

PORTLAND ROSSINI CLUB

149th Season

The Cathedral Church of St. Luke
Portland, Maine

3:00 PM
Sunday, March 8, 2020

President
Program Chair

Sydney Patten
Cecile DeRoche-Cain

Program

Two Settings of Poems by James Joyce
Down in the River to Pray
Esto Les Digo
Hold Me, Rock Me
On Children
You've Got a Friend

Rick Sowash
traditional, arranged by Matthew Culloton
Kinley Lange
Andrea Garcia, Emma Masse, Kai Myers
Brian Tate
Ysaye Barnwell
Carole King, arranged by David Vernier

The Iris Ensemble*
Maria Belva,** director
David Vernier,** piano

Prelude Op. 25 No. 10
Prelude Op. 25 No. 12
Années de Pèlerinage; Deuxième Année: Italie S. 161
Sposalizio

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
Jonathan Perdey Prak,** piano

Sonata for Violoncello and Piano, Op. 65
Allegro moderato
Scherzo
Largo
Finale. Allegro

Frédéric Chopin
Marcy Rosen,** cello
Diane Walsh, piano

*The Iris Ensemble: Kaylin Brown, Elowen Brunton, Caitlin Bryant, Alexandra Buterbaugh, Amelia Connor-McCoy, Caroline Fallona, Andrea Garcia, India Jenkins, Eden Johnson, Nora Lane, Addison Littlefield, Emma Masse, Elizabeth Morrison, Leah Moss, Kai Myers, Elena Parr, Riley Small, Amelia Thaxter, Lauren Tosi

**Guest

*We request that the audience reserve its applause until the end of each performance
Please join us for a reception following the program
Our next program will take place here Sunday, April 19, 2020
Many thanks to St. Luke's Cathedral for the use of their facilities for our programs*

Today's Performers

The **Girl Singers of Maine** is the performance-based music education program for girls in the greater Portland area. Founded by director Maria Belva in the Fall of 2018 at the Portland Conservatory of Music, GSOM offers excellence in choral music in three different choirs: Skylarks, grades 2-4; Bella Canta, grades 5-8; and Iris Ensemble, grades 9-12.

Iris Ensemble meets for one and one-half hours on Monday evenings throughout the school year and is accompanied by David Vernier. These singers must be self-motivated, responsible individuals with a desire to grow and develop as musicians. Our repertoire comes from the finest written for women's voices and includes sacred and secular; medieval to modern; classical, folk, gospel, and non-traditional modern tunes. Members of Iris Ensemble are very active in school and community events, including sports, theater, and various musical organizations, and devote time to community service. The Iris Ensemble is traveling on a concert tour of Italy in April of this year. These young women have worked very hard to raise money for the trip and for their concert dresses that you see today.

Auditions for the Iris Ensemble will take place in June. Contact the director if you know someone who would like to be a part of this amazing choir. Email her at mariabelva@gmail.com

Maria Belva, director: Maria Belva recently moved to Portland from Peterborough, New Hampshire, where she founded and directed the Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs for 20 years. Maria brings over 25 years of experience as a choral conductor and youth educator and hopes to continue her tradition of founding choirs that thrive far into the future here in Maine. Maria has a BA in Psychology and Education from SUNY Potsdam and a Master of Music in choral conducting from University of Maine, Orono.

Jonathan Perdey Prak, piano: Jonathan, from Saco, ME, is a piano performance major at the University of Southern Maine School of Music and is currently studying with Dr. Laura Kargul. He was the featured solo pianist in the 2014 Annual USM Scholarship Gala. Jonathan is a recipient of the Bob Crewe Foundation Award, the Chester Cook Scholarship, and the Newell A. Auger Scholarship. He was a winner of the Anne Gannett Scholarship, sponsored by the Maine Federation of Music Clubs in 2015. He was a second prize winner of the Lucia A. Wright Piano Scholarship, sponsored by the Portland Rossini Club, in 2016 and 2017. Jonathan was awarded the Brian McGorill Memorial Scholarship in 2018. While he was living in Nantes, France, he wrote a piece called *Colette*, which was dedicated to his late piano teacher, Colette Kelly. Jonathan studied with Dr. Daniel Sonenberg and composed a piece called the *Kargul Variations*.

Marcy Rosen, cello: Marcy Rosen has performed in recital and with orchestra throughout Canada, England, France, Japan, Italy, Switzerland, and all fifty of the United States. She made her concert debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the age of eighteen and has since appeared with such noted orchestras as the Dallas Symphony, the Phoenix Symphony, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra in Carnegie Hall, and the Tokyo Symphony at the famed Orchard Hall in Tokyo. She was a founding member of the Mendelssohn Quartet, which toured internationally for 31 years, and she is a founding member of the La Fenice Quintet (oboe, string trio and piano) which will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year. In recent seasons she has given Master Classes and appeared on stage in Beijing and Shanghai in China, the Seoul Arts Center in Korea and in Cartagena, Colombia. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music. Ms. Rosen is currently Professor of Cello at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College and on the Faculty at the Mannes College of Music in New York City. Her performances can be heard on recordings from the BIS, Bridge, Deutsche Grammophon, Sony Classical, CBS Masterworks, Musical Heritage Society, Phillips, Nonesuch, Pro Arte, and Koch labels.

Diane Walsh, piano: The award-winning Steinway Artist Diane Walsh has given solo and chamber music concerts in major venues in the United States, Canada, South America, Europe, Russia, China and New Zealand. Diane has appeared with the San Francisco, Indianapolis, Austin, Rochester, American, Delaware, Springfield and New Bedford symphonies, Orpheus and St. Luke's chamber orchestras, and the Munich, Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Berlin radio symphonies. She was soloist with the Portland Symphony in 2017 and 2019, and was a guest artist at the Portland Chamber Music Festival in 2017 and 2018. She led the Skaneateles (N.Y.) Festival as Artistic Director from 1999 to 2004. Ms. Walsh has performed Beethoven's *Variations on a Waltz of Diabelli* well over 200 times in the Broadway production of *33 Variations*, a play by Moisés Kaufman starring Jane Fonda, and in three other productions in Washington, La Jolla and Los Angeles. A frequent chamber music partner, she is a member of the La Fenice Quintet and the Walsh-Drucker-Cooper Trio, and has appeared at many summer festivals, including Bard, Marlboro, Chesapeake and Santa Fe. She has released eighteen recordings of repertoire ranging from Bach to Corigliano. Ms. Walsh was an Associate Professor at Mannes College of Music in New York City for 32 years, and in 2015 was a Visiting Artist at Colby College. She lives in Scarborough with her husband, the writer Richard Pollak. She became a member of Portland Rossini Club in 2016.