

PORTLAND ROSSINI CLUB

150th Season – Virtual Concert

Sunday, April 11, 2021, at 4:00 pm

President
Program Chair

Sydney Patten
Cecile DeRoche-Cain

Program

Lyric Quartette

William Grant Still (1895-1973)

The Sentimental One

The Quiet One

The Jovial One

Eleanor Lehmann and Michael Rackliff, *violins*

Susanna Adams, *viola*

Mathew Nichols, *cello*

Trio in B flat major, Op. 274

Carl Reinecke (1824-1910)

Allegro

Märchen (Tale)

Scherzo , Trio I, Trio II

Steve Schiffman, *clarinet*

Seth Blank, *horn*

Mark Braun, *piano*

The *Lyric Quartette* was recorded on January 13, 2021 by Kim Lehmann.
The *Trio* was recorded on January 13, 2019 by Dale Ashby, Videographer for the Portland Rossini Club.

Today's Performers

Susanna Adams, viola: Susanna made the switch from violin to viola in 1999. She is a graduate of Smith College and holds masters degrees from Harvard and Berkeley. She obtained a B.S. in Music Education from U.S.M. in 1997. She is a member of Maineblend, the Woodfords choir, ChoralArt Masterworks Chorus, and the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra where she plays viola. She is co-chair of the Advisory Council of the Portland Conservatory of Music. Susanna has been a member of Rossini Club since 2009 and currently serves as Secretary of the Executive Board.

Seth Blank, horn: Seth has played horn since elementary school in New York. He participated in a wide variety of symphonic, opera, chamber and solo work while attending Boston University for both undergraduate and Medical School. Since settling in Maine in 1992, he has played with the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra, the Maine State Ballet Orchestra and the Centennial Brass Band and substitutes in the Midcoast Symphony Orchestra. Seth is a physician in the Portland area and has been a member of Rossini Club since 2004.

Mark Braun, piano: Mark grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota, moved to Chicago at age 28 and arrived here in Maine on the winds of the blizzard of '96. He has been an active member of both the Marston-Kotzschmar Club and the Portland Rossini Club since 1996. In past years, he has played a variety of music, has performed solo, four-hand and eight-hand compositions, and chamber music, including works for French horn and piano, trios for piano, French horn, and violin, as well as works for voice and piano. He likes to write his own program notes, finding that the process helps him to better understand and interpret the musical works he's performing. He serves on the Board of the Portland Conservatory of Music. In his professional life, he is an internist and geriatrician in solo practice in Scarborough.

Eleanor Lehmann, violin: Eleanor began her musical studies at age five, on violin, at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She received a degree in music education and performance from San Francisco State University in 1963. She taught public school music in San Francisco for a year before moving to Mexico where she was a violin and viola teacher at the Conservatorio Nacional de Mexico. She also performed with many of the professional orchestras in and around Mexico City. After living for a time in Holland, she returned to California in 1986, where she continued her music education studies at the University of the Pacific in Stockton and played viola with the San Rafael, Merced, Modesto and Stockton symphonies, then taught at the Merced City School District. In 2003, she moved to Maine where she continues to teach both violin and viola in her studio and at the Portland Conservatory of Music. In 2007, she initiated violin classes at USM, Portland, for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. She is an active member of both the Portland Rossini and Marston-Kotzschmar music clubs of Portland, Maine.

Mathew Nichols, cello: A versatile and multifaceted musician, Mathew avidly performs both new music and the standard repertoire; he has premiered works by composers Kyle Grimm, Jonathan Schmieding, and Michael Albaine, among others. Mathew is equally at home performing with orchestras or chamber groups of varied instrumentations. In addition to his performing career, Mathew maintains an active teaching schedule. Mathew received his B.M. degree in cello performance from the University of Connecticut, studying with Katie Schlaikjer and Michael Nicolas. He received his M.M. degree in cello performance from the University of Hartford, where he studied with Mihai Tetel and Andrew Mark. Mathew lives in Portland and became a Rossini Club member in 2017.

Michaele Rackliff, violin: Michaele grew up in Littleton, ME and started studying violin at the age of 13. She progressed quickly and became one of her teacher's top students performing in All State two years in a row shortly after starting her lessons. Knowing music was a very important part of her life, she would go on to receive a bachelor's in music education at the University of Southern Maine studying under Ferdinand Liva. While at the university, she was introduced to the Rossini Club by a member and took the job of Stage Manager in our 2008-2009 season and has been doing it ever since. She is not currently teaching, but music continues to be an important part of her life.

Stephen Schiffman, clarinet: Prior to moving to Portland, Stephen Schiffman, emeritus faculty member at Babson College and the F.W. Olin College of Engineering, lived in Boston for 30 years and played with various ensembles and chamber music groups there. He has been playing the clarinet for over 55 years and his teachers have included Sherman Friedland, Julie Vaverka and Thomas Hill. Also a member of the Marston-Kotzschmar Club, he joined Rossini Club in 2015.