

# VCC Valley Classical Concerts

Bringing the World of Chamber Music to the Pioneer Valley  
MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

## *The 2018-19 Season, from September to May*

**John Montanari, Artistic Director**

**A** MASTER pianist. Four outstanding young chamber ensembles. Area favorites with a terrific program of piano quartets. The sweet sound of the oboe blended with sumptuous strings. Immortal works by Bach, Beethoven and Brahms – as well as by Bax, Britten, Schubert, Schumann and Shostakovich. Sound good? Read on about these and more coming up in Valley Classical Concerts' 2018-19 season – six evenings and afternoons of great chamber music, in the acoustically favored confines of Sweeney Concert Hall.



**Telegraph Quartet**

The chamber music literature for oboe and strings is a small but precious one. On **Saturday, September 29**, the VCC season opens with the Naumburg and Fischhoff prize-winning **Telegraph Quartet**, based in San Francisco. They will be joined by oboist **James Austin Smith** from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, playing beautiful works for oboe and strings by Mozart and British impressionist Arnold Bax, and quartets by Dvořák and Erwin Schulhoff.



**James Austin Smith**



**Neave Piano Trio**

on **Sunday afternoon, November 11**, with a program ranging from Haydn and Schumann to the dramatic and haunting Trio No. 2 of Dmitri Shostakovich.

“‘Neave’ is actually a Gaelic name meaning ‘bright’ and ‘radiant,’ both of which certainly apply to this trio’s music making.” So wrote veteran New York classical broadcaster Robert Sherman of the **Neave Piano Trio**, who come to VCC



**Peter Serkin**

As compelling and thoughtful a pianist as any in classical music, **Peter Serkin** will perform one of music’s highest achievements, J.S. Bach’s Goldberg Variations, along with music by Mozart, on **Sunday afternoon, January 13**. This promises to be one of the great musical events of the season, so be sure to secure your ticket early.

*Continued next page*

# September 2018-May 2019 Season *(Cont'd.)*



**Armida Quartet**

Joining us from Berlin on **Sunday afternoon, March 10**, and featuring the sweet, pure sound we've been treated to in the past from European quartets like the Talich and the Cremona, the **Armida Quartet** will perform two towering quartets both composed in 1826 – Beethoven's Quartet in C-sharp Minor, Op. 131, and Schubert's Quartet in G Major, D. 887.



**Adaskin String Trio**



**Sally Pinkas**

Not as commonly heard as the string quartet or the piano trio, the piano quartet – piano, violin, viola and cello – was employed by many of the greatest composers for some of their finest chamber works. Would you like two wonderful examples? Then join us on **Sunday afternoon, March 31**, when the **Adaskin String Trio** (known locally

for their appearances at Mohawk Trail Concerts) will perform Piano Quartets by Mozart and Brahms with Dartmouth College-based pianist **Sally Pinkas**, along with one masterwork for string trio.

On **Saturday evening, May 4**, the last concert of VCC's season will appropriately be "Famous Last Words" – the final published works by Beethoven (Quartet in F Major, Op. 135), Heitor Villa-Lobos (Quartet No. 17), and Benjamin Britten (Quartet No. 3). Performing will be another outstanding young ensemble, the **Tesla Quartet**, of whom the Calgary Herald wrote, "Tesla played like an ocean wave that undulated over its audience, then gradually receded, until it left a curious new calm in its wake." Don't you want to be on hand for *that* – and for the other splendid afternoons and evenings, enjoying great music together with us?



**Tesla Quartet**

## Ticket Prices

Adults .....	\$33
Children .....	\$5
Adults bringing children ....	\$10
Students 18 and older with ID .....	\$10

## Early Subscriptions

Four concerts (\$132 value) .....	\$115
Six concerts (\$198 value) .....	\$155

## Subscriptions after July 15, 2018

Four concerts .....	\$120
Six concerts .....	\$165

## 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 may exchange during the season if unable to attend a chosen 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.



## Valley Classical Concerts

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[info@valleyclassicalconcerts.org](mailto:info@valleyclassicalconcerts.org)  
[www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org](http://www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org)

### Board of Directors

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## "I love the music you bring to the Valley. How can I help?"

**W**E'RE glad you asked. Here are two major ways.

First, your financial support is critically important. VCC works diligently to control costs, but ticket sales cover less than half of those costs.

Whether you are a regular contributor or are considering making a first-time gift, we urge you to do your part to ensure the continuation of this music in the Pioneer Valley.

Second, we rely heavily on volunteers. We are constantly looking for individuals willing to assist with concerts, as ushers and in other roles. From time to time we also seek new Board members, typically individuals who share our love of world-class chamber music and are willing to commit the necessary time, energy, creativity, and personal support. Especially needed are those with skills in one or more of the core activities of Board operations — marketing, fundraising, etc.

Interested? Simply speak with one of our current Board members, and we'll take it from there.

**"How can I help?" We love people who ask that question. It takes teamwork to provide a program of this quality, and we welcome you on the team — financially, operationally, or both!**

## Early Subscriber Pricing for 2018-19 Valid until July 15, 2018

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

This form is for subscriptions; individual-concert tickets will be available for purchase from July 15.

### Please check the concerts you are attending (select 4 or all 6):

- ☐ Telegraph Quartet w/oboist James Austin Smith — Sat., Sept. 29, 2018
- ☐ Neave Piano Trio — Sun., Nov. 11, 2018
- ☐ Peter Serkin — Sun., Jan. 13, 2019
- ☐ Armida Quartet — Sun., Mar. 10, 2019
- ☐ Adaskin String Trio w/pianist Sally Pinkas — Sun., Mar. 31, 2019
- ☐ Tesla Quartet — Sat., May 4, 2019

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

**Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope and make checks payable to Valley Classical Concerts**

Send to: PO Box 60424, Florence, MA 01062

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a subscription or to make a  
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[www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org](http://www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org).

VCC is a 501(c)(3) organization.

\_\_\_\_ 6-concert subscription(s) — \$155 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 4-concert subscription(s) — \$115 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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P.O. Box 60424  
Florence, MA 01062

*Presenting our 2018-19 season —  
Welcome to the exciting world  
of classical music!*



**Sevenars Concerts  
The Academy**  
15 Ireland St., off Rte 112  
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**Our Golden Anniversary Season!**  
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