
Inside Chamber Music Lecture

Inventing Modernism

Olivier Messiaen: *Nature and Theology*

with Bruce Adolphe, Resident Lecturer

Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 6:30 PM
Daniel and Joanna S. Rose Studio

OLIVIER MESSIAEN (1908–92) | *Quatuor pour la fin du temps* (Quartet for the End of Time)
for Clarinet, Violin, Cello, and Piano (1940–41)

Alexander Fiterstein, clarinet; Arnaud Sussmann, violin; Julie Albers, cello;
Benjamin Hochman, piano; Preeti Vasudevan, dancer

Music from today's lecture can be heard in concert on October 3 and 5, 2008 at The New York Society for Ethical Culture. The next Inside Chamber Music lecture, *Claude Debussy: Languorous Ecstasy*, is on October 15, 2008.

Meet the Artists

Lecturer **Bruce Adolphe** is a well-known composer, the author of several books on music, an innovative educator, and a versatile performer. He has taught at The Juilliard School, New York University, and Yale, and is a frequent guest lecturer at schools and concert series throughout the United States. His weekly radio program, *Piano Puzzlers*, in its fourth year as a part of American Public Radio's *Performance Today*, is now heard in over 200 cities, and he has appeared on Live From Lincoln Center telecasts and on New York's Metro Arts for PBS. At the Chamber Music Society since 1992, Bruce is the resident lecturer of *Inside Chamber Music*, director of the family program *Meet the Music!*, and host of the *New Music in the Rose* concert series. As a composer, he has held residencies across the country, most recently at the Brain and Creativity Institute in Los Angeles, and fulfilled commissions from many leading organizations and artists, from Itzhak Perlman and the Brentano String Quartet to the Metropolitan Opera Guild and The Washington National Opera. For many years an annotator for SONY Classical Records and a featured speaker at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, he has also written three books on music — *The Mind's Ear: Exercises for Improving the Musical Imagination*, *What to Listen for in the World*, and *Of Mozart, Parrots and Cherry Blossoms in the Wind: A Composer Explores Mysteries of the Musical Mind*. With Julian Fifer, he co-founded PollyRhythm Productions and The Learning Maestros, both devoted to the creation of interdisciplinary, arts-focused educational repertory and materials in a wide range of media. (The company is named after Mr. Adolphe's opera- and jazz-singing parrot, Polly Rhythm.)

Alexander Fiterstein, a former member of Chamber Music Society Two, is one of the world's exceptional young clarinetists. He is a first prize winner of the Carl Nielsen International Clarinet Competition as well as the Young Concert Artists International Auditions (YCA). He participated at the Marlboro Music Festival for four summers. He has performed as soloist with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, Danish National Radio Orchestra, Polish Chamber Philharmonic, Jerusalem Symphony, Israel Chamber Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic, KBS Symphony of South Korea, and the China National Symphony. He has given recitals at the Louvre in Paris, 92nd Street Y

in New York, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Vancouver Recital Society, Kennedy Center in Washington, and the Tel Aviv Museum. He has performed with Daniel Barenboim, Richard Goode, Emanuel Ax, Roberta Peters, Ensemble Wien-Berlin, and with the American, Borromeo, Fine Arts, Jerusalem, and Mendelssohn string quartets. Mr. Fiterstein performed as principal clarinetist in Daniel Barenboim's West East Divan Orchestra. He was born in Belarus, raised in Israel, and now lives in New York.

Violinist **Arnaud Sussmann**, a multi-faceted and compelling artist, has won high praise from both critics and audiences. This season he leads the Suedama Ensemble at the 92nd Street Y and performs with the Metropolis Ensemble at Le Poisson Rouge. He has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, American Symphony Orchestra, the Cannes Orchestra, Nice Orchestra, Monaco Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestre des Pays de la Loire, and the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, and has given recitals in New York, Memphis, Chicago, Panama City, San Salvador, Paris, and St. Petersburg. Last season he appeared with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and Nice Orchestra, performed at the Metropolitan and Isabella Stewart Gardner museums, and played recitals in Sarasota and New York. He is winner of several international competitions, including the Italian Andrea Postacchini Competition, the French Vatelot/Rampal International Competition, and a New York Virtuosi concert series grant that resulted in a live broadcast on WQXR's Young Artists Showcase. He has recently recorded works of Beethoven and Dvořák with CMS artistic directors David Finckel and Wu Han, and Schubert's "Trout" Quintet with Menahem Pressler and Gary Hoffman. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Itzhak Perlman. Mr. Sussmann is a member of Chamber Music Society Two.

