

National Gallery of Art

NEWS RELEASE

Information Officer, Deborah Ziska

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CONTACT: (202) 842-6353
Nancy Starr, Publicist

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART'S 56TH CONCERT SEASON

BEGINS OCTOBER 5

AMERICAN FESTIVAL TO INCLUDE GOSPEL ENSEMBLE FOR THE FIRST TIME

Washington, D. C. - The National Gallery Orchestra, under the direction of music director George Manos, will present the first concert of the 1997-1998 season at the National Gallery of Art on Sunday, October 5. Maestro Manos and the Gallery orchestra will provide a total of nine concerts during the season. In addition to the Orchestra, three other National Gallery resident ensembles will be heard this season: The National Gallery Chamber Players String Quartet plays on June 21, the National Gallery Chamber Players Wind Quintet performs on June 28, and the National Gallery Vocal Arts Ensemble sings a program of songs by American composers on May 10.

The concert series will include music from the American Gospel tradition for the first time in its American Music Festival. The Festival, devoted to music by American composers, has been a tradition at the Gallery since 1944. It will include five concerts, one on each of the Sundays in May 1998. The Gospel concert is scheduled for May 24 and will feature the New England Spiritual Ensemble.

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The Gallery's American Music Festival will place considerable emphasis on vocal music this season. In addition to the New England Spiritual Ensemble and the National Gallery Vocal Arts Ensemble, the Washington Men's Camerata will sing music by American composers on May 31, under the direction of Thomas Beveridge. Instrumental music by American composers will be the focus of the Gallery Orchestra concert on May 3 and the concert by The Upper Valley Duo, violin and piano, on May 17.

Artists of international renown who will be heard at the Gallery next season include: Baritone Håkan Hagegård (January 18), and pianists Paul Badura-Skoda (March 15) and Ursula Oppens (January 25). Gallery audiences will have an opportunity to hear several international virtuoso pianists who have been attracting much attention in recent years, including: Russian-born Alexei Lubimov (October 26), Serbian Kemal Gekić (November 23), Austrian Stefan Vladar (April 19), and Brazilian Nelson Freire (April 26). Music for two pianos, four hands, performed by the Pèlerinage Duo, will be featured on January 11.

Three outstanding young violinists will be presented in the second half of the season: Kolja Blacher on February 15, Christian Tetzlaff on March 8, and Jeffrey Multer on March 29, appearing in a violin-piano duo format with James Tocco. Lovers of chamber music will enjoy concerts by the Kocian Quartet (October 12), the Peabody Trio (November 16), and the Dunsmuir Piano Quartet (December 14), as well as the above mentioned concerts by the National Gallery Chamber Players.

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The traditional Holiday concerts are planned for December 21, 1997, when the guest ensemble will be the Columbia Collegiate Chorale from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland, and January 4, 1998, when the National Gallery Orchestra plays its Gala Viennese New Year concert.

Admission to the Gallery concerts is free, and the audience is admitted on a first-come, first-served basis, starting at 6:00 p.m. each Sunday. Monthly listings of the concert programs may be found on the Gallery's Web site at <http://www.nga.gov>. Recorded information on the concerts is available by calling 202/842-6941. Concerts are open to the public and will continue every Sunday through June 28, with the exception of April 12, Easter Sunday. A complete schedule follows.

CONCERTS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Under the Direction of George Manos

PERFORMERS

PROGRAMS - (Some are incomplete and subject to change)

OCTOBER 1997

5 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

Sibelius: *Karelia: Overture
and Suite*
Mendelssohn: *Symphony No. 3*

12 Kocian String Quartet

Smetana: *Quartet No. 2*
Schulhoff: *Quartet No. 1*
Dvořák: *Quartet No. 12*

19 Sharon Christman, *soprano*

Debussy: *Quatre chansons de
jeunesse*
Wolf: *Verschwiegene Liebe*
Rowley: *Three Mystical
Songs*

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OCTOBER 1997 (continued)

26 Alexei Lubimov, *pianist*

Brahms: *Two Rhapsodies*
Fantasies, Opus 16
Schubert: *Impromptus, Opus 9*
"Wanderer" Fantasy

NOVEMBER 1997

2 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

To be announced

9 Jon Humphrey, *tenor*
Raymond Hanson, *pianist*

Lieder by Schubert, Schumann,
Brahms, and Hugo Wolf

16 The Peabody Trio

Kagel: *Trio*
Dvořák: *"Dumky" Trio*

23 Kemal Gekić, *pianist*

Liszt: *Six Consolations*
Transcendental
Etudes
Chopin: *Andante spianato*
and Grande Polonaise

