamite & Dancing Society as a last minute replacement for Parry Karp. An active chamber musician, Madeleine has recently performed in recital with pianists Simon Trpceski in Houston and Orion Weiss in Los Angeles, and at the Lev Aronson Legacy Festival in Dallas and the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts in Brookfield WI. She was named Visiting Artist at La Sierra University in Riverside, CA, where she performed chamber music concerts and gave master classes from 2011-16. During the summer she performs at the Lakes Area Music Festival (MN), Festival Mozaic (CA), and is a faculty artist at the Renova Chamber Music Festival (PA). This summer she will also be on faculty at Clazz, a festival in the Tuscany region of Italy. Ms. Kabat has appeared twice as a featured artist for the Lima International Chamber Music Festival in Peru, and has also performed chamber music in China, Korea, and in Colombia (South America) numerous times as faculty artist of Medellin Festicamara. She has also given masterclasses at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, Northwestern State University, Eastern Michigan University, Minot State University (ND), Sahmyook University (Seoul, Korea) and at La Jolla’s SummerFest. Ms. Kabat began cello lessons in Cleveland at age 11, and has won top prizes in the competitions of Fischoff, Hellam, and Klein International. She holds diplomas from the Cleveland Institute of Music, Rice University, the Juilliard School, and most recently Oberlin Conservatory, where she was a teaching assistant for Professor Darrett Adkins. She resides in Milwaukee, WI and performs on a William Forster cello made in London in 1790.

Peter J Thomas has been a member of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra since 2008. Originally from Stevens Point, Wisconsin, where he was born into a family of musicians, Mr. Thomas started cello at age five at the American Suzuki Talent Education Center and received degrees at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and the Cleveland Institute of Music. His primary teachers were Lawrence Leviton, Tanya Remenikova, Joseph Johnson, and Stephen Geber. Prior to joining the MSO, Mr. Thomas performed in the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Canton Symphony Orchestra, Columbus Symphony Orchestra, and the New World Symphony. Mr. Thomas has performed around the country as a soloist, chamber musician, and with the award winning classical cross-over indie-rock band, I’m Not A Pilot. INAP’s discography can be heard on television, movies, and radio stations all over the world and streaming online at Pandora, Spotify, and Rdio. Voted Best Rock Band 2010, 2011, and 2013 in Milwaukee’s Shepherd Express Weekly, Best Rock Band 2011 at WYMS 88.9fm Radio Milwaukee Music Awards (Song of the Year 2014 nomination), and nominated for a plethora of awards.
including Band of the Year at the 2012 Wisconsin Area Music Industry awards, I’m Not A Pilot has extensively toured the Midwest performing as a four-piece band (and also in collaboration with youth orchestras) at colleges, high schools, performing art centers, music clubs, music festivals, and house concerts. Peter has presented clinics and workshops across the country through his innovative use of the electric cello and has recorded, arranged, and edited music for numerous artists including 2Cellos and The Piano Guys through Hal Leonard Music. He is also the winner of the Wisconsin Area Music Industry’s String Player of the Year award for 2012 and 2015 and has been nominated for the award each year since 2012. As a teacher, Mr. Thomas maintains a private cello studio of extremely gifted musicians and serves on the faculty of the American Suzuki Institute in the summer. He has taught masterclasses at the UW-Stevens Point, Lawrence University, Eastern Michigan University, Washington College, and at numerous high schools across the state of Wisconsin. His students have won numerous competitions and full tuition scholarships in music programs across the country. Mr. Thomas also serves on the board of the Wisconsin Cello Society and Crescendo – the social group for the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Peter enjoys the life of being a multi-genre performer/teacher and strives to spread awareness of the arts in the community through his many outlets. Peter performs on a fine English cello circa 1813 by maker Thomas Kennedy.

