

U.O.P. CONSERVATORY * STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA * SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1981 * 3:00 P.M.

Twenty-fifth Anniversary Concert



FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC

in cooperation with

UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC, and
SAN JOAQUIN DELTA COLLEGE

present

The Alma Trio

Adolph Baller, Piano
Andor Toth, Violin
Gabor Rejto, Cello

PROGRAM

TRIO IN E FLAT MAJOR, OPUS 1, NO. 1.....Beethoven

Allegro
Adagio cantabile
Scherzo - quasi allegro assai
Finale - presto

TRIO IN C MAJOR, OPUS 87.....Brahms

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo. Presto
Finale. Allegro giocoso

INTERMISSION

TRIO IN E FLAT MAJOR, OPUS 100.....Schubert

Allegro
Andante con moto
Scherzo. Allegro moderato
Allegro moderato

How It All Began...

FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC owes its existence to the enthusiasm and labor of one man, Walter Perl, who had the dream of a local chamber music series for many years before its inception.

Perl and his wife, Ilse, were European refugees, arriving in Stockton in 1941. In their home in Cologne, Germany, the Perls always had played and enjoyed chamber music. Perl dreamed of having in Stockton a series of chamber music featuring professional musicians. For some time, he discussed this possibility with his friend, Dr. Robert Adams.

The actual beginnings of our series date back to 1956, when a Ford Foundation grant to promote chamber music afternoons was given to San Francisco State College, to be administered by Ferenc Molnar. Molnar was contacted by his friend, Dr. Adams (who later became the first President of our society) to come to Stockton and meet with Adams, Perl, and other music lovers. At the meeting, held in Adams' home, the group discussed whether a chamber music series was feasible here in Stockton.

Russell Bodley, then Dean of the U.O.P. Conservatory of Music, volunteered a place to give the concerts -- and heat, light, and programs. This cooperation has continued ever since, with either U.O.P. or Delta College. At present, U.O.P. provides the site and Delta College prints the programs. All full-time students from both schools are admitted to concerts free of charge.

Walter Perl was instrumental in raising the necessary funds to pay for the concerts. He asked everyone he knew or met on the street to contribute to the project. Banks, industrial firms, public-spirited citizens, friends and acquaintances were asked to help.

The series started on a shoestring -- and the dream became a reality. On February 3, 1957, the San Francisco Chamber Players became the first artists to appear on our series. Today we observe the 103rd performance on our FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC stage.

Walter Perl remained the "guiding force" behind our chamber music series until his death in 1966. His widow, Ilse, was instrumental in keeping our series "alive," with the help of a handful of other chamber music lovers. Within a few years, additional devoted chamber music fans were found to assist with putting on the series. Ilse Perl Stone remains a member of our Board of Directors and continues to play an active role in our group.

(continued, next page)

L A T E C O M E R S

In consideration of the performers and our audience, we have adopted the following policy which will be strictly enforced at all future concerts: There will be NO seating while a performance is in progress.

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 * *DEDICATION* *
 * *FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC dedicates this twenty-fifth anniversary* *
 * *concert to MARJORIE and WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS, Director Emeritus and* *
 * *Treasurer, respectively, of our society. Mrs. Williams served as* *
 * *our President for many years, and Mr. Williams is long-time Treasurer* *
 * *of our series.* *
 * * * * *

For the past 25 years, FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC has brought the world's finest performers to Stockton area audiences. The highest musical standards have been maintained consistently. Ensembles such as the Juilliard, Guarneri, Fine Arts and Amadeus String Quartets; the Beaux Arts Trio; and the Early Music Consort of London are "standard fare" for the series.

Nearly all of the funds raised for our chamber music series go into artist fees -- with just a small percentage going toward other necessary expenses, such as season ticket brochures. Your FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC Board of Directors is composed entirely of devoted volunteers. There is no paid staff, nor has there ever been.

