

//PRESS RELEASE



Cal Poly Pomona Music Department

3801 W. Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768
Phone: 909-869-3554 Fax: 909-869-4145
Website: <http://www.class.csupomona.edu/mu>

For Details, Contact:

Teresa Kelly, Music Department Publicist
Email: tkelly@csupomona.edu
Phone: 909-869-3554

For Release: April 16, 2014

Shpachenko and Friends Chamber Music Festival features an array of special guests and events

Page 1 of 5

The Spring 2014 Shpachenko & Friends Chamber Music Festival features an array of special guests artists who will perform in an evening concert and present two master classes and a composition workshop. Dr. Nadia Shpachenko, recognized across the globe for her solo and collaborative performances, proudly welcomes back to Cal Poly Pomona prize-winning guest artists Maia Jasper, violin and Marek Szpakiewicz, cello to perform with her on Tuesday, April 29th at 8:00pm in the Music Recital Hall.

"I am so happy to welcome back two wonderful guest artists - violinist Maia Jasper (Colburn School of Music, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra) and cellist Marek Szpakiewicz (Azusa Pacific University) with whom I will perform an exciting program of piano trios by Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Paul Schoenfield, spanning two centuries of brilliant chamber music.", says Dr. Shpachenko about the concert.

The festival will also feature two master classes. Distinguished guest artists Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers of The Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo will present a Piano Master Class on Monday, April 28th from 12-2:30pm in the Music Recital Hall and Maia Jasper, violin and Marek Szpakiewicz, cello will present a Chamber Music Master Class on Thursday, May 1st from 12-2:30pm in the Music Recital Hall. Both master classes are free and open to the public.

A Composition Workshop with award-winning guest composers Adam Schoenberg, James Matheson and Tom Flaherty will be presented on Monday, May 5th from 12:30-3:00pm in the Music Recital Hall. Discussion topics will include Music for Film, Technology and Music, Electronic and Electroacoustic Music, Music Outreach and more!

Concert with Maia Jasper, violin; Marek Szpakiewicz, cello; and Nadia Shpachenko, piano

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 - 8:00pm, Music Recital Hall.

Tickets are \$15 general/\$10 student, available at <http://csupomona.tix.com> or through the Publicity Office, 24-188

CONCERT PROGRAM

Beethoven's Piano Trio in D major, Op. 70, No. 1 "Ghost"

Schoenfield's Cafe Music for Violin, Cello and Piano

Mendelssohn's Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49

Piano Master Class with The Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo

Monday April 28, 2014 - 12:00-2:30pm, Music Recital Hall, Free

Chamber Music Master Class with Maia Jasper and Marek Szpakiewicz

Thursday, May 1, 2014 - 12:00-2:30pm, Music Recital Hall, Free

Composition Workshop with Adam Schoenberg, James Matheson and Tom Flaherty

Monday, May 5, 2014 - 12:30-3:00pm, Music Recital Hall, Free

Shpachenko and Friends Chamber Music Festival features an array of special guests and events

Page 2 of 5

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Hailed as a “ravishing” performer by the Los Angeles Times, violinist **MAIA JASPER** has appeared as soloist and chamber musician in France, Israel, Portugal, Canada, Turkey, the Netherlands and on both American coasts.

In 2003, she received her Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Musicology from Yale University, where she was awarded the Master’s Prize in Music Performance. During her junior year at Yale, she received a scholarship to study at the Paris Conservatory in France. She completed her Master’s degree as a fellowship student at USC’s Thornton School of Music in 2006.

An avid chamber musician, Maia is co-artistic director of the Salastina Music Society. Salastina is dedicated to presenting world-class performances of chamber music with broad audience appeal throughout Southern California. To date, several of Salastina’s performances have been broadcast nationally on American Public Media’s Performance Today. Maia has collaborated with such artists as the Ysaÿe Quartet and cellist Paul Katz. In 2008, she recorded early duos of Schoenberg with Los Angeles

Philharmonic concertmaster Martin Chalifour for Yarlung Records.

She is on faculty at the Colburn School of Performing Arts where she coaches chamber music.

In January 2010, Maia was appointed to the first violin section of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. She joined the first violin section of the Pacific Symphony in 2006. A former member of Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra, Maia also enjoys baroque performance practice, having led the violin section under the baton of Ton Koopman at Carnegie Hall.

