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Media Contact:

Amy Wike, 202.387.2151 x220

awike@phillipscollection.org

Online Press Room:

www.phillipscollection.org/press

THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION ANNOUNCES 2017/2018 MUSIC SEASON

Performances Invite Listeners to Discover the Power of Silence within Music

Full Schedule Below

WASHINGTON—The Phillips Collection announced today the 77th concert season for the museum’s prestigious music series. Beginning in October, the upcoming Phillips Music season includes 32 planned performances across the Sunday Concert and Leading International Composers series.

“Decades since the Phillips hosted its first music gathering, inspired concerts continue to be a treasured part of our museum’s annual programming,” said **Director Dorothy Kosinski**. “Similar to past seasons, the performances in the coming months are certain to take audiences on a reflective journey that is once again greatly enhanced by the beautiful settings in which the music is heard.”

Some of the world’s most notable musicians have performed as part of Phillips Music over the years, as well as many promising young artists. While performers always make their own selections for the compositions performed, the concerts this coming season share a common thematic thread of discovering the power of silence within music.

“Silence is among the most potent tools an artist can employ and all music lends us the opportunity for silent reflection, alongside sonorous inspiration,” said **Director of Music Caroline Mousset**. “During the upcoming season for Phillips Music, we look forward to inviting audiences to treasure the silences, whether that be during, between, or after the sound of music itself.”

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SUNDAY CONCERTS

The Sunday Concert series features an impressive roster of award-winning performers, both familiar and new. As the longest continuously-running series in Washington, DC, Sunday Concerts regularly feature works from classical and living composers. This season includes numerous special engagements and debuts.

Formed in Germany by four leading orchestral wind players and pianist Thomas Hoppe, **Ensemble 4.1** (October 15) will make their DC debut with Phillips Music, performing a selection of quintets for piano and wind alongside pieces for smaller combinations. The first half of the concert will be devoted entirely to chamber works by Francis Poulenc.



Ensemble 4.1 will make their DC debut with Phillips Music on October 15. Photo: Frank Jerke

Returning to Phillips Music for the third time is Scottish pianist **Steven Osborne** (October 29), who will perform Messiaen's monumental cycle *Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus*, completed in 1944.

Winner of a coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2016, American violinist **Alexi Kenney** (December 3) will be accompanied by Israeli pianist **Renana Gutman**. Featuring these young artists recognized for their rare musical insights and virtuosity, the concert will include Baroque pieces for solo violin and late-Romantic works for violin and piano.

Praised for their debut album of quartets by Haydn and appearances at concerts and international festivals around the globe, the Munich-based **Goldmund Quartett** (January 21) will give their first-ever DC performance with Phillips Music. The program will feature pieces by Haydn as well as the second of Beethoven's *Razumovsky Quartets*, which is considered one of the composer's most ambitious middle-period works.

Highly sought after for his interpretation of the Viennese Classics, pianist **Shai Wosner** (January 28 and February 4) will present two concerts with Phillips Music, allowing audiences the rare chance to hear Schubert's final six piano sonatas in sequence.

Originally formed in 1934, **Smetana Trio** (February 25) has long been comprised of musicians who are also leading soloists. Maintaining that tradition today, the Czech trio currently includes pianist Jitka Čechová, violinist Jiří Vodička, and cellist Jan Páleníček. Their performance at the Phillips will feature pieces by Zemlinsky, Shostakovich, and Mendelssohn.

Married in 1985, cellist **David Finckel** and pianist **Wu Han** (March 11) will make their Phillips debut. At the heart of their concert will be Bruce Adolphe's four-movement composition *Couple*, which was specially written for the pair in 1998.

Commemorating the centenary of Debussy's death, pianist **Jean-Efflam Bavouzet** (April 22) will present a concert dedicated entirely to the composer's wide range of work.



