



## **Curtis on Tour**

### **May 2019**

The Nina von Maltzahn global touring initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music

#### **ARTISTS**

**Dennis Chmelensky, baritone**

**Pamela Frank, violin**

**Chase Park, cello**

**Mikael Eliassen, piano**

#### **PROGRAM**

Ludwig van BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

*"Farewell Thou Noisy Town"* from Welsh Songs, WoO 155

*"Wer solche Buema afipackt"* from Songs of Various Nationalities, WoO 158a

*"The kiss, dear maid, thy lip has left"* from Irish Songs, WoO 153

*"What Shall I do to shew how much I love her?,"* from Irish Songs, WoO152

Performed by

Dennis Chmelensky, baritone, Pamela Frank, violin, Chase Park, cello, Mikael Eliassen, piano

Maurice RAVEL (1875–1937)

*Sonata for Violin and Cello* Allegro, Très vif, Lent, Vif, avec entrain

Performed by Pamela Frank, violin and Chase Park, cello

Franz SCHUBERT (1797–1828)

*"Willkommen und Abschied,"* D. 767; *"Der Wanderer,"* D. 649; *"An Emma,"* D. 113;

*"Auf der Bruck,"* D. 853

Performed by Dennis Chmelensky, baritone and Mikael Eliassen, piano

Ned ROREM (\*1923)

*Aftermath* The Drum, Tygers of Wrath, The Fury of the Aerial Bombardment, The Park, Sonnet  
LXIV, On His Seventy-Fifth Birthday, Grief, Remorse for Any Death, Losses, Then

Performed by

Dennis Chmelensky, baritone, Pamela Frank, violin, Chase Park, cello, Mikael Eliassen, piano



## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

### **Dennis Chmelensky, baritone**

Dennis Chmelensky, from Berlin, Germany, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2013 and studies in the opera program with Marlena Kleinman Malas. All students at Curtis receive merit-based, full-tuition scholarships, and Mr. Chmelensky is the Guna S. Mundheim Annual Fellow.

A baritone, Mr. Chmelensky performed over the past two seasons as a soloist with Curtis on Tour, singing Hugo Wolf's *Italienisches Liederbuch* with soprano Ashley Robillard and pianist Mikael Eliassen. Other recent highlights include performances of Mahler's *Rückert-Lieder* and *Kindertotenlieder* with musicians of the National Symphony Orchestra. Since making his debut with *Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester* and *Staatskapelle Berlin* as a boy soprano, Mr. Chmelensky has appeared with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra, Sing-Akademie zu Berlin, Lautten Compagnie Berlin, and Rundfunkchor Berlin, among others.

Mr. Chmelensky is the recipient of many awards, including a bursary from the Opera Awards Foundation (2019), and scholarships from Bürgerstiftung Siegen (2018), the Gerda Lissner Foundation (2016), and the Richard Wagner Society in Berlin (2013). His debut album *DENNIS* was released by Sony in 2009.

Mr. Chmelensky's roles for the Curtis Opera Theatre include *Don Giovanni* (*Don Giovanni*), *Pirelli* (*Sweeney Todd*), *Trio* (*Trouble in Tahiti*), *Mr. Gobineau* (*The Medium*), *Junior* (*A Quiet Place*), *Golaud* (*Impressions of Pelléas*), *Périchaud* (*La rondine*), *Junius* (*The Rape of Lucretia*), *Clock* (*L'Enfant et les sortilèges*), and *Schaunard* (*La bohème*). Also for the Curtis Opera Theatre, he sang the role of Paul in the 2015 world premiere of *Empty the House*, an opera by composer Rene Orth and Pulitzer Prize-winning librettist Mark Campbell, and reprises the role in 2019. Other roles include *Papageno* (*Die Zauberflöte*) for the Chautauqua Institution, among others.

Mr. Chmelensky previously attended the Universität der Künste Berlin, studying voice and conducting. He enjoys watching films and running, and has also acted in movies.

### **Mikael Eliassen, piano**

Danish-born coach and accompanist Mikael Eliassen received his early training in Copenhagen, Montreal, and Vienna. He has collaborated with numerous singers in recital worldwide, including Robert Merrill, Tom Krause, John Shirley-Quirk, Elly Ameling, Edith Mathis, Florence Quivar, Mira Zakai, Sarah Walker, Joan Patenaude-Yarnell, and Curtis alumni Theodor Uppman, Michael Schade, and Rinat Shaham.

Mr. Eliassen has given master classes at Aix-en-Provence, the Shanghai Conservatory, Tchaikovsky Conservatory (Moscow), Jerusalem Music Center, and National Opera of Prague. He has a long association with the young-artist programs at the Royal Danish Opera and the Opera Studio of



Amsterdam. In the United States, he works regularly at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, LA Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera; and is artistic advisor to Opera Philadelphia. He has recorded for Albany Records, CBC, Hilversum Radio, Polish State Radio, Kol Israel, Irish Radio and Television, London Records, MHS, and Supraphon.

