

The 2016-2017 Season Is Set To Enthrall

by John Montanari, Artistic Director

The name may be changing, but not the mission. All the quality and variety of artists and repertoire you associated with Music In Deerfield will be right here for your enjoyment in Valley Classical Concerts' 2016-2017 season, a lineup of six events presenting one of the finest rosters of talent we've ever put together.

The season gets underway on **Sunday, October 16**, with a return visit from the **Ariel Quartet**, an ensemble whose record of international engagements and accomplishments is all the more remarkable for their youth. They'll be joined by Israeli pianist **Alon Goldstein**, a brilliant soloist about whom much the same could be said. Their program will feature solo, quartet and combined works by Mozart and Bartók, including a rare chamber version of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major -- the one known back in the day as the "Elvira Madigan" Concerto for its use in the romantic Swedish film of that name.

Over the past year, we received so many requests to present the **Dover Quartet** that I decided that either it had to be a conspiracy -- or, as turned out to be the case, that the Dover really was something special. Come to their concert on **Sunday, November 13** to hear why audiences and critics alike are predicting that this young ensemble will take its place in the lineage of America's finest string quartets. The program: Mozart (K. 589), Pulitzer-winner Caroline Shaw (her "Plan and Elevation (The Grounds of Dumbarton Oaks)" of 2016), and Beethoven's Op. 59, No. 3.



Ariel Quartet



Alon Goldstein



Dover Quartet

Now, what group would perform Beethoven's "Serioso" Quartet, Mendelssohn's Quartet in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2, Antonio Carlos Jobim's "The Girl from Ipanema," and Dizzy Gillespie's "A Night in Tunisia" -- and make it sound like the most natural concert program ever? That would be the **Harlem Quartet**, whom Valley

Classical Concerts welcomes back to perform on **Saturday, December 3**, when their exceptionally warm tone and hot repertoire will be all the more welcome.

Each an exciting, globe-trotting soloist, violinist **Jennifer Koh** and pianist **Shai Vosner**, like many of their generation, delight in putting a contemporary spin on the great classics through fresh interpretations and juxtapositions with complementary new repertoire. In their "Bridges to Beethoven" project, they explore the impact Beethoven and classical music have had on a diverse group of composers and musicians -- such as MacArthur grant-winning jazz pianist and composer Vijay Iyer, whose new "Bridgetower Fantasy" (named for the violinist who premiered Beethoven's great "Kreutzer" Sonata) will be heard alongside

the "Kreutzer" and Beethoven's first Violin Sonata (Op. 12, No. 1) when Jenny and Shai come to Valley Classical Concerts on **Sunday, February 5**.

Ethel is coming to town on **Sunday, March 26**. Ethel who? Ethel Mertz? Ethel from "Downton Abbey?" No! It's Ethel, or excuse me, **ETHEL**, the post-modern, indie-classical string quartet known for its adventurous repertoire, bridge-building collaborations and electrifying performances. They'll perform their "Blue Dress" program, in which **ETHEL** pays special homage to the brilliant, gorgeous and masterful women who are making their musical mark on the 21st century. Sometimes fierce, sometimes seductive, always full of creativity, composers like Anna Clyne, Missy Mazzoli, and Pulitzer Prize-winner Julia Wolfe, are, through their own voices, warriors and champions of music today.



Harlem Quartet

For the chamber music aficionado, there's a unique thrill in catching a brilliant group on the rise, and a unique satisfaction in being able to brag years later that you heard them "when." Here's your chance. The **Calidore Quartet** -- in residence at SUNY Stony Brook, recently appointed members of Chamber Music



ETHEL

at Lincoln Center Two -- will perform quartets by Mendelssohn (Op. 44, No. 1), the late modernist master György Ligeti (No. 1, "Metamorphoses Nocturnes") and Tchaikovsky (No. 1, including the famed "Andante Cantabile") on **Saturday, May 6**.



Jennifer Koh & Shai Wosner

The Saturday evening concerts begin at 8:00, the Sunday afternoon concerts at 3:00 (an hour earlier than before -- don't show up late!). But don't forget to arrive at Sweeney Concert Hall one hour earlier for "Concert Conversations," where you'll hear the musicians discuss the program, their careers and who knows what else. You'll get to ask your own questions too.



