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Cycle of Mozart Sonata Performances at Simon’s Rock to Start on September 4

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA — After completing two previous cycles of violin and viola sonatas, by Brahms and Beethoven, violinist Ronald Gorevic and pianist Larry Wallach are tackling the more extensive list of works in that genre by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In the Brahms cycle, five works were performed in a pair of concerts in a single weekend, while in the Beethoven cycle, ten works were spread out to three concerts over the course of a full year. The present cycle will undoubtedly last even longer. The artists expect audiences to be surprised by the quality and variety of music to be discovered among the 19 works.

The first scheduled performance will take place on Sunday, September 4, at 2 pm in the McConnell Auditorium of the Daniel Arts Center on the campus of Bard College at Simon’s Rock. The performance is free; audience members must present vaccination certificates and wear masks in the theater.

The program will include four sonatas, drawing on the three main periods of Mozart’s sonata production: no. 6 in D major (k. 306), no. 11 in G major (k. 379) no. 4 in E minor (k. 304) which is probably the most familiar of the sonatas, and no. 15 in A major (k. 526), the most extensive of these works.

Ronald Gorevic has had a long and distinguished career as both a teacher and performer, on both the violin and viola. As a violinist, Mr. Gorevic has given many recitals to critical acclaim, throughout the U.S. and Europe, including such major cities as London, New York, Cleveland, Chicago and Atlanta. As a violist, he has been a member of several well-known string quartets, spanning over 20 years, and covering most of the quartet repertoire. He has performed the Beethoven cycle twice, and has toured throughout the U.S. Germany, Japan, Korea and Australia. Mr. Gorevic was a founding member of the Prometheus Piano quartet in 1995. He has been heard on radio stations across the U.S., and has also been broadcast on S.German and S.W.German radio, and on the Australian Broadcast network. For a number of years now,
Mr. Gorevic has been actively teaching and performing on both the violin and viola, utilizing his great experience to successfully transition between the two instruments.

Larry Wallach has taught music at Simon’s Rock for five decades. He is a performer, composer, musicologist, and educator whose interests span the history of Western music up to the present day, with particular focus on baroque and modern repertories. He has published articles about Charles Ives and Johannes Brahms, and as pianist performed all the Ives violin sonatas. He is a founding board member of the Berkshire Bach Society.

Dr. Wallach is active as a keyboard player on harpsichord, organ, and piano, collaborating with Ronald Gorevic, Paul Green, the Avanti Wind Quintet, John Cheek, Daniel Stepner, Stephen Hammer, Lucy Bardo, Paul Green, Susanna Ogata, Allan Dean, Ronald Barron, the Berkshire Bach Society chorus, Crescendo, and Anne and Eva Legêne. He has organized and performed in a concert for the Bard Retrospective Festival for Charles Ives in 1996, for the Housatonic River Festival Concert in 2004, for the Boston Early Music Festival in 2009, and for a program of music for four harpsichords that was performed in Norfolk CT, Great Barrington, MA, Albany, NY and Hunter, NY in 2009 and 2010.

His compositions, primarily of chamber music, have been performed in New York, New England, Texas, California, and elsewhere. In 2020, his orchestral composition “Species of Motion” was recorded by the Janacek Philharmonic in the Czech Republic. He started writing music reviews for the Columbia College newspaper in 2009, for the Berkshire Review of the Arts, and is currently a music critic for “The Berkshire Edge.”

About Simon’s Rock

Bard College at Simon’s Rock is the only college in the country specifically designed for highly motivated students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon’s Rock offers a challenging program in the liberal arts and sciences, taught exclusively in small seminars by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their fields. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. The Princeton Review’s Best 380 Colleges rates academics at Simon’s Rock higher than Harvard and Princeton.

Bard Academy at Simon’s Rock is the nation’s first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. A student entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman will earn an Associate of Arts degree from Bard College at Simon’s Rock after only four years and a Bachelor of Arts degree after only six years. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by students’ future college professors who are leading scholars in their fields.

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