

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRADITIONAL HOLIDAY CONCERTS HIGHLIGHT WINTER SEASON AT NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Washington, D.C., December 2, 1988 - Christmas cantatas and Viennese waltzes highlight the winter concert season beginning in December at the National Gallery of Art.

On December 18th, the National Gallery Orchestra and members of The National Gallery Vocal Arts Ensemble join forces with the Maryland Camerata in the first of two traditional concerts celebrating the holiday season. The concert will feature the first two cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach's The Christmas Oratorio followed by an audience singalong of familiar carols with the orchestra and chorus.

Observing a standing tradition of more than two decades, on January 8th the Gallery orchestra presents a gala concert of Viennese music, including waltzes and polkas by Johann Strauss and his son, Johann Straus, Jr. Patterned after the New Year's Day concert by the Vienna Philharmonic, this first concert of the New Year has become a community favorite. (Please note that since Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Sundays and the National Gallery will be closed, the traditional Christmas and New Year's concerts will take place on December 18th and January 8th instead.)

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The music of Beethoven fills the Gallery halls during the month of January 1989. Pianist Thomas Schumacher performs Beethoven's Sonata, Opus 54, and The Whitney Trio performs his Trio No. 2 in G Major. Pianist Brian Ganz's program includes Beethoven and the world premier performance of Vlahopoulos' Ode and Fugato.

In February, Brazilian pianist Ney Salgado appears as guest artist with the National Gallery Orchestra in a full program of Beethoven. Soprano Catherine Robbin and cellist Rafael Figueroa also appear as guest performers in recitals including Schumann's Frauenliebe und Leben and his Fantasiestücke, Opus 73. The Atlanta Chamber Players round out the month with a program ranging from Mozart to Amram.

All concerts in the winter season take place in the Gallery's West Garden Court beginning promptly at 7:00 p.m. Seating for the free concerts begins at 6:00 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. The concerts are broadcast live on WGMS 570 AM and 103.5 FM.

Details of the concerts through February 1989 are listed on the following page.

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DATE

PROGRAM

Dec. 4

Sanford Sylvan, baritone
David Breitman, piano

Songs by Wolf, Barber, Faure
and Schubert

Dec. 11

Lawrence Schubert, piano

Mozart: Sonata in C Major, K. 309
Beethoven: Sonata in A Major,
Opus 101
Metner: Fairy Tales, Opus 26

Dec. 18

National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, conductor
The Maryland Camerata

J.S. Bach: Christmas Oratorio:
Cantatas 1 and 2

Dec. 25

No concert; Gallery closed

Jan. 1, 1989

No concert; Gallery closed

Jan. 8

National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, conductor

Gala New Year's Concert
Music of Vienna

Jan. 15

Thomas Schumacher, piano

Beethoven: Sonata, Opus 54
Scriabin: Sonata, Opus 62
Chopin: Mazurka, Opus 33, No. 1

Jan. 22

The Whitney Trio

Beethoven: Trio No. 2 in G Major
Leon Kirchner: Trio
Mendelssohn: Trio in C Minor, Op. 66

Jan. 29

Brian Ganz, piano

Beethoven: Sonata, Opus 31, No. 3
Dutilleux: Sonata (1947)
Vlahopoulos: Ode and Fugato
World Premiere Performance

Feb. 5

Catherine Robbin, soprano

Schumann: Frauenliebe und Leben
Mahler: Rückert Lieder
Nancy Telser: Songs

Feb. 12

National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, conductor
Ney Salgado, piano soloist

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5
and Symphony No. 7

Feb. 19

Rafael Figueroa, cello
Wu Han, piano

Schumann: Fantasiestücke, Opus 73
Kodaly: Sonata for Solo Cello
Franck: Cello Sonata in A Major

Feb. 26

The Atlanta Chamber Players

Mozart: Quartet for Flute and
Strings
Copland: Piano Quartet (1950)
Amram: Quintet Premiere (1988)