

# VCC Valley Classical Concerts

Bringing the World of Chamber Music to the Pioneer Valley  
JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

## Concert Season Reboot, March-May 2021

**John Montanari, Artistic Director**

**A**RE YOU at long last ready for some great live music? I hope so. Because once Valley Classical Concerts' season gets underway in March, the music will come fast and fantastic – a veritable binge of great chamber music. Here's what's in store.

Three outstanding young instrumentalists, three great works by Beethoven – that's the menu for VCC's season-opening concert on **Sunday, March 7**. On stage will be pianist **Orion Weiss**, violinist **William Hagen**, and cellist **Andrei Ionita** – check them out on YouTube and on their websites to sample their musical wares! The program will include the Kakadu Variations and the Ghost and Archduke Trios.

Now into its second quarter-century, the **Miró String Quartet** has established itself as one of the world's finest chamber ensembles. For their 25th anniversary, the Miró is celebrating the history of chamber music in America with its Quartet Archive Project, a series of three programs recreating the

repertoires of important American quartets of bygone times. For their concert on **Sunday, March 21**, the Miró will take us back to a 1929 program by the Flonzaley Quartet, the earliest American quartet to make significant recordings. It will include Mozart (D Major, K. 575), Ernest Bloch (Pastorale from Quartet

#1), Smetana ("From My Life" Quartet), and three "encore" pieces.

In each season, Valley Classical Concerts presents an emerging string quartet that never fails to impress our patrons with their youth and skill – seemingly younger and better all the time. This season, it's the **Verona**

**String Quartet**, 2020 recipient of Chamber Music America's prestigious Cleveland Quartet Award. For their **Sunday, March 28** concert, they'll perform a program entitled "Global Voices -- Dvořák in America," including quartets by Indian-American composer Reena Esmail, Charles Ives (No. 1), and Antonín Dvořák (the "American").

NIKOLAJ LUND



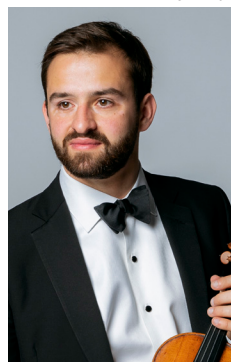
**Andrei Ionita**

JACOB BLICKENSTAFF



**Orion Weiss**

MATT CLAYTON



**William Hagen**

MICHAEL THAD CARTER



**Miró String Quartet**

KAUPO KIKKAS



**Verona String Quartet**

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# Concert Season Reboot *(Cont'd)*

Much has changed since Valley Classical Concert's origins over 40 years ago as "Music In Deerfield." One thing has not: **Richard Goode** is still one of the world's greatest pianists, and his occasional visits to the VCC stage are eagerly-anticipated and best-selling events. This season, he will appear on **Sunday, April 18**, playing an unusually varied program of Mozart, Brahms, Chopin, and Debussy.

On **Sunday, May 2**, our friends from New Hampshire, the **Apple Hill String Quartet**, will perform quartets by Williams College alumna Sato Matsui and Schubert (the "Rosamunde"), then will be joined by local pianist **Judith Gordon** for the ultra-romantic Piano Quintet by New Hampshire native Amy Beach.

And finally, on **Sunday, May 9**, the **Lysander Piano Trio**, a winner of the Concert Artists Guild Competition, will present a colorful program consisting of French composer Lili Boulanger's "D'un matin du printemps,"

STEVE RISKIND

**Richard Goode**

contemporary Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho's "Light and Matter," and Piano Trios by Gabriel Fauré (D Minor, Op.120) and Robert Schumann (D Minor, Op. 63).

So much music in so short a time! We know you're ready for it.

See you then!

**Apple Hill String Quartet**

MATT DINE

**Judith Gordon**

JIYANG CHEN

**Lysander Piano Trio**

## Ticketing Available Online

**Good news!** Online ticketing is available starting August 1st through the VCC website at [www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org/tickets/](http://www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org/tickets/). There's also a plan of Sweeney Hall, allowing you to designate your preferred seating.

It's our hope you'll find online ticketing faster and easier, but if you prefer you can still purchase tickets by mail, using the order form to the right.

### Tickets

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

### Subscriptions

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

### Note — Just In Case

If pandemic conditions next spring should require us to curtail or cancel the season, you will have the option to apply your tickets to the following season or to donate your tickets back to VCC or to receive a refund.

### Standard Policies

There are no refunds (except as noted above), but you may take advantage of the following policies:

- Single-ticket holders may become subscribers and have the cost 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)

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**The Rhythm of Giving**

**W**E ARE grateful for the nonprofits of this country, doing so much to improve and enrich our lives. We are grateful for the very concept of *nonprofit* – existing solely to serve. And we are grateful to the many friends who, over the years, have donated to Music in Deerfield (as we used to be known), and more recently to Valley Classical Concerts.

Thanks to your donations, VCC is in good financial health. For any nonprofit to be able to say that is a thrill. But of course it is a transitory statement – things change quickly, and we must plan ahead for future expenses. We need donations to fund the coming season. There is a sort of rhythm – you donate, we spend the donations and the money we get from ticket sales, and then we provide the music and cultural experience you love – and the next year we do it all over again!

And that is why we seek your donations now. We invite you to visit our website **[www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org](http://www.valleyclassicalconcerts.org)** and make a donation online, or use the ticket form below to make a donation by check or credit card. We thank you!

**Order Tickets and/or Make Donation**

To retain current seating, continuing subscribers should purchase by **Oct. 31**, after which date those seats will be released for general sale.

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

- ☐ Weiss Hagen Ionita Trio — March 7, 2021
- ☐ Miró String Quartet — March 21, 2021
- ☐ Verona String Quartet — March 28, 2021
- ☐ Richard Goode, pianist — April 18, 2021
- ☐ Apple Hill String Quartet with Judith Gordon, piano — May 2, 2021
- ☐ Lysander Piano Trio — May 9, 2021

All concerts are on Sundays 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) — \$165 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 4-concert subscription(s) — \$120 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Individual concert(s) — \$33 each  
 (enclose note with dates and quantities) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Charitable contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total remittance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



P.O. Box 60424  
Florence, MA 01062



***Welcome to  
the exciting world  
of classical music!***

## **Please Support VCC's Friends!**

While summer and probably most fall performances have been suspended, many of our marketing partners are presenting online workshops, classes, and video recordings from previous seasons. We encourage you to check them out at these web addresses:

**Majestic Theater**  
[www.majestictheater.com](http://www.majestictheater.com)

**Springfield Symphony Orchestra**  
[www.springfieldsymphony.org](http://www.springfieldsymphony.org)

**Marlboro Music**  
[www.marlbormusic.org](http://www.marlbormusic.org)

**Watermelon Wednesdays**  
[www.watermelonwednesdays.com](http://www.watermelonwednesdays.com)

**Sevenars Music Festival**  
[www.sevenars.org](http://www.sevenars.org)

**Yellow Barn**  
[www.yellowbarn.org](http://www.yellowbarn.org)

***Please stay safe, and join us at Sweeney Hall in March!***