Calidore Quartet

Ticket Prices

Adults in advance \$35
 Adults at the door \$38
 Children \$5
 Adults bringing children \$10
 Students 18 and older with ID \$10

Early Bird subscriptions

Four concerts \$120
 Six concerts \$160

Subscriptions after July 15, 2016

Four concerts \$125
 Six concerts \$170

Ticket Policies

There are no refunds, but you may take advantage of the following policies.

- Single ticket purchasers who would like to become subscribers may have the costs of their single tickets applied to a subscription.
- Four-concert subscribers unable to attend one of their chosen concerts may exchange for a different concert.
- Subscribers who have made a donation of \$100 or more may request two complimentary tickets to a concert, once during a season, to introduce a friend to the series.

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The How and Why of Financial Gifts

You know what Polonius said: "Neither a borrower nor a lender be..."

If we can't be a borrower or a lender, what's left?

Be a contributor!

Nonprofit organizations like ours do not merely want contributions – they *need* contributions. Music in Deerfield has had a robust record over the years of both ticket sales and contributions, which is testimony to the quality of the concerts and the generosity of our patrons, and we are grateful! But if we are to end this fiscal year (on June 30) in the black and thereby provide a solid foundation for the future, we will need additional gifts. And by the way, we are keeping ticket prices the same next season, which means your gifts become all the more important.

Therefore, if you are already a contributor, we ask that you consider raising your donation at this time. If you have not been a contributor in the past, we ask that you consider making a first-time gift. Your gift really makes a difference! When you order tickets, you can include a gift on the line indicated. Or you can simply write a check and mail it in. Until June 30, make your check payable to Music in Deerfield; after that, to Valley Classical Concerts.

Thank you – it's all about the music, and we appreciate your support!

Music In Deerfield is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

To order a subscription or to make a contribution go to www.musicindeerfield.org or use the remittance form below.

Thank you!

Early Bird Pricing for 2016-17 – Good until July 15, 2016

Previous subscribers wishing to retain their seats must submit their orders by June 15.

Sunday concerts are at 3 p.m., Saturday concerts at 8 p.m. in Sweeney Concert Hall, Smith College.

Please check the concerts you are attending

_____ Sun. Oct. 16, 2016	Ariel Quartet with Alon Goldstein	_____ Sun. Feb. 5, 2017	Jennifer Koh & Shai Wosner
_____ Sun. Nov. 13, 2016	Dover Quartet	_____ Sun. Mar. 26, 2017	ETHEL
_____ Sat. Dec. 3, 2016	Harlem Quartet	_____ Sat. May 6, 2017	Calidore Quartet

_____ 6-concert subscription - \$160 (\$210 value)	\$ _____
_____ 4-concert subscription - \$120 (\$140 value)	\$ _____
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Before July 1 make checks payable to Music In Deerfield, after July 1 to Valley Classical Concerts

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Thanks to Our Sponsors and Contributors

The Board and staff of Music in Deerfield/Valley Classical Concerts appreciate the interest and support of businesses in our area. Business contributions, along with those from our audience and other friends, make it possible to fulfill our mission to bring the finest chamber music ensembles to the Valley.

Chief among our business sponsors is Greenfield Savings Bank, and we greatly treasure our long relationship. We value our partnership with NEPR. The Daily Hampshire Gazette, through its in-kind support, and Greenfield Cooperative/Northampton Cooperative Bank deserve prominent mention, as do Loomis Village and Applewood. Another 15 businesses have also supported our 2015-16 season – a full listing appeared in the concert playbills. We urge our audience members to patronize these enlightened businesses!

Change of Name!



Drumroll! Bugle fanfare! Music in Deerfield, before your very eyes, is becoming Valley Classical Concerts.

We shall always treasure our origins in Deerfield, but wheels turn and things change. These days our events are in Northampton, at the acoustically-wonderful Sweeney Concert Hall on the campus of Smith College, and the new name is more accurate and descriptive of who we are and what we do and where we do it.

The date of the change is July 1, 2016, but this is a period of transition. Sometimes we already use the VCC name, and we won't be surprised if the Music in Deerfield name continues to come to people's lips for a while longer – it has been an honored name for a long time! By either name, our mission of bringing world-class chamber music to the Pioneer Valley remains intact.