



Chopin Club
Providence, Rhode Island

Musicales

137th Anniversary Season

Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.
Greetings from: Barbara Speer, President

Mary K. Hail Music Mansion
Providence, Rhode Island

Program

“O Mio Babbino Caro” from Gianni Schicchi.....Giacomo Puccini

Holiday offerings:

- I Wonder as I Wander. John Jacob Nikes
- O Holy Night (2 verses). Adolphe Adam
- Sweet Little Jesus Boy spiritual

Sharon Key, soprano
Philip Martorella, piano

Three Pieces from Etudes, Op. 8.....Alexander Scriabin (1872-1915)
 No. 2 in F# minor; A capriccio, con forza
 No. 4 in B Major; Piacevole
 No. 12 in D# minor; Patetico
Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Composer’s Death

Two Pieces from *Miroirs* (Mirrors).....Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
 No. 3: *Une barque sur l’Ocean* (A Boat on the Ocean)
 No. 4: *Alborada del gracioso* (Morning Song of the Court Jester)
 Barbara Speer, piano

Violin Concerto in D Major op. 35.....Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)
 Movement 1. Allegro Moderato
 Jesse Holstein, violin
 Benjamin Nacar, piano

(Mr. Holstein will perform movements 2 & 3 of this concerto at the Jan. 10th musicale)

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Program Chair: Emily Anthony *Stage Manager:* Jacky Yang

Hospitality Committee:

Co-Chairpersons: Mimi and Jim DeCesaris

Jean Buffum, Deborah Concannon, Rayna Daley, Masako Fidler, Carol Greifer,
Joan Lusk, Jane Rankin, Rebecca Rosier, Lorraine Yaghoobian, Linda Zambrano

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*The Chopin Club wishes to acknowledge the ongoing support of the
Friends of the Mary K. Hail Music Mansion for its programs.*

Next Musicales: Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 2:00 pm • Mary K. Hail Music Mansion

The Chopin Club is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

www.chopinclub.org

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Sharon Key, soprano and cellist, is a graduate of the Royal College of Music, London and sang with the Regensberg Staatsoper and free lanced in New York City. For the past twenty years, she has served as a pastor with the United Church of Christ both as a prison chaplain and in the parish.

Pianist **Philip Martorella** received his musical education at the Mannes College of Music (B.M.), the Juilliard School (M.M.), and the Manhattan School of Music (Music Ed. M.A.) He studied piano with Avraham Sternklar, Nadia Reisenberg, Eugenia Hyman, Sascha Gorodnitzski and Adele Marcus, and piano accompanying studies with Samuel Sanders. Mr. Martorella is currently on the adjunct piano faculty at Rhode Island College, serving as Minister of Music at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, East Greenwich, RI, and serving as organist at Temple Beth-El, Providence, RI. He is also currently on the faculty of the RI Philharmonic Music School in East Providence, RI. He recently released the album entitled “Relax and Dream” which includes his original compositions and performances.

Pianist **Barbara Speer** has enjoyed a lifelong concert career as solo pianist and chamber musician in performances at NYC major venues, including Lincoln Center, the Northeast, and Europe. She has collaborated with scores of distinguished artists, including the Emerson and Orion Quartets, Jamie Laredo, Yefim Bronfman, Michael Tree, and jazz legend Gerry Mulligan. In 1996, she was the recipient of the Eleanor Roosevelt “Woman in the Arts” Award. A graduate of Oberlin Conservatory and The Juilliard School, she co-founded and directed the Sea Cliff Chamber Players, an award-winning chamber ensemble and conductorless chamber orchestra for 28 years. An active educator, she presented *Piano Music with Commentary* and co-founded the *Nassau County Chamber Music Workshop*. She received an NEA grant to record *New American Music* and appeared as performer/lecturer in 13 live concerts over NPR and the European Broadcast Union, as well as appearances on PBS and CBS-TV Evening News.

Violinist **Jesse Holstein** has been on the teaching staff of Community Music Works since 2001, as well as a founding member of the Providence String Quartet, the resident quartet of CMW. Prior to studying with Marilyn McDonald at Oberlin and James Buswell at the New England Conservatory, he worked with Philipp Naegele in Northampton, MA. Aside from being an active recitalist and chamber musician, he has served as Concertmaster of the New Bedford Symphony since 2003. Each summer Jesse teaches and performs at the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music in New Hampshire, and is on the faculty at the Greenwood Music Camp, where studied as a teenager. In 2009, Jesse was a Violin Professeur at L’Ecole de Musique, Dessaix Baptiste in Jacmel, Haiti. In 2012, an interview with Jesse was published in Strings Magazine about his teaching philosophy. He is on the faculty at Brown University, where he teaches chamber music.

Pianist **Benjamin Nacar** is a Rhode Island native and a graduate of Brown University (Class of 2012, Computer Science and Classics). He gives solo recitals around the Providence area and frequently collaborates with Brown string and voice students and with professional musicians. He has played the last three Beethoven sonatas at RISD and at Brown’s Cogut Center for the Humanities. In 2014, he appeared with the directors of the Newport String Project in a fundraiser concert featuring Stravinsky and Brahms. One of Benjamin’s projects was a March 2014 concert program featuring some of his own compositions for piano and string instruments.