



Press Release

May 2, 2019

Fortas Chamber Music Concerts Closes 2018–2019 Season with Traditional Russian Artists

May 23, 2019

(WASHINGTON)—The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts brings its 2018–2019 season to a close with the D.C. debut of Russian Renaissance. With classic Russian instruments, traditional folk music, and a touch of modernity, Russian Renaissance performs a program that reflects their diversity of taste and originality of style. *Arts at Michigan* calls the quartet’s performance “one of the finest displays of musicianship in the world.”

After winning the coveted M-Prize Competition in 2017—that year it was the largest prize for chamber music in the world—Russian Renaissance has established itself as one of the most exhilarating ensembles of today. The quartet’s repertoire encompasses everything from folk and tango to classical and jazz. The musicians redefine the possibilities of traditional Russian instruments, including the balalaika, domra, and accordion, and captivate viewers of all ages and backgrounds. In addition to winning the M-Prize Competition, Russian Renaissance has also received the 1st prize at the 69th Coupe Mondiale in Russia in 2016 and was named *Musical America’s* New Artist of the Month in March 2018.

The concert takes place on [Thursday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m.](#) in the Kennedy Center’s Terrace Theater.

ABOUT RUSSIAN RENAISSANCE

ABOUT FORTAS CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS

The 2018–2019 season marks the 36th season of the Kennedy Center’s chamber music series, established in the 1981–1982 season by Marta Istomin, who, at the time, was the Kennedy Center’s Artistic Director. The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts, established as part of the Terrace Concerts during the 1983–1984

season, began a vibrant new life in the 1999–2000 season when—in addition to the generous contributions of loyal supporters of the Fortas Fund—income from a major gift to the Fortas Fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas, became available to support the artistic programming. The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts series is named for the former Supreme Court Justice, who was instrumental in the creation of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and later, the Terrace Theater. The Kennedy Center’s Board of Trustees established the Abe Fortas Memorial Fund in 1982 for the support of concerts in the Terrace Theater, and for the further development of the musical programs he envisioned.

Pianist Joseph Kalichstein has served as the Kennedy Center’s Artistic Advisor for Chamber Music and Artistic Director of the Fortas Concerts since 1997. The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio has been the Kennedy Center’s Ensemble-in-Residence since 2003. In the 2018–2019 season, the Dover Quartet begins a three-year residency as the Center’s Quartet-in-Residence.

Through its history the series has featured frequent appearances by artists such as the Guarneri, Emerson, Juilliard, Takács, and Alban Berg Quartets; early music ensembles Anonymous 4, Trio Medieval, and the Waverly Consort; performances by Eugene Istomin, Emanuel Ax, Edgar Meyer, Susan Graham, Isaac Stern, and Yo-Yo Ma; as well as many other distinguished artists and ensembles that actively perform and commission new works.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Thursday, May 23, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.

Russian Renaissance
Ivan Kuznetsov, balalaika
Anastasia Zakharova, domra
Aleksandr Tarasov, button accordion
Ivan Vinogradov, balalaika-contrabasso

PIAZZOLLA	<i>Milonga Is Coming</i>
BACH	Prelude No. 2 in C minor, BWV 847
DAQUIN	<i>Le Coucou</i>
RAMEAU	<i>Les Cyclopes</i>
SCHNITTKE	Concerto Grosso No. 1
TCHAIKOVSKY	Russian Dance from <i>Swan Lake</i>
PROKOFIEV	Toccata in D minor

INTERMISSION

RICHARD GALLIANO	<i>Tango Pour Claude</i>
GALLIANO	<i>New York Tango</i>
RYUICHI SAKAMOTO	<i>Bibo no Aozora</i>
RUSSIAN RENAISSANCE	<i>Vanya</i>
EGBERTO GISMONTI	<i>Frevo</i>
DJANGO REINHARDT	<i>Rhythm Futur</i>
DUKE ELLINGTON	<i>Caravan</i>

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets (\$29) are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at kennedy-center.org, and via phone through Instant Charge, (202) 467-4600; toll-free at (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

FUNDING CREDITS

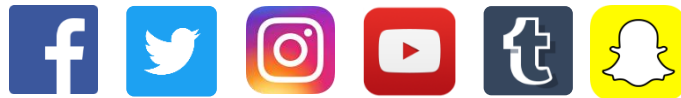
The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts are supported by generous contributors to the Abe Fortas Memorial Fund, and by a major gift to the fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas.

For more information about the Kennedy Center, visit kennedy-center.org.

Patrons 30 and under and active-duty members of the military are invited to join the Kennedy Center's *MyTix* program for special discount offers and chances to win free tickets.

[When available, MyTix Student Rush tickets \(\\$10–20\) can be purchased online or at the box office with valid student I.D. beginning 2 weeks prior to a performance.](#)

For more information, visit kennedy-center.org/mytix



#NSOrch

@NSOTweets

###

MEDIA CONTACTS

Rachelle Roe
(202) 416-8443
rbroe@kennedy-center.org

FOR PHOTOS

Iain Higgins
(202) 416-8442
imhiggins@kennedy-center.org

TICKETS & INFORMATION

(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324
www.kennedy-center.org