

Faculty Recital
Elias Goldstein, Viola
Angela Draghicescu, Piano
February 17th, 5:30 p.m, 2024
Gore Recital Hall

Georges Enescu
Konzertstück
Assez anime

Georges Enescu
Aubade
Allegretto grazioso

Paul Constantinescu
Cintec Vechi, "Ancient Song"
Andante Pastorale

Alfred Schnittke
Suite in the Old Style
Pastorale, Moderato
Ballet, Allegro
Minuet, tempo di Minuetto
Fugue, Allegro
Pantomime, Andantino

Henri Vieuxtemps
Elegie, Opus 30
Andante con moto

Bedrich Smetana
From My Homeland
Moderato
Andantino

Johannes Brahms
Sonata No 2 in E flat major, Opus 120
Allegro amabile
Appassionato, ma non troppo, Allegro
Andante con moto

Norwegian-American violist **Elias Goldstein** has been praised by the Chicago Tribune for his "incredible performance" and by the Seattle Times as "ravishing". Goldstein has distinguished

himself as one of the great instrumentalists of his generation, frequently appearing as a soloist and chamber musician. Second prize winner of the 2011 Primrose & Bashmet International Viola Competitions, and a top prize-winner in the Tertis International Competition, he has achieved recognition and critical acclaim as a champion of his instrument. In 2016 he made his Carnegie Hall debut as the first violist invited to perform all 24 Caprices by Paganini, a program that later toured the United States and Europe.

As a recitalist he has performed in many of the greatest halls of the world including Alice Tully, David Geffen, Seattle Symphony's Benaroya Hall, the Kennedy Center, Salle Cortot, George Enescu Philharmonic, Musikiitalo Helsinki. He frequently collaborates with the world's foremost musicians including Noah Bendix-Balgley, Nobuko Imai, Eli Eban, Ilya Kaler, the Pro Arte, Shanghai, Latin American, Arianna, and Cavani Quartets. His solo and orchestral appearances have brought collaborations with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Bergen Philharmonic and festival appearances include Valdres, Aspen Festival, Beijing International Music Festival, and Chautauqua Festival.

Dedicated to the expand the repertoire for viola, he has commissioned and premiered works by Jennifer Higdon and William Bolcom. In 2019 he gave the world premiere of Grammy Award Wining composer Jennifer Higdon's *Viola Songs* and in 2018 was personally invited by William Bolcom to perform for the composer's 80th anniversary concert at Merkin Hall in New York.

Melanconico, his 2019 release on Centaur Records was praised by the American Record Guide as "a most impressive debut" while Goldstein was praised as a "superb violist who does not merely get around on his instrument but commands it". The album marks the world premiere recording of George Enescu's third violin sonata in a minor, Clara Schuman's Romances Op. 23 and Robert Schuman's Violin Sonata in a minor, all special transcriptions made by the artist. Serving on the Executive Board of the American Viola Society, Goldstein is currently on Faculty at University of Delaware. He performs on a beautiful and rare *Saint Cecille Vuillaume* viola made in 1850.

Praised by the New York Times as "elegant and spectacular" pianist Angela Draghicescu has established an international reputation as a sought-after pianist and chamber musician and educator. She has performed in major concert halls across North America and throughout Europe, Asia, and Latin America. Engagements have included performances at Carnegie Hall, Concertgebouw, Kaufmann Center, Konserthuset - Stockholm, Oslo Philharmonic, Rudolfinum in Prague, and the George Enescu Philharmonic.

Her collaborations include many of today's leading artists such as James Ehnes, Doc Severinsen, Frank Huang, Noah Bendix-Balgley and members of the Berlin Philharmonic, Canadian Brass, Chicago, New York, and London symphonies. She has appeared in concerts with Maxim Vengerov, René Fleming, Joyce di Donato, and Angela Gheorghiu and has enjoyed collaborations with many leading conductors including Zubin Mehta, Carl St.Claire, David Zinman, and Edwin Outwater.

Previous performances included esteemed guests such as the members of the Royal Families of Sweden, Norway, and England. In 2018 she was honored to receive the invitation of Romania's President Klaus Johannis to perform for the *Three Seas UN Summit* for five European Union state leaders. Her festival appearances include the Seattle Chamber Music Society, George Enescu International Festival, Rocky Ridge Music Festival, Interlochen Arts Academy and Si Piano in Switzerland. She has been broadcast live on Medici TV, BBC Radio 3, Classical King FM Seattle, NPR, WQXR New York, WFMT Chicago, Romanian National Radio, and Ruv Ras 1 Iceland.

Deeply committed to expanding chamber music repertoire, she has commissioned and premiered works by composers William Bolcom, Lera Auerbach and Jennifer Higdon. A huge promoter of the works of George Enescu, her research on the music of George Enescu has led to the rediscovery of George Enescu's first piano trio, a work lost for over 50 years. The trio received its U.S. premiere with James Ehnes and Ani Aznavoorian during the Seattle Chamber Music Festival 2019. Her tireless efforts have received the recent praise of the New York Times who credited her for being an authority on the Romanian composer.

Highlights of the 2022-2023 season includes new releases on Naxos and Centaur records with violist Elias Goldstein and members of the Berlin Philharmonic, and a tour of Norwegian Art Song bringing awareness to the under-represented female composers of Norway. Additional upcoming collaborations include recitals with the concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic Frank Huang, Queen Elizabeth top prize-winner cellist Marcel Kits, violist Ettore Causa, violinist Eugene Tzikeleian, and Canadian Brass and Takacz quartet members in Costa Rica, Mexico, Argentina, Romania, Germany, and the United States.

An activist, Angela has participated and curated numerous humanitarian and educational programs with organizations such as the Refugees International, the Bill Gates Foundation, and the Francis Walton Foundation bringing awareness to global crises and social injustice. Angela is the co-artistic director of the newly founded concert series *Women Who Score* promoting works by female composers, in collaboration with Olympic Gymnast Nadia Comaneci.