Maia has been a prize-winner and finalist in several solo and chamber music competitions, including the Concert Artists Guild, National Federation of Music Clubs, Corpus Christi International, Carmel Music Society, Pasadena Showcase House and Chesapeake Chamber Music competitions.

She has participated in summer festivals such as the Keshet Eilon Violin Mastercourse, Juilliard Quartet Seminar, Music Academy of the West, International Holland Music Sessions, Banff Centre Quartet Residency, ENCORE School for Strings, and Great Lakes Chamber Music and Aspen festivals.

Maia has studied with Martin Chalifour, Gérard Poulet, Kyung Yu and Michelle Kim, among others. Other musical figures that have helped shape her approach as an artists include Itzhak Rashkovsky, Herman Krebbers, Kathleen Winkler, Paul Kantor and Robert Lipsett.

Polish-born cellist **MAREK SZPAKIEWICZ** has been described by Yo-Yo Ma as an artist whose “energy, motivation, earnestness and generosity of spirit are evident through his work.” Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Corigliano stated, “(Szpakiewicz’s) performance of my ‘Fancy on a Bach Air’ is absolutely gorgeous.”

Szpakiewicz gained rapid recognition in the United States when he won the 16th Mu Phi Epsilon International Competition in 2003. His work, as a soloist with various orchestras in Europe and in the United States, has drawn praise from critics, who have described him as “a gifted player,” “with expansive vision and immense authority,” and “no technical limitation.” Polish and American radio stations have broadcasted his live performances, including the one-hour special program dedicated solely to his music on KUSC-Los Angeles, the largest non-profit classical music station in the country. Strad Magazine comments on Szpakiewicz’s live recording of Ernest Bloch’s Schelomo as “remarkably accurate realisation of the score.”

He began cello lessons at the age of six in Lublin, Poland. In his early years, he studied with



Shpachenko and Friends Chamber Music Festival features an array of special guests and events

Page 3 of 5

Ryszard Losakiewicz and Stanislaw Firlej. He later studied with Stephen Kates at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. Szpakiewicz completed his doctorate degree under the tutelage of Eleonore Schoenfeld at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. He also studied with such distinguished cellists as Daniil Shafran, Lynn Harrell, and Siegfried Palm.

Szpakiewicz currently teaches cello and chamber music at Azusa Pacific University. His students have won top prizes at numerous international and national competitions, including International Cello Competition in Chile, the American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition, ASTA South Bay Competition, SYMF Young Cellist Concerto Competition, Bellflower Young Artist Competition, among others. In addition, his former students have been accepted by such schools as Juilliard School, Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University, New England Conservatory, Manhattan School of Music, and USC Thornton School of Music.

He has also contributed his talent to film orchestration as a collaborator with Polish composer Jan A.P. Kaczmarek. Among the scores he has worked on, the music for the critically acclaimed movie "Finding Neverland," received the 77th Academy Award for Best Original Score in 2005.

In 2008, Szpakiewicz earned permanent residency from the U.S. government as an "Extraordinary Ability Artist." The title means that he has "sustained national or international acclaim and the achievements have been recognized" in his field, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

In 2011, Szpakiewicz received recognition from Los Angeles County Supervisors Zev Yaroslavsky and Michael Antonovich for organizing a musical event to raise relief funds for the March 11 earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan, along with his Japanese-born wife Keiko Mori.

For more information, please visit www.szpakiewicz.com.

Pianist **NADIA SHPACHENKO-GOTTESMAN** has performed extensively in solo recitals and with orchestras in major venues across North America, Europe and Asia. Described by critics as a "truly inspiring and brilliant pianist...spellbinding in sensitivity and mastery of technique," she recently toured Mexico with Orquesta de Baja California, performed with the Kharkov Philharmonic, the Ukrainian National Symphony and the Ukrainian National Radio Symphony Orchestras in Ukraine and the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra in California. An enthusiastic promoter of contemporary music, she has given world and national premieres of dozens of piano, string piano and toy piano works by composers such as Elliott Carter, Henry Cowell, George Crumb, Tom Flaherty, Yury Ishchenko, Leon Kirchner, Dave Kopplin, James Matheson, Adam Schoenberg, Iannis Xenakis, Peter Yates, and others. As a distinguished chamber musician, Dr. Shpachenko has most recently collaborated with such renowned artists as Emanuel Borok, Martin Chalifour, Maja Jasper, David Korevaar, Genevieve Lee, Julie Landsman, Ronald Leonard, Jerome Lowenthal, Victor Rosenbaum, Marek Szpakiewicz, and the Biava String Quartet.