Mr. Eliassen was music director of the San Francisco Opera Center from 1994 to 1996 and artistic director of the European Center for Opera and Vocal Art in Belgium from 1984 to 1994. For twenty summers he has taught with the Chautauqua's Institution Voice Department. In 2013 he was appointed artistic adviser to Opera Philadelphia. Each summer he leads the Mikael Eliassen Voice Program as part of Curtis Summerfest.

Mr. Eliassen joined the faculty of the Curtis Institute of Music in 1986 and became the head of the department in 1988.

### **Pamela Frank, violin**

Pamela Frank, a 1989 Curtis graduate, has performed regularly with today's most distinguished soloists and ensembles, including the orchestras of Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, New York, San Francisco, and Baltimore, as well as the Berlin, St. Petersburg, and Israel philharmonics.

As a recitalist, she has performed in the major cities of the world. Her chamber music projects include performances with such artists as Peter Serkin, Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, and her father, the late pianist Claude Frank; and frequent appearances with the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and Musicians from Marlboro. In 1999 she was awarded a coveted Avery Fisher Prize.

With Claude Frank, she recorded the complete Beethoven sonata cycle for Music Masters Classics and an all-Schubert disc. For Sony Classical Ms. Frank recorded the Chopin Piano Trio and Schubert Trout Quintet with Mr. Ax and Mr. Ma. On Decca she has recorded all of the Mozart violin concertos, the Dvorak concerto, and, with Peter Serkin, the complete Brahms sonata cycle.

Ms. Frank joined the faculty of the Curtis Institute of Music in 1996.

### **Chase Park, cello**

Chase Park, from Englewood Cliffs, N.J., entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2016 and studies cello with Carter Brey, principal cello of the New York Philharmonic, and Peter Wiley, former cellist of the Guarneri Quartet. All students at Curtis receive merit-based, full-tuition scholarships, and Mr. Park is the Valerija and Ladislaus Medveckis Fellow.

Mr. Park is the winner of several awards, including first prizes in the Goldblatt Scholarship Competition (Junior Division), the New York Music Competition, the ASTA/NJ Solo Competition (Early



Bird Division), the New York Chamber Players Annual Music Competition, and the JCC Thurnauer School of Music Concerto Competition. In 2012, he competed in the International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians in Montreux, Switzerland. As a soloist, Mr. Park has appeared at Weill Recital Hall and the Juilliard School; and with the Thurnauer Symphony Youth Orchestra and the New York Chamber Players.

Mr. Park has performed in master classes for such artists as Colin Carr, Jonathan Spitz, Steven Isserlis, Gary Hoffman, Zvi Plesser, and Ron Leonard, among others. He has participated in the Perlman Music Program since 2010, studying with Ron Leonard and Paul Katz, and appears annually in the program's concert series. He attended Ravinia's Steans Music Institute in 2017 and 2018. In 2009 he performed at Merkin Concert Hall as a guest artist with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

Mr. Park began cello lessons at age four under the tutelage of Madeleine Golz. Prior to entering Curtis, he studied with Minhye Clara Kim through the Juilliard Pre-College Division.

## **ABOUT CURTIS**

The Curtis Institute of Music educates and trains exceptionally gifted young musicians to engage a local and global community through the highest level of artistry. One of the most selective schools in the United States, Curtis accepts four percent of applicants each year on average, and a tuition-free policy ensures that talent and artistic promise are the only considerations for admission.

With a small student body of about 175, Curtis ensures that each young musician receives an education of unparalleled quality, distinguished by a "learn by doing" philosophy and personalized attention from a faculty that includes a high proportion of actively performing musicians.

Curtis students hone their craft through than 200 orchestra, opera, and solo and chamber music offerings each year and programs that bring arts access and education to the community. This real-world training allows these extraordinary young musicians to join the front rank of performers, composers, conductors, and musical leaders, making a profound impact on music onstage and in their communities. To learn more, visit [Curtis.edu](http://Curtis.edu).

## **ABOUT CURTIS ON TOUR**

Curtis on Tour is the Nina von Maltzahn global touring initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music. An embodiment of the school's "learn by doing" philosophy, it offers students real-world, professional touring experience alongside celebrated alumni and faculty. In addition to performances, musicians offer master classes, interactive programs, and community engagement activities while on tour. Curtis on Tour also facilitates solo performances of Curtis students and alumni with professional orchestras and recital series. Since the program was established in 2008, students, faculty, and alumni have performed more than 300 concerts in Europe, Asia, and the Americas.