Cellist **Julie Albers**, recognized for her artistry and charismatic performing style, made her major orchestral debut in 1998 with the Cleveland Orchestra and has since been heard with numerous North American symphonies. She has made orchestral appearances in Taiwan, New Zealand, Australia, and South Korea, where she was named Gold Medal Laureate of the Gyeongnam International Music Competition. Awarded the grand prize at the XIII Concours International de Jeunes Concertistes held in Douai, she toured France as

soloist with l'Orchestre Symphonique de Douai. In 2001 she won second prize in Munich's Internationalen Musikwettbewerb der ARD and while in Germany she recorded solo and chamber music of Kodály for the Bayerischer Rundfunk. This season's engagements include performances with the Rochester and Reno philharmonics and the Spokane, Charlotte, Arkansas, and Grand Rapids symphonies, in addition to appearances with the Albers Trio. Her debut album, released on the Artek label, features music of Rachmaninov, Schumann, Beethoven, Massenet, and Piatigorsky. She attended the Young Artist Program at the Cleveland Institute of Music. A member of Chamber Music Society Two, Ms. Albers performs on a N. F. Vuillaume cello made in 1872.

Pianist **Benjamin Hochman** is achieving widespread acclaim for his performances as orchestral soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. He has performed with the New York Philharmonic; the Chicago, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh symphony orchestras; the New Jersey Symphony; and the National Arts Centre Orchestra under eminent conductors such as Jaime Laredo, Jun Märkl, Bramwell Tovey, and Pinchas Zukerman. He recently appeared at the Bard Music Festival's Prokofiev-themed season, and performed Bach's *Goldberg Variations* at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival in August. Upcoming highlights include performances of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9 with the Vancouver Symphony, Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, and an appearance with the Daedalus Quartet at Atlanta's Spivey Hall. Overseas, recitals are scheduled for Barcelona, London, and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. He has also been invited by two renowned chamber ensembles, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio and the Tokyo String Quartet, to appear in their respective series' at the 92nd Street Y. He has performed at the Marlboro, Ravinia, Santa Fe, Spoleto/Italy, Lucerne, Verbier, Bravo! Vail, Eastern Shore, and Vancouver festivals. He has collaborated with members of the Guarneri, Orion, Mendelssohn, Prazak, and Daedalus string quartets and with Jaime Laredo, Sharon Robinson, Ani Kavafian, and Ralph Kirshbaum. Born in Jerusalem, Mr. Hochman is a graduate of The Curtis Institute of Music and the Mannes College of Music, where his principal teachers were Claude Frank and Richard Goode, and is a former member of CMS Two. His studies were supported by the America-Israel Cultural Foundation.

Preeti Vasudevan is a performer and choreographer whose creative explorations derive from her deep training in Indian classical dance (Bharatanatyam) as well as multiple other modern and contemporary forms. Her goal is to develop a new language of movement through a multi-disciplinary approach to dance and theatre. She was a delegate to the first American Dance Festival in India and was awarded a one-year cultural scholarship for cultural studies in Japan. In 2003 she was selected as one of the emerging choreographers by the Joyce Foundation and was invited for the International Choreographer's Residency, American Dance Festival. As a classical soloist, she has been the recipient of prestigious awards for her outstanding contribution to the classical arts of India. Her most recent solo performance, *Waiting for the Fifth Arrow*, was presented at Dance New Amsterdam, New York in April 2007. In June 2007 she was a presenter at the International Symposium for Dance Research at Centre National de la Danse, Paris. While in Paris, she created her first full length production, *The Absent Lover*, a French-Indo collaboration, which was premiered in India in February 2008 to critical acclaim. Ms. Vasudevan spent 2006-07 in India researching dance education through multimedia and technology, which resulted in a new grounding breaking work called *Dancing for the Gods*, an interactive educational website on Bharatanatyam. In the summer, she presented *Dancing for the Gods* at two world dance conferences: Society of Dance History Scholars in Saratoga Springs and World Dance Alliance in Brisbane, Australia.