

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE OF MUSIC

PRESENTS THE
JOANNE AND BILL CHURCH
West Circle Series

14th Annual Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival



Suren Bagratuni, artistic director

RUSSIAN GEMS

Monday, March 17, 7:30 P.M.

Sponsored by Martin Fuchs; Jerry Schuur and Elaine Karle

A COMPOSER AND HIS MUSIC

Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 P.M.

Sponsored by Greg and Pam Zbasnik

BACH PLUS DAY 1

Thursday, March 20, 5:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church

Thursday, March 20, 7:30 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church

BACH PLUS DAY 2

Friday, March 21, 5:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church; April Clobes and Glen Brough

BACH PLUS DAY 2: BACH AND FORTH

Friday, March 21, 8:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church; April Clobes and Glen Brough

CHAMBER MUSIC FAVORITES

Sunday, March 23, 3:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Larry Snyder and Wendy Champness

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM BUILDING

RUSSIAN GEMS

Monday, March 17, 7:30 P.M.

Sponsored by Martin Fuchs; Jerry Schuur and Elaine Karle

String Quintet in A Major, Op. 39

Alexander Glazunov
(1865 - 1936)

Allegro

Scherzo. *Allegro moderato*

Andante sostenuto

Finale. *Allegro moderato*

Dmitri Berlinsky and I-Pei Lin, violins
Yuri Gandelsman, viola
Suren Bagratuni and Marta Bagratuni*, cellos

INTERMISSION

Piano Trio in A Minor, Op. 50

Peter Tchaikovsky
(1840 - 1893)

I. Pezzo elegiaco

II.

A. Thema con variazioni *Andante con moto*

Var. I Andante con moto

Var. II Piu mosso

Var. III Allegro moderato

Var. IV L'istesso tempo

Var. V L'istesso tempo

Var. VI Tempo di Valse

Var. VII Allegro moderato

Var. VIII Fuga. Allegro moderato

Var. IX Andante flebile ma non tanto

Var. X Tempo di Mazurka

Var. XI Moderato

B. Variazione finale e Coda

Allegro risoluto e con fuoco - Andante con moto - Lugubre
(*L'istesso tempo*)

Dmitri Berlinsky, violin; Suren Bagratuni, cello;
Minsoo Sohn, piano

* guest artist

A COMPOSER AND HIS MUSIC

Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 P.M.

Sponsored by Greg and Pam Zbasnik

This event is dedicated to the memory of Aram Gharabekian
(1955 - 2014), Musician, Conductor, and Friend

Vache Sharafyan (b. 1966)

Breath of Cello for solo cello

World Premiere

Suren Bagratuni, cello

Amen, Hayr Surb (Amen, Holy Father)

for two cellos and voices (2006)

Suren Bagratuni, cello; Marta Bagratuni*, cello and voice

Trio for Saxophone, cello and piano

World Premiere

James Forger, saxophone; Suren Bagratuni, cello;
Deborah Moriarty, piano

4 Movements from "Goat-rite" (2014)

World Premiere

Vache Sharafyan*, piano

INTERMISSION

A Gem Rose for cello, soprano and pre-recorded track (2013)

Marta Bagratuni*, cello

Cello Concerto No. 2 (2013)

World Premiere

Suren Bagratuni, cello; Leon Gregorian*, conductor;
Deborah Moriarty, piano;

* guest artist

Festival Ensemble

Violins

Samvel Arakelyan
I-Hsuan Chen
Ji Eun Lee
Tsung-Yu Lee
Ana Schmidt
I-Hsuan Tsai
Ji Eun Yook
Tatiana Zueva

Violas

Dilek Engin
Yuri Ozhegov
Valentina Shmyreva

Cellos

Hong Hong
Seunghyun Kang
Jinhyun Kim

Bass

Lin Chang

Harp

Deidreanna Potter

Clarinets

Brooke Miller
David Yandl

Percussion

Zac Brunell
Ben Mapes
Austin Ridoux

BACH PLUS DAY 1

Thursday, March 20, 5:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church

