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**THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER  
DAVID FINCKEL AND WU HAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS  
PRESENTS**

**47<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON OPENING  
OCTOBER 18, 2016  
ALICE TULLY HALL**

*TRAVELS WITH MENDELSSOHN*

**WORKS BY HAYDN, MENDELSSOHN, SCHUBERT,  
PALESTRINA, & RAVEL**

**WITH  
SOPRANO LISETTE OROPESA,  
PIANISTS MICHAEL BROWN & GILBERT KALISH,  
VIOLINISTS ERIN KEEFE & DANBI UM,  
VIOLIST RICHARD O'NEILL,  
CELLISTS DAVID FINCKEL & MIHAI MARICA,  
FLUTIST TARA HELEN O'CONNOR, &  
CLARINETIST DAVID SHIFRIN**

**CONCERT PROGRAM INCLUDES PRESENTATION OF  
THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER  
AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE TO CHAMBER MUSIC TO  
SOUTH MOUNTAIN CONCERTS**



The opening concert of the 2016-2017 season of the Chamber Music Society will be presented on Tuesday, October 18, at 7:30 PM in Alice Tully Hall. The celebratory evening features a sensational gathering of artists and a diverse and engaging program. The performers include guest artist soprano Lisette Oropesa in her CMS debut, pianists Michael Brown and Gilbert Kalish, violinists Erin Keefe and Danbi Um, violist Richard O'Neill, cellists David Finckel and Mihai Marica, flutist Tara Helen O'Connor, and clarinetist David Shifrin. [Photo: Lisette Oropesa.]

*Travels with Mendelssohn* inaugurates a story line that runs throughout the entire season: Europe's legendary "Grand Tour," a multi-country journey that privileged young men of age took during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in search of education and enlightenment. Perhaps no "Grand Tour" by a composer is more celebrated and well-documented than that of Felix Mendelssohn, the great German Romantic who left home for a three year tour at the age of 20. With this first concert, CMS offers a musical overview of his visits to Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Italy, and France.

The program begins with a work Haydn composed in London, his humorous "Surprise" Symphony in a version for chamber ensemble, followed by works from Germany and Austria. The acclaimed soprano Lisette Oropesa performs selected songs from Mendelssohn's Opp. 34 and 57, followed by Schubert's lyric yet dazzling "Shepherd on the Rock," with clarinetist David Shifrin. Italy is the next stop, represented by a string quartet setting of Palestrina's sublime "Sanctus" from *Missa Aeterna Christi Munera* for Four Voices. The journey culminates in the exotic colors of France with Ravel's masterful Trio in A minor for Piano, Violin, and Cello.

Adding to the excitement of the 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary season opening will be the presentation of the fourth Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Award for Extraordinary Service to Chamber Music to South Mountain Concerts in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. About the selection of this year's recipient, David Finckel and Wu Han commented:

It gives us great satisfaction to recognize, through this award, an historic American institution that has served as a lasting example of the finest in chamber music presentation. With great simplicity and purity of purpose, South Mountain Concerts has always put quality first, focusing its listeners on the music for the music's sake alone. This jewel of a chamber music series should be celebrated, emulated and supported for its unassailable ethics and proven sustainability. CMS tips its hat to South

Mountain Concerts with gratitude for the inspiration it provides us and the rest of the classical music world.

**The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Award for  
Extraordinary Service to Chamber Music**

Throughout its centuries-long history chamber music has been strengthened, broadened and propagated by individuals and institutions dedicated to the art form. Some of them have significantly changed the landscape of chamber music through their passionate commitment and exceptional vision. The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center has created an award which recognizes those contributors, celebrates their achievements, and expresses gratitude for their service. Recipients of the award are chosen by the Society's artistic department and may be from a wide variety of fields connected to chamber music. The award was previously presented to pianist Menahem Pressler in 2013, CMS founding director Charles Wadsworth in 2014, and Marlboro Music in 2015. There is no set schedule for the awards.

**About South Mountain Concerts:**

Through the vision and generosity of the American patron of music, Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge (1864-1953), the Berkshire Festival of Chamber Music was founded in 1918. The South Mountain property was purchased in 1916 as a gift to her son, Albert Sprague Coolidge, whose boyhood dream was to own a mountain. Two years later Mrs. Coolidge built a new summer home and studio for herself on part of the property, and also built the "Temple of Music," the present concert hall. The hall, seating 440 and now listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings, was specifically designed for chamber music concerts and built in a colonial style using timber from an old textile mill.

Mrs. Coolidge, an accomplished amateur pianist and composer, gave important commissions to composers of eminence and promise. Several composers had new works commissioned by and dedicated to Mrs. Coolidge that were premiered at South Mountain, including Ernest Bloch, Frank Bridge, Alfredo Casella, Roy Harris, Francesco Malipiero, Bohuslav Martinů, Ottorino Respighi, Wallingford Riegger, Carlos Salzedo, Arnold Schoenberg, Leo Sowerby, Ernst Toch, and Anton Webern. Recent commissions have gone to James Willey, Paul Epstein, Ned Rorem, Ezra Laderman, Joan Tower, and Ronald Perera. Internationally distinguished artists who have appeared at South Mountain include Samuel Barber, Leonard Bernstein, Gary Graffman, Menahem Pressler, Leontyne Price, Alexander Schneider, Peter Serkin, Rudolf Serkin, Philip Setzer, the Beaux Arts Trio, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio, as well as the Borromeo, Brentano, Cleveland, Emerson, Guarneri, Juilliard, Muir, Saint Lawrence, Saint Petersburg, Takács, Tokyo, and Vermeer string quartets.

As South Mountain approaches its 100th anniversary in 2018, the institution maintains its distinguished musical traditions under the guidance of Executive Director Lou Steigler, who has led South Mountain Concerts since 1980.

**LISTING INFORMATION:**

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center at Alice Tully Hall

Tuesday, October 18, 7:30 PM

Tickets from \$32 available at the box office; by calling 212.875.5788;

on-line: [www.ChamberMusicSociety.org](http://www.ChamberMusicSociety.org)

**TRAVELS WITH MENDELSSOHN**

Lisette Oropesa, soprano; Michael Brown, Gilbert Kalish, piano; Erin Keefe, Danbi Um, violin; Richard O'Neill, viola; David Finckel, Mihai Marica, cello; Tara Helen O'Connor, flute; David Shifrin, clarinet

HAYDN	Symphony in G major for Piano, Flute, Two Violins, Viola, and Cello, Hob. 1:94, "Surprise" (1791)
MENDELSSOHN	Selected Songs for Soprano and Piano, Opp. 34 and 57 (1835-41)
SCHUBERT	"Der Hirt auf dem Felsen" for Soprano, Clarinet, and Piano D. 965, Op. 129 (1828)
PALESTRINA	"Sanctus" from <i>Missa Aeterna Christi Munera</i> for Four Voices (1590)
RAVEL	Trio in A minor for Piano, Violin, and Cello (1914)

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