

NICHOLAS ROERICH MUSEUM

319 West 107th Street, New York NY 10025-2799 • tel: 212 864 7752 • fax: 212 864 7704 • email: director@roerich.org

Saturday, May 7, 2016, at 5 p.m.

Eric Umble, *clarinet* Erik Haasler, *cello* Sophie Xuefei Zhang, *piano*

PROGRAM

- Cello Sonata Claude Debussy (1862-1918)
- I. Prologue: Lent, sostenuto e molto risoluto
 - II. Sérénade: Modérément animé
 - III. Finale: Animé, léger et nerveux
- Fantasiestücke, Op.73 Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
- I. Zart und mit Ausdruck (Tender and with expression)
 - II. Lebhaft, leicht (Lively, light)
 - III. Rasch und mit Feuer (Quick and with fire)
- “Orion”, for cello and piano (1984) Toru Takemitsu (1930-1996)

INTERMISSION

- Clarinet Trio, Op.114 in A minor Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
- I. Allegro
 - II. Adagio
 - III. Andantino grazioso - Trio
 - IV. Allegro

Chinese-born Canadian pianist **Sophie Xuefei Zhang** has appeared on stage with Kim Kashkashian, Jean-Michel Fonteneau, Ian Swensen, Bonnie Hampton, as well as members of the Juilliard String Quartet, Ives String Quartet, Windscape, and Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society, among others. Sophie served as artist-in-residence with her piano duo, Duo Solis, at Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec for the 2012-2013 season, and as a member of ensemble-in-residence with Aleron Trio on San Francisco's Old First Concert Series for the 2014-2015 season. First-place winner of the national Canadian Music Competition, Sophie was also the winner of Felix Galimir Chamber Music Award in 2008 and was given full scholarship to attend the Chamber Music program at The Banff Centre. Concert appearances include venues such as Beijing Concert Hall, Bing Concert Hall at Stanford University, Carnegie Hall, Toronto Centre for the Arts, and Canadian Opera Company's Richard Bradshaw Theatre. Sophie has also been heard on Beijing Classical Music Radio Station FM97.4 and CBC Radio Soundstreams Canada. An active educator, Sophie has led masterclasses for the Alexander String Quartet at San Francisco State University and coached chamber ensembles from the Crowden School in Berkeley. She is currently on faculty at Turtle Bay Music School, and is a Freelance Lecturer at The Museum of Modern Art. Sophie obtained her Master's degree from Manhattan School of Music as a scholarship student of Solomon Mikowsky, and also holds an Artist Certificate in Chamber Music from San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Currently based in New York City, Sophie maintains a private teaching studio and takes great pleasure in nature, the art of living, and the writings of Anaïs Nin. She is co-founder and artistic director of Lex54 Concerts, and has been named an Osher Foundation Scholar. (zhangsophie.com)

Eric Umble is a New York City based clarinetist and a founding member of the sTem ensemble, a clarinet, soprano, and piano trio. Hailed as musical interpreters of “profundity and power...” (RuideroXXI, Mexico City), sTem champions the theatrical possibilities of vocal chamber music. Additionally, Eric has performed with renowned ensembles including the WindScape Quintet, American Modern Ensemble, LoftOpera, Tactus Ensemble, Contemporaneous, Rébow Ensemble, and Ensemble Mise-en. Eric has performed in the major concert halls of New York, from Carnegie’s Stern Auditorium to Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall. Dedicated to the idea of using music as a force for positive change, Eric produces benefit concerts that have raised thousands of dollars for public health, shelters, and disaster relief. He has received awards and honors including the Lancaster Red Rose Award for Community Service, Gordon Parks Memorial Competition, Skokie Valley Young Artist Competition, the Fuchs Chamber Music Competition, and the Naftzger Young Artist Competition. Internationally, Eric has presented recitals in Romania, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, France, and Mexico. Eric also performs frequently as a soloist with orchestras in New York City and across the United States. He is on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music Distance Learning Program, and has served as the clarinetist in residence at New Music on the Point in Vermont. Eric frequently presents masterclasses and recitals at the Escuela Nacional de Música in Mexico City. Eric received his Bachelor’s degree from the Manhattan School of Music, studying with David Krakauer, and is currently pursuing his Master’s degree at the Manhattan School under the instruction of Anthony McGill. (ericumble.com)

Born in 1985, **Erik Haasler** began his early studies at the String Academy in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and later studied with Dr. Stefan Kartman. He has attended the Mannes College of Music, Oberlin Conservatory, and San Francisco Conservatory as recipient of the Mannes Scholarship, Oberlin Dean’s Talent Award, and the Andrew Imbrie Chamber Music Scholarship for Contemporary Musical focus; studying principally with Paul Tobias, Darrett Adkins, and Jean-Michel Fonteneau respectively.

In San Francisco, Erik was honored to take part in the Shanghai Chamber Music Festival; and as representative at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, performing chamber works by Martin Smolka in the “Three Cities Marathon” celebration of musical Bohemia. He has performed in the Artist Residency fellowship program at the Banff Centre for the Arts as member of the Seurat Trio and in solo performance of works by George Crumb, Kaija Saariaho, and Zoltan Kodaly. He has had the privilege of public master-classes with cellists Timothy Eddy, Joel Krosnick, Norman Fischer, Steven Isserlis, and Bernard Greenhouse. Influenced by a diverse musical aesthetic, he has performed on baroque instruments in addition to a number of contemporary works utilizing altered tunings, improvisation, and timbral experimentation; on a number of occasions he has been pleased to offer advice and collaborate in performance with young composers. He has also taught private students and group cello class at the Bay Academy charter school in San Francisco; as an artist has cultivated a temperament informed by diverse reading and appreciation of the golden thread which connects the great masters to our modern age- upon whose shoulders we may humbly stand. Current plans: to focus more on personal composition. Erik resides in New York City.