Suite in C Major, BWV 1009

J.S. Bach

Prelude

(1685-1750)

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Bourree I & II

Gigue

Suren Bagratuni, cello

Trio Sonata and Canon Perpetuus

J.S. Bach

From Musical Offering BWV 1079 Nos. 8 and 9

(1686-1750)

Walter Verdehr, violin; Suren Bagratuni, cello;

Richard Sherman, flute;

Michael Callahan, harpsichord

INTERMISSION

Suite in C minor, BWV 1011

J.S. Bach

Prelude

(1685-1750)

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande

Gavotte I & II

Gigue

Yuri Gandelman, viola

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich, Herr zu dir, BWV 131

J.S. Bach

(1685-1750)

Isaac Frishman, tenor; Harry Greenleaf, baritone;

State Singers

David Rayl, conductor

Festival Ensemble

Violins

Ji Eun Yook
Ying-Li Pan
Ana Schdmit

Violas

Mikhail Bugaev
Luciano Gatelli
Chi-Jui Lee,
Yuri Ozhegov
Nicholas Mowry
Stefanie Bilidas

Cellos

Hong Hong
Chi-Hui Kao,
Jinhyun Kim

Bass

Lin Chang

Oboe

Woo Jung

Bassoon

Adam Farmer

Continuo

Judy Kabodian

State Singers

Soprano

Deanna Christy
Anna Doering
Stephanie Duve
Mary Garner
Hannah Hoekert
Kate Hyne
Mary Johnson
Angela Lee
Ellen McCartney
Maura McGlynn
Colleen Morence
Sarah Ombry
Emma Parravano
Sydney Rostar
Rachel
Shaughnessy
Natalie Snay
Alina Tamborini

Alto

Kalli Allen
Ashlee Asbury
Alexa Bennett
Sarah Chapekis
Kate DeYoung
Emily Hanka
Logan Jones
Kailey LaClare
Jessica Levin
Bronwen
McVeigh
Cathie
Pierce-Winters
Abbie Reifel
Dana Reynolds
Erika Senecal

Tenor

David Anderson
Brysien Beer
Andy Breitbarth
Michael Garnett
Jonathan Schiff
Mark Schenfisch

Bass

Cody Davis
Tyler Frisbie
Bryan Gilbey
Tyler Martin
Colin McCarthy
Zachary
Niedzwiecki
Logan Raney
Matt Riutta
Brandon Smith
Tyler Summers

BACH PLUS DAY 1

Thursday, March 20, 7:30 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church

Duo for two cellos

F. Couperin
(1668 - 1733)

Vivement

Agréablement

Tendrement

Chaconne légère

Le Je-Ne-Scay Quoy Gayément

Suren Bagratuni and Marta Bagratuni*, cellos

Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 in B flat major

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Allegro

Adagio ma non tanto

Allegro

Yuri Gandelsman and Irina Banova, violas;

Suren Bagratuni, Marta Bagratuni*, and Jin-Hyun Kim, cellos;
Lin Chang, bass; Michael Callahan, harpsichord

INTERMISSION

Prelude and Fugue in G sharp Minor, from WTC 1

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Le tombeau de Couperin

M. Ravel
(1875-1937)

Prelude

Fugue

Forlane

Rigaudon

Menuet

Toccata

Ralph Votapek, piano

* guest artist

BACH PLUS DAY 2

Friday, March 21, 5:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church; April Clobes and Glen Brough

Suite for cello solo in G major

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Menuetto I & II
Gigue

Suren Bagratuni, cello

Concerto fin G major for viola, strings and cembalo

G.Ph.Telemann
(1681-1767)

Largo
Allegro
Andante
Presto

Randolph Kelly*, viola; Kevin Bartig, harpsichord,

Concerto in G minor for two cellos, strings and continuo

A. Vivaldi
(1678-1741)

Allegro
Adagio
Allegro

Suren Bagratuni and Marta Bagratuni*, cellos;
Michael Callahan, harpsichord

Concerto in B flat for violin, cello, strings and continuo

A. Vivaldi
(1678-1741)

Allegro moderato
Andante
Allegro molto

Ruggero Alliffranchini*, violin, Suren Bagratuni, cello
Michael Callahan, harpsichord

