



September, 2007

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Thirty-First Season of Chamber Music Rochester. We are especially proud of this season's exciting array of the familiar and the rare, all performed by the most accomplished musicians in the Rochester area. Among the many treats, you will marvel at the ingenuity of the arranger who boiled down the immense orchestration of Richard Strauss's "Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks" to a mere five players in **The Art of the Transcription** (November 11). You will swoon to exquisite music from the Paris Conservatory in **The French School: Quartos Plays Fauré and Ravel** (February 3). You will treasure polyphony from the high Baroque in **Johann Sebastian Bach: The Flute Brandenburgs** (March 16). You will leap for joy at perhaps the greatest work ever written by a teenager, the Mendelssohn Octet, in **A Spring String Spectacular** (May 4).

Our season opener features a return engagement by one of the finest chamber groups in New York. On Sunday, October 7, at 7:30 PM at the Memorial Art Gallery, Chamber Music Rochester will present **The Finger Lakes Chamber Ensemble**. Unfortunately, Stefan Reuss, the regular cellist for the group, is recuperating from an elbow injury. As a result, the scheduled **Quintet for Piano and Strings** by David Liptak, a work written for and premiered by the Finger Lakes Chamber Ensemble, will be rescheduled for next season.

The program will open with the bravura **Duo-Sonata** by the American composer Marek Harris. Husband and wife violin team of David Brickman and Patricia Sunwoo will perform this tour de force, written especially for them. David and Patricia will then be joined by violist, Roberta Crawford, for a rare performance of Zoltán Kodály's **Serenade for Two Violins and Viola, Op. 12**. Béla Bartók, Kodály's fellow countryman, praised this work lavishly for its extraordinarily rich melodies. The concert will come to a dazzling conclusion when the aforementioned trio will be joined by cellist Margery Hwang and pianist Michael Salmirs in the revered **Quintet in F Minor, Op. 34** by Johannes Brahms. In terms of its scope and instrumental sonority, this masterpiece is one of the most orchestral in the chamber music repertoire. It is a profoundly satisfying experience to hear it live in such an intimate setting.

The ever-popular pre-concert chat will begin, as always, at 7:00 PM. Here you will have the opportunity to meet the members of the Finger Lakes Chamber Ensemble and hear about their wonderful and unusual repertoire.

We look forward to seeing you again on October 7 at the Memorial Art Gallery.

Sincerely,

Stefan Reuss and Joseph Werner, Co-Artistic Directors