Dr. Shpachenko is currently Associate Professor of Music at the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Adjunct Professor of Music at the Claremont Graduate University, and piano faculty at the Montecito International Music Festival. In addition, she has recently served as visiting faculty at Pomona College, guest lecturer at the California Institute of the Arts, Artist in Residence at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and Associate Faculty at the Sarasota International Music Festival. Winner of many international piano competitions, Dr. Shpachenko frequently gives master classes in conservatories and universities in the United States and abroad. She completed her DMA and MM degrees at the University of Southern California, where she was awarded the title of Outstanding Graduate. Her principal teachers included John Perry, Victor Rosenbaum, and Victor Derevianko.

Please visit www.ullanta.com/nadia to learn more about Dr. Nadia Shpachenko and listen to some of her performances.

Shpachenko and Friends Chamber Music Festival features an array of special guests and events

Page 4 of 5



The **LOMAZOV/RACKERS PIANO DUO** garnered wide attention as the Second Prize Winners of the Sixth Biennial Ellis Duo Piano Competition, the only national competition for piano duo in the United States at that time. Since then, they have performed as recitalists and in concert with orchestras throughout the United States and Europe, including performances at the Kiev International Music Festival (Ukraine), Varna International Piano Festival (Bulgaria), Moulin d'Andé Arts Festival (France), Burgos International Music Festival (Spain) and Infiorata di Genzano (Italy) in addition to appearances in every region of the United States.

Lomazov and Rackers are Steinway Artists. Recent engagements include performances at the Society of Composers International Conference, the Chernigov Philharmonic (Ukraine), South Carolina Philharmonic, Piccolo Spoleto Festival and numerous others. Their performances have been described as “splendid” (Rochester, NY, WXXI radio), and a review of a performance of the Poulenc Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra said simply: “The soloists? Amazing” (The State).

The Lomazov/Rackers duo has premiered numerous works across the United States, including several works written specifically for them. Their broad repertoire ranges from important works by Bach, Brahms, Mozart and Schubert to wide-ranging performances of Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring and Petrushka, leading one critic to write that the duo “really lit up the audience...demonstrated that nearly 100 years after it was written, this modernist touchstone can still sound modern” (Free Times).

Praised as a “diva of the piano” (Salt Lake City Tribune), Marina Lomazov has performed throughout the United States, Europe, South America and China. She has won prizes in the Gina Bachauer, Cleveland, William Kapell and Hilton Head international piano competitions and was the first pianist to be awarded the Artist Diploma at the Eastman School of Music in nearly two decades. Praised for “unflappable virtuosity” (American Record Guide), Joseph Rackers has performed throughout the United States, Bulgaria, Canada, China, France, Germany, Spain and Ukraine at venues including the Shanghai and Sichuan Conservatories of Music (China), Dame Myra Hess Concert Series (Chicago), Banff Centre for the Arts (Canada), Yantai International Music Festival (China). He is the recipient of the prestigious Performer’s Certificate from the Eastman School of Music.

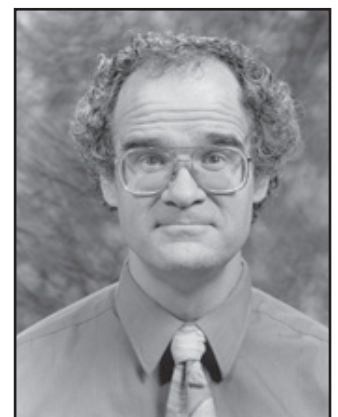
Ms. Lomazov and Mr. Rackers each hold the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Piano Performance from the Eastman School of Music and both serve on the piano faculty of the University of South Carolina School of Music where they co-direct the Southeastern Piano Festival.