Festival Ensemble

Violins

Ji Eun Yook
I-Hsuan Tsai
I-Hsuan Chen

Ji Eun Lee
Tatiana Zueva

Violas

Luciano Gatelli
Valentina
Shmyreva

Cellos

Jinhyun Kim
Hong Hong

* guest artist

BACH PLUS DAY 2: BACH AND FORTH

Friday, March 21, 8:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church; April Clobes and Glen Brough

Stephen Prutsman*, piano

Please hold your applause until the end of each half.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Prelude and Fugue in C-sharp minor,
BWV 873, from *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book II* (c. 1740)
(1685-1750)

JEAN-PHILIPPE RAMEAU *La boiteuse* (The Lame Girl) (1724)
(1683-1764)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in G-sharp minor,
BWV 887, from *WTC, Book II*

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN “Adagio sostenuto” from Sonata
No. 14 in C-sharp minor, Op. 27, No. 2, “Moonlight” (1801)
(1770-1826)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in A major,
BWV 888, from *WTC, Book II*

RICHARD WAGNER *Isolde Liebestod aus Tristan und*
Isolde (arr. Liszt) (1859, arr. 1867)
(1813-1883)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in B minor,
BWV 893, from *WTC, Book II*

CLAUDE DEBUSSY “Ondine” from *Préludes, Book II*
(1911-13)
(1862-1918)

BACH “Gavotte I and II” from English
Suite No. 6 in D minor, BWV 811 (before 1720)

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG “Musette” from Suite, Op. 25 (1923)
(1874-1951)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in C major,
BWV 870, from *WTC, Book II*

* guest artist

INTERMISSION

YES Sound Chaser (arr. Prutsman) (1974)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in D minor,
BWV 875, from *WTC, Book II*

CHARLIE PARKER *Ornithology* (arr. Prutsman) (1946)
(1920-1955)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in G major,
BWV 884, from *WTC, Book II*

PURANDARA DASA Govinda (arr. Prutsman)
(1484-1564)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in F major,
BWV 880, from *WTC, Book II*

UZBEK TRADITIONAL Galdir (arr. Prutsman)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in F minor,
BWV 881, from *WTC, Book II*

WALTER HAWKINS Goin' Up Yonder (arr. Prutsman) (1975)
(b. 1949)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in C-sharp
major, BWV 872, from *WTC, Book II*

RWANDAN TRADITIONAL Amaliza (arr. Prutsman)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in E major,
BWV 878, from *WTC, Book II*

CHAMBER MUSIC FAVORITES

Sunday, March 23, 3:00 P.M.

Sponsored by Larry Snyder and Wendy Champness

Piano Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 47 Robert Schumann
(1810 - 1856)

Sostenuto assai - Allegro ma non troppo
Scherzo. Molto vivace. Trio I, Trio II
Andante cantabile
Finale. *Vivace*

Ruggero Alliffranchini*, violin; Randolph Kelly*, viola;
Suren Bagratuni, cello;
Stephen Prutsman*, piano

INTERMISSION

Piano Quartet in C minor, Op. 60 Johannes Brahms
(1833 - 1897)

Allegro non troppo
Scherzo. Allegro
Andante
Finale. *Allegro comodo*

Ruggero Alliffranchini*, violin; Randolph Kelly*, viola;
Suren Bagratuni, cello;
Stephen Prutsman*, piano

* guest artist

ARTIST BIOS

Faculty Artists

Suren Bagratuni won the silver medal at the 1986 International Tchaikovsky Competition while still a student at the Moscow Conservatory. He has toured worldwide, earning enthusiastic praise in both the traditional and contemporary repertoire. He has performed with major orchestras in the former Soviet Union, including the Moscow Philharmonic, and has also appeared with numerous orchestras in Europe, Asia, and North and South America. In addition to his solo activities, he performs as a member of Trio Nobilis, serves as artistic director of the Cello Plus music festival, and conducts master classes worldwide. A former faculty member of the New England Conservatory and the University of Illinois, he is professor of cello, co-chair of the string area, and artist teacher at the MSU College of Music.

