

1998-02-11

Faculty concert: Yuri Mazurkevich,
violin, Dana Mazurkevich, violin with
Guest Artists The Leontóvych String
Quartet, and Sally Pinkas, piano,
February 11, 1998

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*Boston University School for the Arts
Music Division*

—presents—

FACULTY CONCERT

YURI MAZURKEVICH
violin

DANA MAZURKEVICH
violin

—with Guest Artists—

THE LEONTÓVYCH STRING QUARTET

SALLY PINKAS, *piano*

xx

Wednesday, February 11, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.
The Tsai Performance Center
685 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts

YURI MAZURKEVICH, *violin*
DANA MAZURKEVICH, *violin*

—with Guest Artists—

THE LEONTÓVYCH STRING QUARTET
SALLY PINKAS, *piano*

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PROGRAM

Quartet No. 7 in F- sharp minor, Op. 108

Dmitri Shostakovich
(1906-1975)

Allegretto
Lento
Allegro

Quartet No. 14 in D minor "Death and the Maiden"

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo: Allegro molto
Presto

—Intermission—

Concerto for Violin, Piano and String Quartet

Ernest Chausson
(1855-1899)

Decidé
Sicilienne
Grave
Très animé

Dana Mazurkevich, *violin soloist*
Sally Pinkas, *piano*

Meet the Artists

Yuri Mazurkevich was born in Lvov, USSR. He studied at the Moscow Conservatory with the legendary David Oistrakh, and won violin competitions in Helsinki 1962, Munich 1966, and Montreal 1969. In 1967 Mr. Mazurkevich became a faculty member at the Kiev State Conservatory and concertized widely throughout the Soviet Union and Europe. During this period he was granted the title of Outstanding Artist of the Republic. In 1975 Mr. Mazurkevich emigrated to Canada with his wife Dana Pomerants, where they both accepted positions on the faculty of the University of Western Ontario. During their stay in Canada, Yuri and Dana appeared as soloists and as a highly acclaimed violin duo in the United States, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, France, England, Australia, Finland, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hong Kong, India, Mexico and Belgium. Mr. Mazurkevich was appointed professor of violin at Boston University School for the Arts in 1985, and was chairman of the string department from 1986-1995. His summer teaching and performing activities include the Victoria International Festival, Johanneson International School of the Arts in Victoria, British Columbia; and Banff, Alberta. He has to his credit many radio and television performances for BBC, ABC (Australia), CBC, Radio France, Radio Moscow, and has recorded on Melodya, Masters of the Bow, and SNE labels. Mr. Mazurkevich is currently performing and touring with the Leontóvych String Quartet.

Violinist **Dana Pomerants-Mazurkevich** is an excellent representative of the Soviet school of violin. For eight years, she studied at the Moscow Conservatory with the legendary David Oistrakh. A prize-winner of the Johann Sebastian Bach and George Enesco violin competitions, she has appeared as soloist and member of the Mazurkevich violin duo in the former USSR, United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, China, and Mexico. Her summer activities include the Johannesen International Summer School and Festival in Victoria, B.C.; Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and summer violin courses in Lithuania. To her credit she has recordings on the Masters of the Bow and SNE labels. She has also recorded for the BBC, CBC, Sender Fries Radio (West Berlin) and Radio France and has been praised for creating "enormous sound, so rich and sonorous that there seems to be a voice in the instrument itself," by *Badische Zeitung* in Germany. Ms. Pomerants-Mazurkevich is on the faculty of Boston University Longy School of Music.

Sally Pinkas, Pianist-in-residence of the Hopkins Center at Dartmouth College, is an Associate Professor at Dartmouth's Music Department, and a faculty member at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She holds performance degrees from Indiana University and the New England Conservatory of Music, and a Ph.D. in Composition and Theory from Brandeis University. Among her credits are solo recitals in Europe, Israel and the United States, as well as concerto appearances with conductors such as Gerhardt Zimmermann, Lawrence Foster and Jens Nygaard.