ABOUT THE COMPOSERS

TOM FLAHERTY, composer (<http://tomflahertymusic.com>)

Tom Flaherty has received grants, prizes, awards, and residencies from the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, American Music Center, the Pasadena Arts Council, the Massachusetts Council for the Arts and Humanities, the Delius Society, the University of Southern California, Meet the Composer, and Yaddo. His music can be heard on the Bridge, Albany, Klavier, SEAMUS, Capstone, and Advance labels.

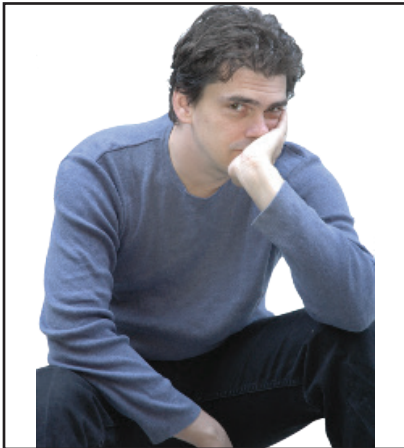
Published by American Composers Editions, G. Schirmer, Inc., and NCI Publications, his music has been performed throughout Europe and North America by such new music ensembles as Volti and Earplay in San Francisco, Dinosaur Annex in Boston, Speculum Musicae, and Odyssey Chamber Players in New York, Concorde in Dublin, Gallery Players in Toronto, XTET and Ensemble GREEN in Los Angeles; and by such performers as soprano Lucy Shelton, guitarists David Starobin, Peter Yates and Matthew Elgart, organist William Peterson, and pianists Genevieve Feiwen Lee, Susan Svrček, Charlotte Zelka,



Shpachenko and Friends Chamber Music Festival features an array of special guests and events

Nadia Shpachenko, Aron Kallay, Vickie Ray, and Karl and Margaret Kohn.

A member of Quartet Euphoria, he is currently John P. and Magdalena R. Dexter Professor of Music at Pomona College and is an active cellist in the Los Angeles area.



JAMES MATHESON, composer (www.jamesmatheson.com)

Brooklyn-based composer James Matheson (b. 1970) has rapidly emerged as one of the most distinctive, vital, and creative musical voices of his generation. Among his recent commissions are works for the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics, the Chicago and Albany Symphony Orchestras, Carnegie Hall and the Borromeo String Quartet. The American Academy of Arts and Letters honored him in December, 2011, with the Charles Ives Living, an award of \$100,000 a year for 2 years (2012-2014).

In September of 2009, James joined the Los Angeles Philharmonic as Director of the LAP's innovative Composer Fellowship Program. He is also Artistic Director of Neighborhood Classics at P.S. 142, a concert series that raises money for one of New York's most underserved schools through concerts aimed at promoting classical music in the local community.

In addition to the Ives Living, Matheson has received fellowships and awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Bogliasco and Sage Foundations, ASCAP, and the Robbins Prize. Published by Theodore Presser Company, Matheson has held residencies at Yaddo and the Liguria Study Center, and has been a fellow at the Aspen Music Festival and the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.

ADAM SCHOENBERG, composer (<http://adamschoenberg.com>)

Upon completing his Doctorate at The Juilliard School in 2010, Adam Schoenberg has received commissions from the Aspen Music Festival & School, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Kansas City Symphony, Lexington Philharmonic, and Los Angeles Philharmonic, to name a few.

Recently appointed the 2013/14 Composer-in-Residence of the Lexington Philharmonic, Schoenberg was the first Composer-in-Residence for the Kansas City Symphony under Michael Stern's tenure (2012/13 season). Additional residencies include the Atlanta School of Composers, Aspen Music Festival and School's M.O.R.E program, a position he has held since 2010, and the 2012 BMI Composer-in-Residence for the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University. He was a 2009 and 2010 MacDowell Fellow, and was the First Prize winner at the 2008 International Brass Chamber Music Festival for best Brass Quintet. In 2007, Schoenberg was awarded ASCAP's Morton Gould Young Composer Award, Juilliard's Palmer-Dixon Prize for Most Outstanding Composition, and a Meet the Composer Grant. He also received prizes from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, ASCAP and the Society for New Music.



A committed educator, Schoenberg is on faculty at UCLA where he teaches composition, orchestration, and theory. In 2012, Adam Schoenberg entered into a publishing agreement with Ricordi London (part of the Universal Music Publishing Classical group) as their first-ever American classical composer.