Kevin Bartig has been awarded grants and fellowships by the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the U.S. Department of Education. He is the author of *Composing for the Red Screen: Sergey Prokofiev and Soviet Film* (Oxford University Press, 2013), as well as articles and reviews in *The Journal of Musicology*, *Kritika*, *Notes*, and *Opera Musicologica*. He was a Lilly Teaching Fellow during the 2011-12 academic year, and in 2010 he received MSU's prestigious Teacher-Scholar Award. He is assistant professor of musicology at the MSU College of Music.

Dmitri Berlinsky took first prize in the Paganini International Violin Competition. He won the Tchaikovsky Competition, the Montreal International Violin Competition, and the Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels. He has performed with major orchestras in Europe, Russia, Asia, and North and South America. He is associate professor of violin and artist teacher at the MSU College of Music, as well as artistic director of the Southampton Arts Festival in Long Island, and founder of the International Chamber Soloists ensemble. Berlinsky has performed at major venues including Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall, Kennedy Center, Tokyo's Suntory Hall, Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire, Berlin's Philharmonie, Munich's Herkulessaal, Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels, Beethoven Hall in Bonn, and the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires. His extensive performance schedule has taken him to the *Mostly*

Mozart festival, *Prague Spring* festival, Aspen Music Festival, Newport Music Festival, Settimane Musicale di Stresa (Italy, and last summer he performed with Lorin Maazel at the Castleton Festival.

Michael Callahan is assistant professor of music theory in the College of Music at Michigan State University. He is the recipient of the prestigious MSU Teacher-Scholar Award, which recognizes exceptional teaching by early-career faculty members university-wide. In addition, he currently holds a Lilly Teaching Fellowship (2013-14) and a grant from the Humanities and Arts Research Program (2013-15). His research interests include music theory pedagogy, particularly as it intersects with performance and improvisation; eighteenth-century counterpoint; and the *Great American Songbook*. He has presented nationally and internationally on these subjects and published in *Music Theory Online*, the *Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy*, *Theory and Practice*, *Intégral*, and *Music Performance Research*. His technology-aided pedagogical approach, *PlayIt*, is transforming the nature of active, hands-on learning in the music theory curriculum here at MSU. An active performer on harpsichord and piano as well as a scholar, Callahan earned a B.A. in music from Harvard (2004) and his M.A. (2008) and a Ph.D. (2010) in music theory from the Eastman School of Music.

James Forger, saxophone, is dean of the College of Music at Michigan State University and professor of saxophone. After earning undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan, he began his career at East Carolina University as assistant professor of saxophone. He joined the MSU faculty in 1979 and became director of the School (now College) of Music in 1990. Forger has maintained an active role as a saxophone performer appearing with orchestras such as Grand Rapids Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic, and the Grand Teton Music Festival Orchestra. A leader in the commissioning and performance of new works for the saxophone, he has commissioned works by Milton Babbitt, John Anthony Lennon, David Liptak, Donald Martino, Charles Ruggiero, and Morton Subotnick.

Hailed by the *Jerusalem Post* as "...undoubtedly one of the greatest violists of our time," **Yuri Gandelsman** is one of the most sought-after musicians of his generation. He has performed solo recitals in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Paris, Frankfurt, Tokyo, Warsaw, Istanbul, Budapest, and Florence. He has made numerous solo recordings and his most recent release, "Hindemith

ARTIST BIOS (CONTINUED)

Retrospective” (Blue Griffin, 2013), was received with critical acclaim. He was principal violist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra for 10 years and frequently toured as a soloist with the IPO, performing with such conductors as Zubin Mehta and Pinchas Zukerman, among others. Gandelsman’s chamber music performances include collaborations with many renowned artists. He was a member of the Fine Arts Quartet at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where he performed more than 300 concerts worldwide and recorded numerous albums. Born in Russia, Gandelsman studied in Moscow with Heinrich Talalyan and Valentin Berlinsky. He now serves as professor of viola at the MSU College of Music.

