

PORTLAND ROSSINI CLUB

151st Season

Portland Conservatory of Music
Portland, Maine

3:00 PM
Sunday, February 27, 2022

President
Program Chair

Sydney Patten
Susanna Adams

Program

Lyric Quartette

William Grant Still (1895 – 1978)

The Sentimental One

The Quiet One

The Jovial One

Eleanor Lehmann, violin; Betsy Hooper,* violin;
Susanna Adams, viola; Katherine Berry,* cello

Danza de la Moza Donosa

Alberto Ginastera (1916 – 1983)

Nocturne No. 20 in C sharp Minor

Frédéric Chopin (1810 – 1849)

Sydney Patten, piano

Dances in the Canebrakes

Florence Price (1887 – 1953)

Nimble Feet

Tropical Noon

Silk Hat and Walking Cane.

Mark Braun, piano

Concert attendees must remain masked throughout the concert

We request that the audience reserve its applause until the end of each performance

Our next program will take place at St. Luke's Cathedral on Sunday, March 27

Many thanks to Portland Conservatory for the use of their facilities for this program

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, 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 Program Chair.

Katherine Berry, cello: At the age of ten, Katherine began studying with the late Katherine Hatch Graffam, Rossini Club member and principal cellist of the Portland Symphony Orchestra. When she was 16 she played with the Portland Symphony Orchestra under Arthur Lipkin and Paul Vermel. She graduated from The Northern Conservatory of Music in Bangor in 1971. While attending college she played in the Bangor Symphony with Peter Re. She studied cello with Marian Heller of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, who was cellist with the now well known Portland String Quartet. A resident of Portland, she currently plays in the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra under Robert Lehmann. She enjoys playing cello and playing basketball with her 3 grandchildren.

Mark Braun, piano: Mark grew up in Minneapolis, MN, 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, including solo, four-hand and eight-hand piano compositions, and chamber music, including works for French horn and piano, clarinet and piano, trios for piano, French horn, and violin or clarinet, as well as works for voice and piano. He writes 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.

Betsy Hooper, violin: Music has always been an essential avocation for Betsy. As a young child, Betsy began violin lessons with her mother. Her first orchestral experience was with the Vermont Youth Orchestra under Peter Brown. Later she attended Interlochen Arts Academy where she studied with Rosemary Malocsay. As an Engineering student at Duke University she studied violin under Giorgio Ciompi, and followed up as a grad student at UC Berkeley studying under Felix Khuner. Following a several decade digression into traditional fiddle music – Scottish, Irish, and Swedish – she returned to her classical roots, playing with the Manassas Symphony Orchestra in Virginia under James Villani. Recently come to Maine and living in Gorham, she currently plays with the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra under Robert Lehmann with whom she also takes the occasional violin lesson.

Eleanor Lehmann, violin: Eleanor began her musical studies on violin at the age of 5 with John M. Ray in San Francisco, California. She then attended the San Francisco Conservatory of Music where she studied with Jack O'Brian (Griller String Quartet) and Marion Ford. In 1963, she received a degree in music education and performance from San Francisco State University and joined the teaching force for the public school system of San Francisco as a music teacher for one year. Shortly thereafter, she and her husband were offered an opportunity to move to Mexico City where she taught violin/viola at the Conservatorio Nacional de Mexico and performed with many of the professional orchestras of the region. In 1975, she along with her family spent a year living in Holland where she was active in the musical community of Nijmegen as violist in chamber orchestras and as soloist. In 1986, she returned to California where she took music education classes at the University of Pacific in Stockton and played the viola in the Merced, Modesto and Stockton Symphonies before entering the teaching force for the Merced City School District. In 2003, she moved to Maine and began teaching 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. Today, she is an active member of both the Portland Rossini and Marston-Kotzschmar Music Clubs of Portland, and served as President for both.

Sydney Patten, piano: Sydney began studying piano at the age of six to please her mother. She very quickly fell in love with the instrument and with classical music. At Skidmore College, she minored in music with a concentration in piano performance. She began to compose music secretly never sharing any of her compositions until she had graduated from college. While living on the North Shore of Massachusetts, she began composing music inspired by birds at Crane's Beach. During that time, she served as the Vice President of the American Women Composers. Sydney lives with her husband, Bill Patten and their dog, Patapouf in Falmouth Foreside, Maine. Other interests include skiing, gardening, anything to do with France (from whence she recently moved). She has been associated with the Royaumont Abbey for many years where she now organizes master classes in a variety of disciplines. She is currently President of Rossini Club.