Principal clarinet of the MSO, the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra and participant in the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, three-time Grammy Award-winner Todd Levy has performed as a soloist at Carnegie Hall, the Mostly Mozart Festival, with the Israel Philharmonic, and at the White House; as chamber musician with members of the Guarneri, Juilliard, Orion, Miro, and Miami quartets, Christoph Eschenbach and Mitsuko Uchida; as a participant at the Marlboro Music Festival for four summers; as a member of the Naumburg Award-winning Aspen Wind Quintet; as guest principal clarinet with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera, and as a frequent principal clarinet for Seiji Ozawa, Riccardo Muti, and Alan Gilbert at the Tokyo Opera Nomori and Saito Kinen festivals in Japan. He has performed world premiere concerti or chamber works by composers such as John Harbison, Joan Tower, Peter Schickele, Paquito D’Rivera, Morton Subotnick, Marc Neikrug, and performs on the new release of Marc Neikrug’s Through Roses chamber work with violinist Pinchas Zuckerman, actor John Rubenstein, and the composer conducting. In 2012, Levy recorded the Finzi Five Bagatelles for the newly released edition for Boosey and Hawkes/Hal Leonard. In 2010, Levy co-edited and recorded the Bernstein Clarinet Sonata for the newly released edition of the work published by Boosey and Hawkes/Hal Leonard. He has recorded three book/CDs of clarinet competition works for G. Schirmer/Hal Leonard entitled The Clarinet Collection, the Brahms Clarinet Sonatas for Avie and over 20 other orchestral and chamber music CDs on the Deutsche Grammophon, Sony and Decca labels. He performs exclusively on Vandoren reeds, mouthpieces and ligatures and Selmer Signature clarinets. He is also on the faculty of UW-Milwaukee.
Sonora Slocum was appointed principal flute of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in 2012 at the age of 22. “Slocum’s solo work continues to impress. She plays with a clean, well-tuned sound, easily floating through the hall rather than slicing the air, always creating graceful phrases.” (Shepherd Express) Slocum has appeared with the Philadelphia Orchestra and performed as guest principal with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She has performed and recorded as guest principal with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and is one of the Principal Flutists of the Philharmonia Orchestra of New York. Slocum has worked under such renowned conductors as Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Sir Simon Rattle, Edo de Waart, Otto-Werner Mueller, John Williams and David Zinman, among many others.

Megumi Kanda, Principal Trombone of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra is a native of Tokyo, Japan. Megumi began to play the trombone at age ten and continued her studies at the prestigious Toho High School of Music, where she studied with Sumio Miwa, trombonist in the NHK Symphony. Megumi came to the United States in 1994 and received her Bachelor of Music degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music where she studied with James DeSano, former Principal Trombone of the Cleveland Orchestra. Prior to joining the Milwaukee Symphony in 2002, she served as a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, faculty member of the Eastman School of Music Community Education Division, and Principal Trombonist of the Albany Symphony Orchestra. In April 2006, Megumi was recognized by the Arion Foundation in Tokyo, Japan as one of the most influential Japanese classical artists. She has also received a Certificate of Commendation from the Consul General of Japan at Chicago in recognition for distinguished service contributing to the friendship between the United States and Japan. Megumi was named a 2017 Woman of Influence in the category of education by the Milwaukee Business Journal. Megumi has performed in recital and as a soloist across the United States, Europe and Asia with numerous orchestras and at dozens of universities and festivals. She has premiered the works of Amy Riebs Mills, Bruce Stark, and Geoffrey Gordon. Megumi’s first book, The One Hundred, a collection of orchestral trombone excerpts with accompanying commentary, was published in August 2015 by Encore Music Publishers and is a resource widely used by aspiring young trombonists around the world. As a JVC/Victor Entertainment artist, Megumi recorded three solo albums: Amazing Grace, Gloria, and Mona Lisa. Megumi is proud to be a Greenhoe clinician and performs on a Greenhoe trombone.

Dietrich Hemann has held the Andy Nunemaker 2nd Horn Chair with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra since 2008. He has previously been Associate Principal Horn of the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, Assistant Principal and Acting Principal Horn of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Acting Assistant Principal Horn of the Grant Park Orchestra, and a member of Burning River Brass. He has toured Europe and Asia with the Chicago and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras under the batons of Riccardo Muti and Michael Tilson Thomas, respectively. He performed as soloist with the Rochester Philharmonic on multiple occasions and has appeared at numerous festivals including the Skaneateles Music Festival, Bravo! Vail Valley.
Music Festival, the Peninsula Music Festival, and the National Repertory Orchestra. Dietrich has taught at the Eastman School of Music, Hochstein Music School, Nazareth College, MasterWorks Festival and as visiting horn instructor at UW Oshkosh. A native of Albany, CA, Dietrich studied at the Eastman School of Music with Verne Reynolds and Peter Kurau, and at Rice University with William VerMeulen. Dietrich resides in Shorewood, WI with his wife, MSO Principal Trombonist Megumi Kanda, and their three boys, Hans, Max, and Lukas.