Judy Kabodian received her Bachelor of Music in organ performance from Michigan State University in 1982 and celebrates 40 years as a church organist, the last 20 years as the church organist at The Peoples Church in East Lansing. A fixture in vocal accompaniment at the Michigan State College of Music since 1997, she accompanies the University Chorale, State Singers, Women’s Chamber Ensemble, and the MSU Children’s Choir, in addition to her collaborative work with soloists.

Deborah Moriarty is professor of piano and chair of the piano area at the Michigan State University College of Music, where she is a recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award. A Massachusetts native, she made her debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at age 11. She has served on the piano faculty at the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Lowell. Moriarty attended the Curtis Institute of Music, the Juilliard School, and the New England Conservatory of Music, where she received her Master of Music degree with honors. Major teachers include: Russell Sherman, Theodore Lettvin, and Beveridge Webster. A medal winner in the “Concours Debussy,” she is an active recitalist and soloist with orchestras throughout the eastern United States. She has also performed in Belgium, Japan, Colombia, Mexico, China, Italy, and the former Soviet Union. Moriarty is a founding member of the Fontana Ensemble of Michigan, and as an advocate of new music, has participated in numerous premiere performances including Milton Babbitt’s “Whirled Series” at Merkin Hall in New York City. She has recordings on the Crystal, CRI, Blue Griffin and Centaur labels.

David Rayl is associate dean for Graduate Studies and director of Choral Programs at MSU where he directs the graduate program in choral conducting. Over the past 12 years he has mentored and served as principal advisor to nearly 30 doctoral students and 50 master’s students in choral conducting. Under his baton the MSU University Chorale has appeared at national and regional conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and the College Music Society and has sung five sets of performances with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He regularly serves as guest conductor with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, leading large-scale choral-orchestral works. Prior to his MSU appointment, Rayl taught for 12 years at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Under his direction, the MU University Singers sang at the national convention of ACDA (1995), at the 27th annual Florilège Vocale in Tours, France (1998), and at Maggio Musicale in Florence, Italy (2000). Rayl received MSU’s University Distinguished Faculty Award (2013) and the College of Music’s Dortha J. and John D. Withrow Award for Excellence in Teaching (2009). At the University of Missouri-Columbia he received the Provost’s Outstanding Junior Faculty (1993) and was named one of 10 recipients of the Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence (1996).

Richard Sherman, professor of flute at the MSU College of Music, is active as a soloist and orchestral musician. He received a bachelor’s degree from the Eastman School of Music, a master of music degree from Northwestern University, and had postgraduate study at the Royal College of Music in London. He has served as principal flute with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and is currently principal flute with Chautauqua Symphony and Lansing Symphony. He has given performances with the Chicago Symphony, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony and the Toronto Symphony. He has performed as a soloist with many symphony orchestras including those in Columbus, Rochester, Youngstown, and Chautauqua. He has given master classes throughout the U.S., in Australia, and in Taipei, Taiwan. Sherman’s most recent album, “French Album Vol. II: Homage to Pedagogy,” was released on the Blue Griffin Recording label with pianist Ralph Votapek in 2013. Sherman was recently awarded the College of Music’s Dortha J. and John D. Withrow Excellence in Teaching Award.

ARTIST BIOS (CONTINUED)

Pianist **Minsoo Sohn**'s poetic vision and musical intelligence continue to garner praise from critics and audiences alike. The latest accolade published by Gramophone comments on his playing as "highly distinctive and intelligent." And The New York Times called his recording of Bach's Goldberg Variations a "beautifully articulated, radiant interpretation and named it one of the top classical recordings of 2011. He has toured extensively throughout North America, Europe, and Israel at important venues including Weill Recital Hall and Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, Toronto's Glenn Gould Studio and St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, Boston's Symphony Hall, Gardener Museum, Chicago's Cultural Center, Cleveland's Severance Hall, San Francisco's Herbst Theatre, Spain's Palacio Festivale de Cantabria, Israel's Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Brussel's Palais des Beaux Art, and Munich's Gasteig. He was named Honens prizewinner in 2006, and was also a top prizewinner at the Cleveland, Busoni, Santander, Hilton Head, Rubinstein and Queen Elizabeth international piano competitions. Sohn is assistant professor of piano at the MSU College of Music.

