

# VCC Valley Classical Concerts

Bringing the World of Chamber Music to the Pioneer Valley  
MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

## *The 2019-20 Season, from October to April*

**John Montanari, Artistic Director**

**A**NSWER: “One excellent quintet, two splendid quartets, two impressive young trios, and a stellar duo.”

QUESTION: “What’s the lineup for Valley Classical Concerts’ 2019-20 season?”

“That’s right!” Cue the applause and the music — and join us for six soul-satisfying afternoons and evenings of chamber music sure to please both classical connoisseur and total newbie.

The **Omer String Quartet** is living proof that string quartets are getting younger and better all the time. Possessing more first prize medals and ribbons than you can fit on a cello, the Omer will join us on **Sunday, October 6, 2019** to perform some charming early Schubert (Quartet No. 10 in E-flat Major), Czech composer Leoš Janáček’s white-hot “Kreutzer Sonata” Quartet, and the first of Beethoven’s profound “late” quartets, the Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 127.

**Omer  
String  
Quartet**



**Ariel String Quartet**

Making their third Valley Classical Concerts appearance on **Sunday, November 17, 2019**, the **Ariel String Quartet** has been making music together since they were middle school students in Israel 20 years ago. Now mentoring their own students while maintaining a busy concert schedule at major festivals

and concert series (including ours!), the Ariel will play a program of “Darkness and Light,” including Haydn’s “Quinten” Quartet, Tan Dun’s “Eight Colors” and Schubert’s thrilling “Death and the Maiden” Quartet.



LISA-MARIE MAZZUCCO

**Simone Dinnerstein,  
pianist, and Matt  
Haimovitz, cellist**



BRENT CALIS

Classical music fans worldwide would jump at the chance to hear cellist **Matt Haimovitz** and pianist **Simone Dinnerstein** perform together. All you have to do is make the short drive to Smith College on **Sunday, January 12, 2020** to hear these internationally admired soloists each do solo works by modern master Philip Glass, as well as join talents for a pair of Sonatas by Beethoven. Get your tickets early for this one.

*Continued next page*

# October 2019-April 2020 Season (Cont'd)

SUSAN WILSON

**Lydian String Quartet**

will offer Mendelssohn's mellifluous Quintet in B-flat Major, Op. 87, as well as quartets by Schumann (A Major, Op. 41, No. 3) and Hungarian master György Kurtág ("Officium breve"). And you'll be home in time for the Super Bowl kickoff!

A New England treasure, the **Lydian String Quartet** has for almost 40 years, in their words, "explore(d) the ever-expanding world of music through the intimate voice of the string quartet," in the belief that "the immediacy of chamber music expresses the full range of human experience." On **Sunday, February 2, 2020**, the Lydian and guest violist

JIYANG CHEN

**Lysander Piano Trio**

A pair of stellar young piano trios (piano, violin and cello) will round out the season. First, on **Saturday, March 28, 2020**, the **Lysander Piano Trio**, formed at Juilliard in 2009, bring impressive individual skills to their interpretations of trio repertoire old and new. Their program, "Light and Matter," takes its name from a colorful work by Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho that shares the bill with a Nocturne by Scriabin and Piano Trios by Fauré and Schubert (E-flat Major, Op. 100).

Take the first name initials of its three members, each with an

SHERVIN LAINEZ

**JCT Trio**

accomplished solo career, and you get the **JCT Trio**, who conclude the VCC season on **Saturday, April 11, 2020**. And what a program: Haydn's "Gypsy" Trio, the very humorous and very serious Trio by rugged New England individualist Charles Ives, and the eloquent Trio in F Minor, Op. 65 by Antonín Dvořák.

Concerts take place at Sweeney Concert Hall, located inside Sage Hall, Green Street, Smith College, Northampton, Mass. The Saturday concerts begin at 8 p.m., the Sunday concerts at 3 p.m. And don't miss **Concert Conversations** one hour prior to each concert, when the musicians field questions from VCC's own master of ceremonies, John Montanari, as well as from you!

## 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, 2019

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

PO Box 60424  
 Florence MA 01062  
 413-586-0458  
[info@valleyclassicalconcerts.org](mailto:info@valleyclassicalconcerts.org)  
[www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org](http://www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org)

### Board of Directors

Allen Tupper Brown  
 Emily Susan Gaylord  
 Peter Gerard, Treasurer  
 John T. Hanold  
 William Harbison  
 John Montanari, Artistic Director  
 Jaime Morton  
 Lewis Popper, Clerk & Artist Contracts  
 Laurel Rogers, President  
 Eleanor Rothman, Vice President  
 Karen Tarlow, Concert Management  
 Richard Teller  
 Peter Van Pelt  
 Marie Waechter  
 Donald Wheelock  
 Melanie Finn, Administrator

## The Charm and the Power of Chamber Music

**T**HERE is a certain something about chamber music that delights us, and maybe even thrills us. It's not easy to define, but chamber music seems to have a timelessness that makes us think that all is well with the world, and it seems to have a purity and clarity that raises our perspective.

If this seems overly dramatic, it's because it is driven by VCC's commitment to finding and contracting the highest caliber musicians for our program. We hope you agree that the magic of chamber music is alive and well, and that you'll continue to support it.

We encourage attendance and donations, and we welcome anyone who would like to volunteer and work with us. At VCC, when we sit in the magnificent Sweeney Concert Hall, we're able to believe that all *is* well in our world, and that we can lift each other up by sharing the beauty of chamber music.

**Thanks to your support, the magic of chamber music is alive and well.**

## Early Subscriber Pricing for 2019-20 Valid until July 15, 2019

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.

To order a subscription or to make a contribution, use this remittance form or go to [www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org](http://www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org).

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

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

- ☐ Omer String Quartet — Sun., Oct. 6, 2019  
☐ Ariel String Quartet — Sun., Nov. 17, 2019  
☐ Matt Haimovitz & Simone Dinnerstein — Sun., Jan. 12, 2020  
☐ Lydian String Quartet — Sun., Feb. 2, 2020  
☐ Lysander Piano Trio — Sat., Mar. 28, 2020  
☐ JCT Trio — Sat., April 11, 2020

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

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

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

Charitable Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Remittance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ M/C Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV#: \_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_





P.O. Box 60424  
Florence, MA 01062

Non Profit Org  
US Postage Paid  
Permit #786  
Springfield, MA  
01152

*Presenting our 2019-20 season —  
Welcome to the exciting world  
of classical music!*

**MARLBORO MUSIC**  
MITSUKO UCHIDA & JONATHAN BISS, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS



July 13–August 11  
on the Campus of Marlboro College  
[marlboromusic.org](http://marlboromusic.org)

[www.LyraMusic.org](http://www.LyraMusic.org)



**Lyra Music Festival**  
July 7–27, 2019 | Northampton, MA



**Sevenars Concerts**  
**The Academy**  
15 Ireland St., off Rte 112  
Worthington, Mass.  
413-238-5854  
[www.sevenars.org](http://www.sevenars.org)

**Our 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Season!**  
**Six Sundays, 4:00 p.m.,**  
**July 14 - August 18, 2019**  
“Acoustic gem, idyllic” (Berkshire Eagle)  
“One of the best small music festivals in the United States” (Time)

SUMMER SEASON  
JUNE 17–AUGUST 3, 2019



**YellowBarn** SETH KNOPP, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
Celebrating 50 years of extraordinary chamber music  
[www.yellowbarn.org](http://www.yellowbarn.org) | (802) 387-6637 | Putney, Vermont

**Spend  
the  
summer  
with our  
friends!**