Pinkas' extensive repertoire ranges from the traditional to the contemporary, and includes many works written for her. In 1996, she was awarded a Howard Fellowship by Brown University for her recording of George Rochberg's piano works. Her 1996-97 season included premier performances of *Preludes for Piano* by Daniel Pinkham, and engagements in Washington D.C., Florida, New York, and Italy. In addition, she performed with the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, the Leontóvych and Lydian String Quartets; flutist Fenwick Smith, and in a duo with her husband, pianist Evan Hirsch (the Hirsch-Pinkas Duo). In 1998, the Hirsch-Pinkas Duo will present the world premier of George Rochberg's *Circles of Fire*, commissioned for and dedicated to Pinkas and Hirsch, in North Carolina, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Vermont and New Hampshire. Other plans include lecture-recitals at the New England Conservatory in Boston and at the Rubin Academy in Jerusalem.

Ms. Pinkas' discography includes Debussy's *Twelve Etudes and Estampes* on Centaur Records, *Bread and Roses: Piano works by Christian Wolff* on Mode Records, Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy* on VQR, Ives' *Halloween* with the Lydian String Quartet on Centaur, and works by Martin Boykan, Seymour Shifrin and Steven Sher on CRI and NuCI. American Record Guide described her performance in *Bread and Roses* as "...adroit, sensitive, imaginative, eloquent renderings, alive to every implied nuance ... an indispensable release for anyone interested in contemporary pianism...".

Violinist **Yuri Kharenko** was born in Kiev, Ukraine. Following his graduation from the Lysenko Special Music School, he studied with Professor A. Shtern at the Kiev Conservatory and in 1983 joined the Leontóvych String Quartet. He has been named Outstanding Artist of the Ukraine, and frequently performs in recitals and as a soloist with orchestras. Mr. Kharenko was a member of the faculty at the Kiev Conservatory until 1991.

Violist, **Borys Deviatov** was born in Vorkuta, Russia and attended the Vorkuta Music School and the Cherkassy Music School in Ukraine. After additional studies with Professor Olenych at the Lvov State Lysenko Conservatory, he became a member of the Leontóvych String Quartet. Mr.

Deviatov is the winner of several prizes as both violist and conductor, and has toured extensively throughout the former Soviet Union, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland in solo recitals and as a soloist with orchestras.

Cellist, **Vladimir Panteleyev** studied cello at the Kiev Conservatory where he received his Masters Degree in 1971. From 1977 to 1980, he studied at the Moscow State Conservatory, obtaining his Ph.D. in chamber music. Between 1976 and 1991, he served as Professor of Cello and String Quartet at the Kiev Conservatory. In 1971, he co-founded the Leontóvych String Quartet, which has performed extensively throughout the Soviet Union, Europe, and the USA. He has appeared as a soloist with the Kiev Chamber Orchestra, performed many solo recitals, and presented numerous masterclasses. Mr. Panteleyev has been named Outstanding Artist of the Ukraine, and was awarded the Lysenko Prize.

The Leontóvych String Quartet

The formation and naming of a string quartet in the former Soviet Union was not an easy matter. The entire process was controlled by the Central Committee of the Communist Party. When the Leontóvych String Quartet was given permission to organize, they were assigned their name "Leontóvych," after Nicola Leontóvych, a minor composer and folk music collector, who was particularly well-known for his choral arrangements of folk music.

Since its founding at the Kiev Philharmonia in 1971, the Leontóvych String Quartet has performed more than 2,000 concerts, appearing in major international festivals and concert halls throughout the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Germany, and Italy. In 1988, the Leontóvych String Quartet made its debut American tour with performances at the United Nations, Harvard University, and at the Music Mountain Festival in Connecticut, the oldest continuing international music festival in the United States. Since then, they have appeared at Music Mountain nine consecutive years, as well as festivals and chamber music societies throughout the country.

A prize winner of the Leo Weiner International String Quartet in Budapest in 1989, the Quartet was given the Lysenko Republican Award for popularizing Ukrainian chamber music, the first time this award was given to an ensemble rather than a composer. Indeed, thirteen works were written specifically for the Leontóvych String Quartet by Ukrainian and Russian composers, and they premiered other works written by composers such as Schnittke, Sylvestrov, and Grabovsky.

In the former Soviet Union, the quartet recorded more than thirty works for radio broadcast, and also recorded for Melodia Records. In the United States, they record for Greystone Records.

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