Walter Verdehr was born in Gottschee, Yugoslavia, and received his first violin instruction at the Conservatory of Music in Graz, Austria. A student at the Juilliard School, he was the first violinist to receive the doctorate there. As a Fulbright Scholar, he studied at the Vienna Academy of Music. He has taught at the International Congress of Strings faculty and at Michigan State University where he is professor of music and recently received the Distinguished Faculty Award. He has made numerous appearances as soloist with orchestras (Houston Symphony, orchestras in Michigan, New York, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, California, Czechoslovakia and Turkey) and in solo and chamber music recitals in the U.S. and Europe. *The London Times* wrote that "his performance was sweeping and vigorous." *The Vienna Express* said that "he is a perfect violinist with beautiful blossoming tone and noble musicality." He has served on the juries for the Naumburg and Prague Spring International violin competitions and has made solo recordings for Golden Crest Records and NET-TV.

Ralph Votapek, the first gold medalist of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and winner of the prestigious Naumburg Award, has performed with the Chicago Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics, the Boston Pops, the Pittsburgh,

San Francisco, Houston, Dallas, St. Louis, National Symphonies, and other top ensembles. He has also toured in Latin America, Russia, Japan, and Korea and has performed in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Chicago's Orchestra Hall, and the National Gallery in Washington. His most recent CD, 20th Century Masterpieces, Volume II, was released in November on the Blue Griffin label. It features works by Albeniz, Ravel, Griffes, and Kapustin. Votapek is professor emeritus of piano at the Michigan State University College of Music, where he served as artist-in-residence for 36 years.

Guest Artists

Ruggero Alliffranchini is the associate concertmaster of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. He was born into a musical household in Milan, Italy, and raised on a diverse musical diet, ranging from Beethoven to John Coltrane. He studied at the New School in Philadelphia with Jascha Brodsky and later at the Curtis Institute of Music with Szymon Goldberg and, for chamber music, Felix Galimir. He was the recipient of the Diploma d'Onore from the Chigiana Academy in Siena, Italy. In 1989, he cofounded the Borromeo String Quartet, with which he played exclusively for 11 years. As a chamber musician of diverse repertoire and styles, Alliffranchini is a frequent guest artist of the Chamber Music Societies of Boston and Lincoln Center, as well as chamber music festivals in Seattle, Vancouver, and El Paso. He is currently concertmaster of the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra in New York. He is the violinist of the trio Nobilis, with pianist Stephen Prutsman and cellist Suren Bagratuni. Nobilis has performed chamber music and solos with orchestras in Europe, South America, and South Africa as well as in North America. Over the past few seasons he has played as guest concertmaster with the Hong Kong Philharmonic and the Minnesota Orchestra.

Marta Bagratuni made her Carnegie Hall solo recital debut last March at Weill Recital Hall. Born in L'viv, Ukraine, Bagratuni started her musical studies with her parents, Natalia Khoma and Suren Bagratuni. Soon after she made her performance debut at age 5 in the Newport Music Festival. She has appeared as a recitalist on five different continents and has performed concerti with the Leoplois Chamber Orchestra (Ukraine), Lansing Symphony (Michigan), and the Detroit Civic Symphony, among

ARTIST BIOS (CONTINUED)

others. Her most recent performance of Dmitri Kabalevsky's Cello Concerto No. 2 with the MSU Symphony was broadcast on WKAR public radio, serving the entire Mid-Michigan area. As a featured young artist, she spent summers at Kneisel Hall, Aspen Music School, and the International Academy of Music (Italy) Festival on full scholarships. She served as assistant principal of the Aspen Festival Orchestra and principal of the University of Michigan Symphony. She earned a Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of Michigan magna cum laude. Currently, she is serving as a graduate assistant at Michigan State University and is a master's candidate in cello and voice performance.