During their Phillips Music concert on March 11, pianist Wu Han and cellist David Finckel will perform Bruce Adolphe's *Couple*, which was specially written for them. Photo: Lisa-Marie Mazzucco



Late Night with Leonard Bernstein will be presented at the Phillips on May 20. Photo: Elizabeth Leslie Photography

Presented as part of a citywide centennial celebration and interwoven with personal anecdotes and film clips, **Late Night with Leonard Bernstein** (May 20) will include some of the American composer's most intimate music alongside works by Copland, Confrey, Coward, Schubert, and Chopin. Hosted by Bernstein's daughter Jamie, this original "Multi-Media Cabaret" performance will feature soprano Amy Burton and pianists John Musto and Michael Boriskin.

LEADING INTERNATIONAL COMPOSERS

In 2009, the Phillips joined forces with European embassies in Washington, DC, to create a groundbreaking concert series: Leading European Composers. Presenting some of the greatest living composers of today, this unique series allows the composers to introduce their works with performers they specifically select for the occasion. In 2015, Phillips Music broadened its scope and created Leading International Composers, to infuse the concert season with the best of global contemporary music. As part of the Phillip's partnership with the University of Maryland, featured composers also interact with School of Music students and faculty at The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center in College Park.



In partnership with the University of Maryland, this year's featured Leading International Composer is Fazil Say. Photo: Marco Borggreve

This year's featured composer is Turkish pianist **Fazil Say** (March 15), and he is also the featured musician for the Sunday Concert on March 18. Performers for this year's Leading International Composer concert will include University of Maryland School of Music faculty and students.

Say began his piano studies with Mithat Fenmen, who encouraged him to improvise on themes from his daily life alongside his essential piano exercises. This philosophy greatly influenced Say as both a pianist and composer. While studying with David Levine, he fine-tuned his skills as a classical pianist, first at the Musikhochschule Robert Schumann in Düsseldorf and later in Berlin. In 1994, he was declared the winner of the Young Concert Artists international competition in New York. Since then, he has played with renowned American and European orchestras and numerous leading conductors, building a repertoire ranging from the Viennese Classics and the Romantics to contemporary music.

Reflected in his broad range of compositions, Say is inspired by improvisation, jazz, and a passion for Mozart. He is also influenced by Turkish folklore and literature. His compositions include large-scale orchestral works (including four symphonies and several concertos), as well as a wide variety of music for chamber ensemble and large-scale vocal works. Say has been commissioned to compose works for, among others, the Salzburg Festival, West German Radio (WDR), the Vienna Konzerthaus, and the Schleswig-Holstein Festival.

SUNDAY CONCERTS 2017/2018

October 1, 2017	Alexander String Quartet
October 8, 2017	Sergei Babayan, piano
October 15, 2017	Ensemble 4.1, woodwinds and piano
October 22, 2017	Seth Parker Woods, cello
October 29, 2017	Steven Osborne, piano
November 5, 2017	Victor Julien-Laferrière and Guillaume Bellom, cello and piano
November 12, 2017	Van Kujik Quartet
November 19, 2017	Annie Wu and Feng Niu, flute and piano
December 3, 2017	Alexi Kenney and Renana Gutman, violin and piano
December 10, 2017	Tessa Lark and Roman Rabinovich, violin and piano
December 17, 2017	Chalaca Trio, harp, clarinet, and percussion
January 7, 2018	Vadim Gluzman and Angela Yoffe, violin and piano
January 14, 2018	Jason Vieaux and Julien Labro, guitar and bandoneon
January 21, 2018	Goldmund Quartett

January 28, 2018 & February 4, 2018	Shai Wosner, piano
February 11, 2018	Aleksey Semenenko and Inna Firsova, violin and piano
February 18, 2018	Miriam Fried and Jonathan Biss, violin and piano
February 25, 2018	Smetana Trio, piano trio
March 4, 2018	Dublin Guitar Quartet
March 11, 2018	David Finckel and Wu Han, cello and piano
March 18, 2018	Fazil Say, piano
April 1, 2018	Busch Trio, piano trio
April 8, 2018	István Várdai, cello
April 15, 2018	Schumann Quartett
April 22, 2018	Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, piano
April 29, 2018	Yeol Eum Son, piano
May 6, 2018	David Shifrin and Miró Quartet, clarinet and string quartet
May 13, 2018	Hermitage Piano Trio
May 20, 2018	Late Night with Leonard Bernstein, soprano and two pianos with guest narrator
May 27, 2018	Stephen Kovacevich, piano

LEADING INTERNATIONAL COMPOSERS

March 15, 2018 **Fazil Say, Turkey**



While the Phillips completes a preservation project in the historic house until early 2018, concerts will continue next door in the Cosmos Club’s elegant Beaux Arts Warne Ballroom.