30 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

To be announced

DECEMBER 1997

7 Todd Crow, *pianist*

Schubert: *Sonata, D. 960*
Bartók: *Dance Suite*
Haydn: *Sonata in C Major*

14 Dunsmuir Piano Quartet

Brahms: *Piano Quartet in G Minor*
Haydn: *Piano Trio in E Major*
Robert Helps: *Trio for Piano, Violin, Viola,*
Cello

and

21 Columbia Collegiate Chorale
James Bingham, *conductor*

Christmas concert

28 Gottlieb Wallisch, *pianist*

Beethoven: *Sonata, Opus 81a*
Debussy: *Estampes*
Chopin: *Sonata No. 2*

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JANUARY 1998

4 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

Gala Viennese New
Year Concert

11 The Pèlerinage Duo
*Music for two pianos,
four hands*

Rachmaninoff: *Suite No. 2*
Schubert: *Fantasie in F Minor*
Stravinsky: *Sonata*
Milhaud: *Scaramouche*

18 Håkan Hagegård, *baritone*
Warren Jones, *pianist*

To be announced

25 Ursula Oppens, *pianist*

Beethoven: *Sonata, Opus 90*
*Sonata, Op. 31,
No. 2*
Sonata, Opus 101
Picker: *Four Etudes for
Ursula*

FEBRUARY 1998

1 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

To be announced

8 Hugh Sung, *pianist*

Ravel: *Gaspard de la nuit*
Moussorgsky: *Pictures at an
Exhibition*

15 Kolja Blacher, *violinist*
Jessica Crash, *pianist*

Schumann: *Sonata in A Minor*
Prokofiev: *Sonata in F Minor*
Brahms: *Sonata in A Major*
Ravel: *Tzigane*

22 Talich String Quartet

Beethoven: *Quartet, Opus 131*
Mozart: *Quartet in D Major*
Janáček: *String Quartet No 1*

MARCH 1998

1 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

To be announced

8 Christian Tetzlaff, *violinist*

J. S. Bach: *Partita No. 2*
Sonata No. 3
Partita No. 3

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MARCH 1998 (continued)

15 Paul Badura-Skoda, *pianist*

Mozart: *Fantasy in C Minor*
Beethoven: *Sonata, "Waldstein"*
Chopin: *24 Preludes*

22 Mark Kosower, *cellist*
Jee-Won Oh, *pianist*

Brahms: *Sonata in D Major*
Francoeur: *Sonata in E Major*
Schumann: *Fantasy Pieces*

29 Jeffrey Multer, *violinist*
James Tocco, *pianist*

To be announced

APRIL 1998

5 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

To be announced

12 No Concert

19 Stefan Vladar, *pianist*

J. S. Bach: *Goldberg Variations*

27 Nelson Freire, *pianist*

Brahms: *Sonata No. 3*
Chopin: *Scherzo No. 4,*
F Minor Fantasy
Schumann: *Papillons*

MAY 1998

THE FIFTY-FIFTH AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

MAY 3 THROUGH 31, 1998

3 National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, *conductor*

To be announced

10 National Gallery Vocal Arts
Ensemble

To be announced

17 Upper Valley Duo
Tim Schwarz, *violinist*
Dan Weiser, *pianist*

Wm. Grant Still: *Suite for Violin and Piano*
W. C. Handy: *St. Louis Blues*
Amy Beach: *Sonata for Violin*
and Piano

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MAY 1998 (continued)

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| 24 | New England Spiritual Ensemble
Vincent Dion Stringer,
<i>artistic director</i>
Fredericka King, <i>pianist</i> | American spirituals
and Gospel songs |
| 31 | Washington Men's Camerata
Thomas Beveridge, <i>conductor</i> | To be announced |

JUNE 1998

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|----|--|---|
| 7 | National Gallery Orchestra
George Manos, <i>conductor</i> | To be announced |
| 14 | Natsuki Fukasawa, <i>pianist</i> | Schumann: <i>Fantasy</i>
Brahms- <i>Two Choral</i>
Busoni: <i>Preludes</i>
Janáček: <i>1. X. 1905</i>
Busoni: <i>Elégie No. 4</i>
<i>Frauengemach</i>
Chopin-Liszt: <i>Maiden's Wish</i>
<i>Polish Songs</i> |
| 21 | National Gallery Chamber
Players String Quartet
George Manos, <i>artistic director</i> | To be announced |
| 28 | National Gallery Chamber
Players Woodwind Quintet
George Manos, <i>artistic director</i> | To be announced |