Leon Gregorian, conductor, retired from the MSU College of Music after 28 years of service as professor of music, director of orchestras, and head of the graduate orchestral conducting program, which he originated. He built the orchestra program at MSU into one that is recognized for its excellence nationally and internationally. Gregorian has guest-conducted orchestras in Venezuela, Mexico, South Korea, Italy, Romania, Armenia, Russia, Brazil, Argentina, the Czech Republic, Australia, and the People's Republic of China, as well as orchestras throughout the United States, including the Boston Symphony, Boston Pops, and Boston Esplanade Orchestras. He has recorded for PBS, Koch International Classics, Crystal, and Arizona Records. A ten-CD set, "Teaching Music through Performance in Orchestra," was recorded with the MSU Symphony Orchestra for worldwide distribution by GIA Publications. Professor Gregorian received the Teacher-Scholar Award, the Apollo Award, and the Distinguished Faculty Award in recognition of the international stature of his teaching, conducting, and outreach achievements. He began serving as director of music at New England Music Camp on October 1, 2012.

Randolph Kelly has enjoyed a distinguished career as principal violist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. He was signed by André Previn in 1976, and has since played under the direction of Lorin Maazel and Mariss Jansons. In addition to his orchestral career, Kelly's virtuosity as a soloist and chamber musician has been celebrated around the world. He has collaborated with such artists as Yo-Yo Ma, André Previn, Pinchas Zukerman and Trauls Mork, among others. He has recorded and toured extensively with the Los Angeles Piano Quartet. Additionally, Kelly has

been invited to perform as a guest artist at chamber music festivals in Japan, Australia, Europe, China, Taiwan and Russia. As a soloist, Kelly has appeared on some of the most prestigious concert stages in the world. He performed the New York premiere of Sir Michael Tippett's Triple Concerto in Carnegie Hall. He made his European solo debut when Lorin Maazel invited him to play the Walton Concerto with the National Orchestra of France. Kelly is a graduate of The Curtis Institute, where he worked closely with the esteemed violist Joseph DePasquale. He is committed to performing new music, and he generously volunteers his time to educational programs in an effort to bring a wide range of musical experiences to young audiences.

Stephen Prutsman, piano, has been described as one of the most innovative musicians of his time. He has served as artistic partner with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, where he conducted concertos from the keyboard, performed in chamber ensembles, conducted works of living composers, developed and arranged collaborations for the Engine 408 series of contemporary and world music, and wrote several new works for the orchestra. More recently, he was the artistic director of the Cartagena International Festival of Music. He was a medal winner at the Tchaikovsky and Queen Elisabeth Piano competitions, and received the Avery Fisher Career Grant. He performs the classical concerto repertoire as soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras and his classical discography includes acclaimed recordings of the Barber and McDowell concerti with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland. Born in Los Angeles, Stephen first began playing the piano by ear at age 3, before moving on to more formal music studies. In his teens and early 20s he was the keyboard player for several art rock groups including Cerberus and Vysion. He was also a solo jazz pianist playing in many southern California clubs, and was the music arranger for a nationally syndicated televangelist program. A former student of Aube Tzerko, Leon Fleisher, and Jack Wilson, Prutsman studied at the University of California at Los Angeles and the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

Composer **Vache Sharafyan**, composer and piano, received his post-graduate education in composition, and won the All-Union Composers' Competition in 1985 in Moscow. He taught as a professor of music theory and sacred music in Israel, and authored a Book of Chants for Holy Sepulchre

ARTIST BIOS (CONTINUED)

Church, Jerusalem. As an official composer for the Silk Road Project since 2001, his compositions were performed by the group with Yo-Yo Ma at the Cologne Philharmonic Hall, the Brussels Philharmonic Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Carnegie (Stern) Hall, Carnegie (Zankel) Hall, Berkeley, Stanford University, the Seattle Benaroya Hall, the Washington National Mall, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Hall, in addition to performances in Rome, Florence, and Milan. Sharafyan has composed a number of chamber, symphonic, choral, and vocal compositions. Sharafyan's compositions have been performed in Armenia, Israel, the United States, France, Canada, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Lebanon, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Thailand, Hungary, Switzerland, Taiwan, Scotland, Ireland, England, and Sweden, and he is currently teaching composition at the Yerevan State Conservatory.

