

Sunday Afternoon, March 22, 2015, at 2:00

3,418th Concert

# Meet the Music! Inspector Pulse Pops a String

BRUCE ADOLPHE, Inspector Pulse
AMPHION STRING QUARTET
KATIE HYUN, violin
DAVID SOUTHORN, violin
WEI-YANG ANDY LIN, viola
MIHAI MARICA, cello

<b>BÉLA BARTÓK</b> (1881-1945)	Quartet No. 4 for Strings, Sz. 91, BB 95 (1928) Allegretto pizzicato
FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN (1732-1809)	Quartet in E-flat major for Strings, Hob. III:38, Op. 33, No. 2, "The Joke" (1781) Finale: Presto
LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)	Quartet in B-flat major for Strings, Op. 130 (1825–26) Cavatina: Adagio molto espressivo
BRUCE ADOLPHE/ INSPECTOR PULSE (b. 1955)	String Thing for Quartet
BEETHOVEN	Quartet in F major for Strings, Op. 59, No. 1, "Razumovsky" (1806)

This afternoon's *Instrument Petting Zoo* was made possible by the generosity of **Tulsa Violin Shop** and **Main Violin Shop**.

Theme russe: Allegro

Please turn off cell phones, beepers, and other electronic devices. Photographing, sound recording, or videotaping this performance is prohibited.

The Chamber Music Society's education and outreach programs are made possible, in part, with support from the Achelis and Bodman Foundations, Colburn Foundation, Consolidated Edison Company, Hearst Fund, The Frank and Helen Hermann Foundation, Alice Ilchman Fund, Newman's Own Foundation, Daniel and Joanna S. Rose Fund, Tiger Baron Foundation, The Helen F. Whitaker Fund, and The Winston Foundation. Public funds are provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

The Chamber Music Society acknowledges with sincere appreciation  ${\bf Ms.}$  Tali  ${\bf Mahanor}$ 's generous long-term loan of the Hamburg Steinway & Sons model "D" concert grand piano.

ALICE TULLY HALL, STARR THEATER, ADRIENNE ARSHT STAGE
HOME OF THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER



# A NOTE FROM INSPECTOR PULSE

Some people say I'm high strung, but the day I popped a string in my piano I realized that pianos are much more highly strung than any human could possibly be. Did you know that there are 230 strings in a grand piano? I never even realized there were any strings at all inside a piano until one day I opened the lid to look in there for a cheese sandwich I had misplaced. The sandwich wasn't there, but wow there were a lot of strings in there! I counted them and it took me so long that I was even hungrier than when I opened the lid. I found the sandwich later in my banjo case.

Of course, those piano strings are not like the strings you use to tie up a package. They are similar to the strings on a violin, viola, cello, bass, guitar, banjo, mandolin, or saxophone. Wait! Forget saxophone, because I don't think there are any strings on a saxophone.

But these piano "strings" are really *wires*. A piano is definitely not a wireless device like a cell phone. These wires are made from tempered high-carbon steel. You can use them to cut cheese, but it is more interesting to listen to a Beethoven sonata. But you can't eat a Beethoven sonata. However, a Beethoven sonata is better for you than sliced cheese. Of course, had I found my cheese sandwich inside the piano, I could have used the piano strings (or wire) to cut the cheese into thinner slices *and* played a Beethoven sonata.

I am interested in all sorts of strings, and so I am going to study some other string instruments, including violin and cello. I already play the banjo (my cousin Billy-Bob Pulse taught me how) and my banjo has five strings, which is one more than a violin or cello has. So violin and cello should be one string easier to play.

Of course, my piano has 230 strings so I should be able to play a four-stringed instrument easily. Well, I recently started taking violin and cello lessons, and I soon discovered that I would need to *practice a lot* to play the violin or cello! But practicing is actually the most fun thing in the world, after slicing cheese with piano wire.

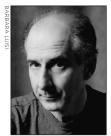
And what about being expressive and musical on a string? I know you can put your finger down on a string in different places and get different musical sounds, but I am determined to figure out how to make strings sound expressive—sweet, ferocious, timid, nervous, happy, sad—that sort of expressive!

Well, I suppose that takes practice, too. And I will practice! But first, my cheese sandwich calls.

Inspector Pulse

# THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS



When he was a child **Bruce Adolphe** watched both Victor Borge and Leonard Bernstein on television, and after seeing them, he began "playing piano" on the breakfast table and cracking jokes with a Danish accent. Having no choice, his parents bought him a toy piano, at which Bruce pretended to be Schroeder of the *Peanuts* cartoons. Soon after the toy piano was pecked apart by the family parakeet, Bruce's parents purchased a real piano and a larger bird. By age ten, Bruce was composing music, and no one has been able to stop him since. As a "tween," Bruce studied piano, clarinet, guitar, bass, and—as a teen—

the bassoon. All this time, he wrote music and improvised accompaniments to everything that happened around him, as if life were a movie in need of a score. His favorite summers were spent at the Kinhaven Music School and he loved his Saturdays at The Juilliard School's Pre-College Division. Today, Bruce spends his time composing chamber music, playing the piano, and performing in concerts for people like you. He lives right around the corner on the Upper West Side with his wife, pianist Marija, his daughter Katja, and his opera-andjazz-singing parrot PollyRhythm, the same bird he has had since he was 10 years old. Bruce performs weekly on public radio's Performance Today, playing his Piano Puzzlers (familiar tunes in the styles of the great masters) and you can catch that show on WQXR or on iTunes, or as a podcast from American Public Media. Many great musicians have performed Bruce's music, including Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, the Brentano Quartet, and over 60 symphony orchestras around the world, and of course lots of amazing players right here at The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, where Bruce has been making music since 1992. If you want to check out Bruce's CDs and educational pieces for all ages, please visit the website of The Learning Maestros. You might enjoy his book The Mind's Ear: Exercises for Improving the Musical Imagination, published in 2013 by Oxford University Press.



AMPHION STRING QUARTET (L-R): DAVID SOUTHORN, KATIE HYUN, MIHAI MARICA, WEI-YANG ANDY LIN

The members of the Amphion String Quartet come from all over the world, as far east as Romania and Taiwan, and as close as right here in the United States. They first got together to play Bartók's First String Quartet at Katie's graduation recital in 2009 at the Yale School of Music. Since then they won a few competitions and joined Concert Artists Guild and the Chamber Music Society's CMS Two program. They've enjoyed traveling around the globe to Korea and making a recording in England. They've flown all over the United States and have played in Texas, California, Oregon, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, and many, many other states! While they enjoy performing for audiences everywhere, they especially love playing for audiences like this one at home in New York City. Katie and David enjoy taking turns playing first violin. They decide who plays first violin by arm wrestling, and Katie wins a lot!

# JOIN US FOR THE NEXT MEET THE MUSIC!

INSPECTOR PULSE LEARNS TO REED

Sunday, April 26, 2015, 2:00 pm • Alice Tully Hall Featuring music of Debussy, Britten, Carter, and more



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