

Suite Popular Espagnole (1914).....Manuel de Falla (1876-1946)

- I. En Paño moruno
- II. Nana
- III. Cancion
- IV. Polo
- V. Asturiana
- VI. Jota

In Memoriam (2006)Gottschalk (b. 1952)

- I. (M.B.) Malcolm Brodwick
- II. (R.F.) Rafael Fliegel
- III. (R.J.) Richard J. V. Johnson

Intermission

Shui (Water) (2003)Shih-Hui Chen (b. 1962)

In Three Movements

Sonata in E Minor, Op. 38 (1862-65)Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

- I. Allegro non troppo
- II. Allegretto quasi Menuetto
- III. Allegro

THE FISCHER DUO

Celebrating over 40 years of playing together, the Fischer Duo delights lovers of chamber music across the country with performances described as "boldly imaginative and technically assured," (Boston Globe), "intense and persuasive" (Gramophone), and "Soaring lines with both beauty and intensity" (New York Times).

The Fischer Duo has been widely praised by music critics for its choice of repertoire. Thoroughly versed in the classical repertoire of Brahms, Beethoven and Schumann, the Fischer Duo has acquired an equally impressive reputation for rediscovering neglected works of the past (Busoni, Boulanger, Foote, Alfano, Pizzetti) and for commissioning new pieces from masters such as George Rochberg, Richard Wilson, Samuel Jones, Augusta Read Thomas, Pierre Jalbert and over 20 more. "One felt like applauding the Fischer Duo before they even played a note for programming rarely-heard cello music by Chopin and Liszt," wrote a reviewer in the Washington Post. A recital of this exact repertoire is available on Bridge Records (9187) and has received rave reviews from *Strings Magazine* and *The Gramophone*.

The Fischer Duo's extensive discography includes their CD debut, Imaginées: Music of French Masters, which was given *Fanfare* magazine's highest recommendation: "For fine sound, on top of probing duo teamwork and elegant program-making." They have three recordings available on the Gasparo label. American Music in the 1990s [GSCD-349] includes commissioned works for the duo by George Rochberg, Pierre Jalbert, Samuel Jones, and Augusta Read Thomas. The *Strad* magazine wrote of the disc, "The duo gives thoroughly persuasive performances of all four works, scratching through the surface gesture to get to the heart of the music's expressive potential." Also available on Gasparo is Robert Sirota: Works for Cello [GSCD-350] and Born in America in 1938 [GSCD-351] featuring works by William Bolcom, John Corigliano, Ellsworth Milburn, John Harbison, Joan Tower, and Charles Wuorinen. In addition, the Fischer Duo released Chopin & Liszt: Music for Cello and Piano, on the Bridge label (Bridge 9187). *Strings* magazine called the disc, "A most impressive record, both for the music and the playing." A new compilation of William Bolcom's cello music is now available on the Naxos label (a four star rave from *BBC Music Magazine*). The Fischer Duo has just completed recording the complete Beethoven Sonatas and Variations as part of the extended 40th anniversary celebration.

The Fischer Duo is also known for enlightened residency work. The United States Information Agency (USIA) selected the Fischer Duo as Artistic Ambassadors for tours in South America and South Africa receiving the highest ratings for musical maturity and open access to audiences.

The critic from the Toledo Blade summed up a concert experience with the Fischer Duo: " If there was a prize for Most Elegant Sound by a Chamber Group, the Fischer Duo would surely win it. The two together have a sort of slow-burning combustion on stage that makes for some really exciting and spontaneous music. This is a pair that really knows their repertoire, and more importantly, knows how to absorb an audience into their own musical universe."

NORMAN FISCHER first graced the international concert stage as cellist with the **Concord String Quartet**, a group that won the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, an Emmy and several Grammy nominations, and recorded over 40 works on RCA Red Seal, Vox, Nonesuch, Turnabout and CRI. The New York Times recently said, "During its 16 years, the supervirtuosic Concord String Quartet championed contemporary work while staying rooted in the Western tradition."

He has performed in 49 of the 50 United States and on 5 continents. In addition to performing the major concerti, Mr. Fischer has premiered and recorded many new scores for cello and orchestra including two recorded with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony by Augusta Read Thomas and Ross Lee Finney. Recitals of unaccompanied cello works have received rave reviews such as "Inspiring" [New York Times] for his New York debut recital of the complete Bach Suites in one evening and "Coruscating" [Boston Globe] for his performance of Osvaldo Golijov's *Omaramor* at the opening of the 1998 Tanglewood festival. During the 1994 Broadway season, Mr. Fischer's recording of William Bolcom's score was used for the premiere of Arthur Miller's *Broken Glass*. His chamber music expertise has led to guest appearances with the American, Audubon, Blair, Cavani, Chester, Chiara, Ciompi, Cleveland, Dover, Enso, Emerson, Jasper, Juilliard, Mendelssohn and Schoenberg string quartets, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Banff, Chamber Music International, Context, and Houston's Da Camera Society. Mr. Fischer joins pianist Jeanne Kierman and violinist Andrew Jennings as the Concord Trio, a group that has been performing together for over 30 years. For the last 10 years, Mr. Fischer also joined Ms. Kierman and violinist Curtis Macomber as co-artistic directors of the autumn chamber music extravaganza Musica Viva Festival headquartered in Norwich VT.

A devoted teacher and mentor to young players, Mr. Fischer has been on the faculty of Dartmouth College and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and is currently Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Violoncello and Coordinator of Chamber Music at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice

University (Houston, TX). Since 1985, he has taught at the Tanglewood Music Center (summer home of the Boston Symphony), in Lenox, MA where he holds the Charles E Culpepper Foundation Master Teacher chair and is also Coordinator of Chamber Music. Mr. Fischer is also on the board of Chamber Music America.

JEANNE KIERMAN is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, the Dalcroze School, and the New England Conservatory, Ms. Kierman studied with William Masselos, Miles Mauney, Victor Rosenbaum, and Menachem Pressler. Formerly on the faculties of the Oberlin Conservatory and Dartmouth College, Ms. Kierman has made a professional specialty as a player and teacher of ensemble repertoire. For ten years she toured extensively under the sponsorship of the New England Foundation and the Vermont Arts Council as a member of the Alcott Piano Quartet. She has performed for Tanglewood, Da Camera of Houston, Mohawk Trail Concerts, Chamber Music Ann Arbor, Maverick concerts, Skaneateles and the Marrowstone Festival among others. Ms. Kierman is an Artist Teacher on the faculty of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, TX. In the summer months, she works with students in piano chamber music at the Greenwood Music Camp in Cummington, Massachusetts and performs with the Concord Trio. Ms. Kierman has written about her experiences as a Collaborative Pianist for Piano and Keyboard Magazine and has recorded for Albany, Naxos, Northeastern and Gasparo.

Next Concert

“2”

Peter Bloom, flutes and piccolo
Mary Jane Rupert, harp and piano

Bach to the Future

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