Student Artists

Violist **Irina Banova** is a teaching assistant at MSU in the studio of Yuri Gandelman and is working on her master's degree in performance. She graduated from Hochschule fur Musik Detmold (Germany) and had solo appearances with the Moldavian National Chamber Orchestra, the Symphony Orchestra of Moldova National Philharmonic, and HFM Detmold Symphony Orchestra (Germany). As a chamber musician, she participated in Margess International of Switzerland, Detmolder Summer Academy (Germany), and the Crescendo Music Festival (Republic of Moldova). From 2002 to 2004, she was a member of the National Chamber Orchestra of Moldova. Since 2005, Banova has held a position in Extremadura Symphony Orchestra (Spain).

Nebraska native, **Isaac Frishman** is currently finishing his master's degree in voice performance at MSU under the tutelage of tenor Richard Fracker. Most recently he performed the role of Tamino in Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. This past summer he spent abroad in Arezzo, Italy, cultivating his musical skills in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* as Ferrando. He had his first role at MSU in Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* as Henrik. Once he graduated high school, he decided to stay in Omaha to continue his education at the University of Nebraska at Omaha studying voice performance with soprano Karen Kness. While at UNO, he performed in the Chamber Choir and Opera Theater. He performed the role of Edwin in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*. He performed in UNO's Honors Recital and was a finalist for the Robert Spire Composition competition. Completing his bachelor's degree, Frishman decided to continue his education

at Michigan State to complete a master's degree. He is thrilled to be a part of the studio artist program at the Chautauqua Opera Institute this summer.

Baritone **Harry Greenleaf** is a fifth year senior at MSU where he studies voice with Richard Fracker and Dr. Harlan Jennings. Highlights of his time at MSU include singing several leading roles in Main Stage shows including *La finta giardiniera* (Nardo), *The Grapes of Wrath* (Connie Rivers), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Pirate King), *A Little Night Music* (Carl-Magnus), and *The Magic Flute* (Papageno). He has had the opportunity to sing in master classes with several internationally acclaimed singers such as soprano Janet Williams, bass Eric Halfvarson, baritone Kim Josephson, and soprano superstar Renée Fleming. In the summer of 2013 he was a studio artist with the Wolf Trap Opera Company in Vienna, Virginia. While at Wolf Trap, Greenleaf performed the role of Baron Douphol in *La traviata* with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Filene Center. He will be receiving his bachelor's degree in May, and will be returning to the Wolf Trap Opera Company as a studio artist during the summer. In the fall, he plans to be starting a master's degree at either the University of Houston, Rice University, or the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

I-Pei Lin began playing the violin at 6 years of age in Taipei, Taiwan. She is currently a doctoral student at Michigan State University and studies with Dmitri Berlinsky. She earned a performer diploma at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in 2013 and studied with Alexander Kerr. She received a master's degree and bachelor's degree at the National Taiwan Normal University in 2012 and studied with Nanette Chin-Horng Chen. She attended the Festival of Heifetz International Music Institute, accepted the instruction by David and Linda Cerone, Mihaela Martin, Ani Kavafian, Alexander Kerr and Philip Setzer in 2011. She took part in the workshop program of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, was taught by the members of Emerson Quartet and Guarneri Quartet, Leon Fleisher and Ani Kavafian, and performed at National Concert Hall in Taipei in 2009.

The 50-member MSU **State Singers**, an auditioned undergraduate ensemble, includes music majors and some talented non-music majors. This choir enjoys a proud heritage and is recognized as the oldest singing organization on campus. The State Singers ensemble appears in concert throughout Michigan, frequently joining the University Chorale and University Symphony for major works and convention appearances.

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