

NEWS

For Immediate Release

2019/2020 Lenard Chamber Music Series at Jorgensen Center to Feature Award-winning Artists

Free Admission for All College Students and Youth (Grades K-12)

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STORRS, CT – A passion for classical music and a desire to promote engagement among students brought the **Lenard Chamber Music Series at Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts** into being. Often performed by soloists and small ensembles, what sets chamber music apart from other types of classical music is the more intimate approach to making music.

“Thanks to the generous philanthropy of long-time Jorgensen patrons Jean and John Lenard, chamber music, one of the hallmarks and most dearly loved elements of the programming at Jorgensen, is secure well into the future,” according to Rodney Rock, Director of Jorgensen. “In addition, their support now allows us to offer free tickets to all college students and the region’s youth (grades K-12). We are also fortunate because many of the artists in the series also give master classes for both UConn students and students in the Jorgensen Outreach for Youth (JOY!) Conservatory program.”

Additional support for the Lenard Chamber Music Endowment has also been provided by the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation.

The 2019/2020 Lenard Chamber Music Series:

Apollo’s Fire Baroque Orchestra – Thurs, Oct 10, 7:30 pm

Vivaldi’s Four Seasons: Rediscovered

Hailed as “one of the pre-eminent period-instrument ensembles” (*The Independent*, London), Apollo’s Fire and harpsichordist/conductor Jeannette Sorrell bring the pictorial descriptions of Vivaldi’s beloved *Four Seasons* to life, as they were meant to be. Additional support for this performance comes from the Alexander-Hewitt Fund and media sponsor WFCR/NEPR. The concert begins at 7:30 pm and will be preceded by a Concert Talk at 6:45 pm by Dr. Eric Rice, UConn Music Department Chair and Associate Professor of Music History, in the Jorgensen Gallery. Doors to the hall open at 7:00 pm.

Escher Quartet – Thurs, Nov 7, 7:30 pm

Acclaimed for its expressive, nuanced performances combining unusual textural clarity with a rich, blended sound, the Escher Quartet has captured international attention since its founding in 2005. The Escher Quartet takes its name from Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher, inspired by Escher's method of interplay between individual components working together to form a whole. A former BBC New Generation Artist, in 2013 the quartet also became one of the very few chamber ensembles to be awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant. Expect an electrifying performance with works by Haydn, Bartók and Dvorák. The concert begins at 7:30 pm and will be preceded by a Concert Talk at 6:45 pm by Dr. Heather de Savage, UConn Music Department Adjunct Professor, in the Jorgensen Gallery. Doors to the hall open at 7:00 pm.

Vienna Piano Trio – Sat, Feb 22, 8:00 pm

Celebrated for its infectious exuberance, and perennially fresh in its artistry, the Vienna Piano Trio has long been hailed as one of the “world's leading ensembles of piano, violin, and cello” (*The Washington Post*). These stellar musicians bring their passion and razor-sharp performance skills to a richly diverse program that includes works by Haydn, Ravel and Mendelssohn. This performance begins at 8:00 pm and will be preceded by a Concert Talk at 7:15 pm by Dr. Heather de Savage, UConn Music Department Adjunct Professor, in the Jorgensen Gallery. Doors to the hall open at 7:30 pm.

Arcis Saxophone Quartet – Tues, Mar 31, 7:30 pm

American Dreams

Arcis Saxophone Quartet sets audiences aflame with their enthusiasm and passion for this rare form of chamber music. These four young musicians from Munich use their highly professional, exact interpretations to explore the relationship between individual expressivity and the interwoven quality that makes chamber music what it is. In *American Dreams*, Arcis presents a broad musical range of the American way of life. The performance will begin at 7:30 pm. Doors to the hall open at 7:00 pm.

Isabel Leonard, Mezzo-Soprano – Wed, Apr 15, 7:30 pm

With her “chocolatey mezzo-soprano” (*Opera News*), passionate intensity and vocal beauty, Grammy Award-winning Isabel Leonard continues to thrill audiences both in the opera house and on the concert stage. Expect a repertoire that spans from Handel and Mozart to Thomas Ades. Additional support comes from media sponsor CPBN (cptv/wnpr). The concert begins at 7:30 pm; doors to the hall open at 7:00 pm.

Matt Haimovitz, cello, & Simone Dinnerstein, piano – Wed, Apr 22, 7:30 pm

In commemoration of Beethoven's 250th birthday, this sublime concert juxtaposes Beethoven with one of today's most influential composers—Philip Glass—for a fascinating concert of “then and now.” Two virtuosos, cellist Matt Haimovitz and pianist Simone Dinnerstein, present an innovative program that showcases the two musicians as both collaborators and soloists. Additional support comes from media sponsor WFCR/NEPR. The concert begins at 7:30 pm and will be preceded by a Concert Talk at 6:45 pm by Dr. Heather de Savage, UConn Music Department Adjunct Professor, in the Jorgensen Gallery. Doors to the hall open at 7:30 pm.
Media Sponsor: New England Public Radio

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. Tickets for the Lenard Chamber Music Series are now available online: \$32 - \$36, with savings available on subscriptions of 3 or more performances. Tickets for college students and youth are free. For tickets, subscriptions and information, go to jorgensen.uconn.edu, or call the Box Office at 860.486.4226, Monday - Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, and 90 minutes prior to events.

To learn more about the **artists performing in the 2019/2020 Lenard Chamber Series**, please visit: <https://jorgensen.uconn.edu/online/article/chamber>

To learn more about **John and Jean Lenard and background information on the Lenard Chamber Music Series** at Jorgensen Center, please visit: <https://today.uconn.edu/2018/10/couple-provides-gift-chamber-music-series/>

To learn more about the **JOY! Conservatory Program**, please visit: <https://jorgensen.uconn.edu/Online/Article/joy-conservatory>

Voted Best College or University Performing Arts Center in the Hartford Courant's CTNow, Jorgensen presents 30 to 40 diverse performances each season, from nationally and internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles ranging from classical music to world music and dance, classical ballet and contemporary dance, comedy, family programming and contemporary entertainment.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON PARKING:

Due to construction on campus, Lot L and half of Lot X will be permanently closed in Fall 2019. Closure of Lot N and the remainder of Lot X will follow in Spring 2020. Convenient \$5 event parking is available in the North Garage. Free parking is also available in Lot F. For a detailed parking map and more information, go to park.uconn.edu.

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