Matthew Ernst currently serves as Principal Trumpet of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, appointed by Edo de Waart in 2016. He was previously the Principal Trumpet of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Pops. Matthew was also a member of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra and acted as Principal Trumpet for the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra and the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. A dedicated educator, Matthew has held teaching positions at the Round Top Festival Institute, the University of Virginia, the University of New Orleans, and the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts. He and his wife, Janna Ernst—Vocal Coach at the Florentine Opera in Milwaukee—tour extensively as a duo, giving performances and masterclasses across the country. Matthew pursued his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Michigan, where he studied with William Campbell. He also received the school’s prestigious Emerging Artist Award in 2016. He earned two Master of Music degrees from Southern Methodist University—the first in trumpet performance, studying with Tom Booth of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and the second in wind conducting. In addition to his degree work, Matthew was also a fellow at Tanglewood Music Center and attended the Pacific Music Festival and Brevard Music Center. Matthew resides in Shorewood, Wisconsin, with Janna and their two daughters, Madeleine and Margaret.

David Cohen is the Associate Principal Trumpet of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He joined the MSO in 2013 after playing Principal Trumpet with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra for three seasons. Outside of the MSO, Mr. Cohen has performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Alabama Symphony, and has played guest principal trumpet with orchestras all over the world, including the Fort Worth Symphony, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Phoenix Symphony, and the Malaysian Philharmonic. Mr. Cohen received his Bachelor’s of Music from Northwestern University where he studied with Barbara Butler and Charles Geyer. He was appointed Principal Trumpet of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra during his senior year of college. He spent one summer attending the National Orchestral Institute in College Park, Maryland and two summers as a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Festival in Lenox, Massachusetts. Mr. Cohen has had additional studies with Thomas Rolfs and Christopher Martin. Mr. Cohen is on faculty at the DePaul School of Music in Chicago.
Venezuelan born pianist **Elena Abend** has performed recitals and chamber concerts as well as toured and recorded with major orchestras of her country. As a recipient of the William Schuman Prize for outstanding achievement and leadership in music, Ms. Abend received her Bachelor and Master degrees from the Juilliard School. Performances have taken her to venues such as Royal Festival Hall’s Purcell Room and London’s Wigmore Hall, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Academy of Music with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Toulouse Conservatoire, Theatre Luxembourg, the Corcoran Gallery in Washington D.C., Chicago Cultural Center, Merkin Concert Hall in New York, the Atlanta Historical Society, the Pabst Theater in Milwaukee, Teatro Municipal, Teatro Nacional and Teatro Teresa Carreno in Venezuela. More performances include Ravinia and Marlboro Music Festivals, live broadcasts on Philadelphia’s WFLN, The Dame Myra Hess Concert Series on Chicago’s WFMT and Wisconsin Public Radio at the Chazen Museum in Madison. An avid chamber music collaborator Ms. Abend has performed with Frankly Music, Present Music, Chamber Music Milwaukee, Yolanda Marculescu Vocal Arts Series, UWM Faculty Artist Series, Milwaukee Musaik, Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra and with the Fine Arts and Philomusica Quartets. Other performances include “Four Seasons” Series in Berkley, California, “Classical Progressions” at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, and recently at the “Musicales de Montsoreau” in France. Locally she has been heard in recitals at the Polish Center of Milwaukee, UW-Madison, the Rural Musicians Forum in Spring Green, and as soloist with the Green Bay Symphony, Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra. She has recorded for Albany Records and Avie label, as well as recording and editing projects for Hal Leonard’s G. Schirmer Instrumental Library and Schirmer Performance Piano Editions. Ms. Abend is currently Chair of Piano area at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, faculty at Lakeside Chamber Music Workshop and the Collaborative Piano Institute.
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Amanda Maier-Röntgen: Piano Trio

Edvard Grieg: Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 3 in C minor, Op. 45

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