



The School of Music
YALE UNIVERSITY
Robert Blocker, *Dean*

presents



Alianza Quartet

Thursday, December 14, 2006
Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC • YALE UNIVERSITY
ROBERT BLOCKER, DEAN

Alianza Quartet

Sarita Kwok and Lauren Basney, *violins*
Ah-Young Sung, *viola*
Dmitri Atapine, *cello*

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FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN (1732-1809)

String Quartet in B-flat major, Op. 50, No. 1

Allegro
Adagio non lento
Menuetto: Poco allegretto
Finale: Vivace

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH (1906-1975)

String Quartet No. 10 in A-flat, Op. 118

Andante
Allegretto furioso
Adagio -
Allegretto

INTERMISSION

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828)

String Quartet in D minor, D. 810 'Death and the Maiden'

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo: Allegro molto
Presto

The Alianza String Quartet was officially formed at Yale University School of Music in 2004, but has played together in various capacities for over three years. Comprised of members from USA, Australia, Korea, and Russia/Spain, the ensemble is currently in residence as post-graduate associates of the Yale School of Music. They are coached and mentored here by the Tokyo String Quartet.

This past summer the quartet made their debut at the Aldeburgh Festival, UK, the French Academy in Rome (Villa Medici, Rome) and the Aix-en-Provence Festival, France. While at these festivals the quartet were given the opportunity to work closely with composers Michael Jarrell and Jerome Combier, pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard and members of the Berlin Philharmonic and Mahler Chamber Orchestra.

The quartet also has extensive performance experience on the US East Coast with performances at Merkin Concert Hall, Kaufmann Auditorium 92nd St. Y in NYC, Juilliard's Paul Recital Hall, and Yale University's Sprague Memorial Hall and British Art Center.

The Alianza String Quartet has worked intensively with the Juilliard String Quartet at the JSQ Seminar in 2005 and 2006. They have been semi-finalists at the 2006 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, 2005 Young Concert Artists and 2006 Concert Artist Guild competitions, and finalists at the 2006 Coleman National Chamber Music competition.

The quartet also has a keen interest in contemporary music, premiering works by Combier and Jarrell in Europe this past summer. They have enjoyed working with faculty composers at Yale such as Ezra Laderman and Martin Bresnick, performing the quartets of both composers on New Music series concerts at Yale.

Upcoming engagements include further collaborations with Laderman and Bresnick, appearances at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Whitney Humanities Centre, Schumann Festival at Cornell University, and recital performances along the east coast.

Australian violinist **Sarita Kwok** has performed as soloist with the Sydney, Melbourne, and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, in the country's major concert halls, and on national television and radio. Awards she has won in Australia include the country's most prestigious musical award, The Symphony Australia Young Performer of the Year 1998, and the 1996 James Fairfax Sydney Symphony Orchestra Young Artist and the Big Brother and Nelly Apt scholarships, which allowed her to further her violin studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and the Rubin Academy in Tel Aviv. Internationally, she has been a prizewinner of the 1997 Kloster Schöntal International Violin Competition, Germany, 1998 Gisborne International Music Competition, New Zealand, and the 7th Wieniawski and Lipinski International Competition for Young Violinists in Poland in 2000.

Ms Kwok has performed in masterclasses and privately for artists such as Lord Yehudi Menuhin, Pinchas Zukerman, Lydia Mordkovitch, Donald Weilerstein, and Ilya Kaler. As a chamber musician she has worked with the Tokyo, Juilliard, Guarneri and Borromeo string quartets, Meadowmount and Nobilis Trios.

Ms. Kwok graduated with a B.A. in Literature from the University of Sydney in 2001, M.M with honors from Michigan State University in 2002, Master of Musical Arts in 2005 and Artist Diploma in 2006 from Yale School of Music, where she studied with Prof. Syoko Aki. She was recently been appointed to the faculty of the Yale University Department of Music.

Violinist **Lauren Basney** made her New York debut at Weill Hall in Carnegie Hall in January 2001. Since then, she has performed throughout the United States, Canada and Western Europe, both as a soloist and as a chamber musician, returning to Carnegie in February 2004 to give a joint concert as a member of the Latett Duo. Also in New York, Ms. Basney has performed at such venues as Alice Tully Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Art, the American Irish Society, Grace Church, and at the Juilliard Theatre, as a part of the Juilliard FOCUS Festival.

Ms. Basney is the winner of the Zerounian Competition and the Madura String Award and the recipient of the Oundjian Scholarship (Juilliard), as well as having been selected as a Yamaha Young Performing Artist. She attended the Juilliard School as a full-scholarship student, receiving her BM in 2001, and continued her musical education at Yale University, studying with Syoko Aki, where she received her MM (2005) and Artist Diploma (2006). As a chamber musician, Ms. Basney has had the opportunity to work with such artists as Glenn Dicterow, Boris Berman, Earl Carlyss, Jerome Lowenthal, Claude Frank, Peter Frankl, and the Shanghai, Juilliard, Tokyo, Daedalus, and Guarneri Quartets.

Violist **Ah-Young Sung**, made her professional debut in England in 1996, performing solo recitals throughout the Birmingham area. She received her Bachelor's Degree from the Royal Academy of Music in London with Rose Roitman Award and Josephine Fuller Award in 2002, which were awarded to the most talented violist. She attained her Master's from Yale University in 2004 and her Artist's Diploma in the following year along with Georgina Lucy Grosvenor Memorial Prize, which was given to the violist whose performances exhibited the highest potential for success as a soloist or chamber musician in the field.

Born in South Korea, she began her musical studies at the age of 12, and her principal teachers have been Jesse Levine, Martin Outram and John White. A dedicated chamber musician, Ms. Sung has performed in the Purcell Room at the Royal Festival Hall, Cleveland House and Lauderdale House and has worked with such famous string quartets as the Amadeus, Skampa, Alberni, Maginni, Juilliard and Tokyo Quartets. She worked as a principal violist for London Korean Symphony Orchestra for 6 years along with other various student orchestras in London.

The winner of the 2004 Iberoamerican "Carlos Prieto" Competition and the recipient of the 2005 Presser Foundation Award, **Dmitri Atapine** began his cello lessons at the age of five at the St. Petersburg Conservatory School of Music. Since 1992 Mr. Atapine is a resident of Spain, where he graduated with honors from the Asturias Conservatory under Prof. A.Fedorchenko. Since receiving in 2003 his BM and MM with high honors from Michigan State University under Prof. S.Bagrutuni, Mr. Atapine continues his studies with Prof. Aldo Parisot at the Yale School of Music, where he completed the Master of Musical Arts degree in 2005 and obtained the Artist Diploma in 2006.

A regular soloist and recitalist, Mr. Atapine's recent engagements have included solo recitals in the Juan March Foundation (Madrid) and the Great Hall of the Spanish National Auditorium, as well as orchestral appearances with the Principality of Asturias Symphony Orchestra in the Prince Philip Auditorium. Among Mr. Atapine's multiple awards are the University of Illinois 'Music Achievement' Award, the Asturias Conservatory Honors Certificate, and the first prize at the Llanes International Cello Competition.