VENUE INFORMATION

While the Phillips undergoes a preservation project in the historic house until early 2018, the critically acclaimed concert series will continue next door in the Cosmos Club’s elegant Beaux Arts Warne Ballroom. Upon completion of the project, concerts will return to the Phillips’s iconic music room for the remainder of the season.

Carefully designed to enhance the 1897 building’s historic character and preserve the museum’s celebrated collection for years to come, the project will migrate the house galleries and music room to a fully digitized temperature and humidity control system. Fittingly, it aligns with Duncan Phillips’s

mission to “create a beneficent force in the community where I live—a joy-giving, life-enhancing influence, assisting people to see beautifully as true artists see.”

TICKETING

Reservations are strongly recommended. First tickets (for October concerts) will be released on August 15; please reference ticket schedule table for additional on sale dates. Online reservations are available until 9 am on the morning of each performance.

Tickets are \$40, \$20 for members and students with ID and include museum admission for the day of the concert. Seats are unreserved, and early arrival is recommended.

All artists and programs are subject to change. Up-to-date concert details, ticket policies, and venue information is available here: www.phillipscollection.org/music.

CONCERTS	ON SALE DATE
October	August 15
November	September 1
December	October 1
January	November 1
February	December 1
March	January 1
April	February 1
May	March 1

HISTORY OF PHILLIPS MUSIC

In 1915, museum founder Duncan Phillips considered the intriguing relationship between music and visual art, writing that music provides “spiritual nourishment and exultation” while “paintings seek to speak to their souls in the same musical way.” When the museum was founded a few years later in 1921, music rightly became an important part of regular programming. By the 1930s, the Washington Chamber Music Society held candlelight concerts in the Music Room, which eventually inspired the Phillips to present its own concert series that is still enjoyed by audiences today.

Beginning in 1941, the acclaimed Sunday Concerts began with a series of 30 or more concerts, which ran throughout World War II with military musicians and provided the solace of music during dark times. More than 75 years later, diverse audiences still come together in the intimate Music Room to enjoy music from some of the world’s finest performers. Having hosted numerous Washington and U.S. debuts over the years, the Phillips remains dedicated to providing a platform for young artists and welcoming distinguished artists—including Glenn Gould, Gary Graffman, Emanuel Ax, Jessye Norman, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Lynn Harrell, and Hilary Hahn.

ABOUT THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION

The Phillips Collection, America’s first museum of Modern art, is one of the world’s most distinguished collections of Impressionist and Modern American and European art. Stressing the continuity between art of the past and present, it offers a strikingly original and experimental approach to Modern art by combining works of different nationalities and periods in displays that change frequently. The setting is similarly unconventional, featuring small rooms, a domestic scale, and a personal atmosphere. Artists represented in the collection include Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, Edgar Degas, Henri Matisse, Pierre Bonnard, Paul Cézanne, Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Claude Monet, Honoré Daumier, Georgia O’Keeffe, Arthur Dove, Mark Rothko, Milton Avery, Jacob Lawrence, and Richard Diebenkorn, among others. The permanent collection has grown to include more than 1,000 photographs, many by American photographers Berenice Abbott, Esther Bubley, and Bruce Davidson, and works by contemporary artists such as Anselm Kiefer, Wolfgang Laib, Whitfield Lovell, and Leo Villareal. The Phillips Collection regularly organizes acclaimed special exhibitions, many of which travel internationally. The Intersections series features projects by contemporary artists responding to art and spaces in the museum. The Phillips also produces award-winning education programs for K–12 teachers and students, as well as for adults. The University of Maryland Center for Art and Knowledge at The Phillips Collection is the museum’s nexus for academic work, scholarly exchange, and interdisciplinary collaborations. Since 1941, the museum has hosted Sunday Concerts in its wood-paneled Music Room. The Phillips Collection is a private, non-government museum, supported primarily by donations.

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