Subscribers and supporters of our series live not only in Stockton, but also Modesto, Ceres, Turlock, Sacramento, Auburn, Merced, San Jose, Tracy, Linden, Lathrop, Lodi, Woodbridge, Acampo, Galt, Manteca, French Camp, and Mountain Ranch.

In an effort to educate young people to the joys of chamber music, as well as to provide superb music for the entire family, FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC has always admitted to concerts, without charge, the school-age children of subscribers.

The list of our group's past Presidents, many of whom planned to be in our audience today, includes Dr. Robert Adams, Dr. Wilfred Mitchell, Alfred Rageth, Virginia Short McLaughlin, Mrs. William H. Williams, Helen Kessel McCrary, and Tasha Stadtner. Mary D. Chamberlain is our current President.

Two years ago, FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC was honored by the Stockton Arts Commission for outstanding achievement over the years.

FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC is proud to have presented for twenty-five seasons the finest international talent. With your support, we will strive to maintain these standards of excellence for the next twenty-five seasons.

Welcome, Young People--

Parents are encouraged to bring their school-age children to our FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC concerts. We do ask that children under ten years of age not sit in the first five rows of the theater, and that all children sit with their parents. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Twenty Five Seasons With

1956-1957

San Francisco Chamber Players
Amadeus Quartet
Eger Players
Schoenfeld Trio

1957-1958

Griller Quartet
Claremont Quartet
San Francisco Woodwind Quintet
Hollywood Quartet

1958-1959

Claremont Quartet
Paganini Quartet
Molnar-Faith-Baller Trio
Baller-Rejto

1959-1960

Jean-Pierre Rampal and
Robert Veyron-Lacroix
Capella di Musica
Trio di Bolzano
Fine Arts Quartet
"Bonus": Alma Trio

1960-1961

Eva Heinitz - Alice Ehlers
Claremont Quartet
Schoenfeld Trio
Los Angeles Baroque Players

1961-1962

The Netherlands String Quartet
Boccherini Quintet
Kroll Quartet
Mills Players

1962-1963

Vegh Quartet
Komitas Quartet
Walfish Duo
Ramat-Gan Chamber Orchestra

1963-1964

New Danish Quartet
Vlach Quartet
Loewenguth Quartet
Bach to Mozart Group

1964-1965

Anglian Chamber Soloists
La Salle Quartet
Vegh Quartet
Danzi Woodwind Quintet

1965-1966

Brahms Piano Quartet
Alma Trio
Concentus Musicus
Trio di Trieste
"Bonus": Oklahoma String Quartet

1966-1967

Smetana Quartet
Bartok Quartet
Trio Italiano d'Archi
La Salle Quartet

1967-1968

Warsaw Quintet
Chigiano Sextet
Zagreb Quartet
Prague Quartet

1968-1969

Suk Duo
Allegri Quartet
Brahms Piano Quartet
Czech Nonet

1969-1970

Parrenin Quartet
Michel Dubost - Flute
Bartok Quartet
Prokofiev Quartet

Friends of Chamber Music

1970-1971

Janacek Quartet
Dimov Quartet
Czech Chamber Orchestra
Tel Aviv Quartet

1971-1972

Prague Quartet
Warsaw Quintet
Danzi Woodwind Quintet
Smetana Piano Trio

1972-1973

Israeli Trio
Secolo Barocco
French String Trio
Borodin Quartet

1973-1974

Melos Quartet
Gabrioni Piano Trio
Roumanian Piano Trio
Amadeus Quartet

1974-1975

The London Virtuosi
French String Trio
Juilliard Quartet
Francesco Trio

1975-1976

Gabrielli Quartet
Secolo Barocco
Juilliard Quartet
Early Music Consort of London

1976-1977

Czech Nonet
Melos Quartet
French String Trio with Piano
Guarneri String Quartet

1977-1978

Bulgarian Quartet
Marlboro Trio
Nicanor Zabaleta, Harp
Danzi Woodwind Quintet

1978-1979

Fine Arts Quartet
Aulos Ensemble
Vermeer Quartet
Trio di Milano
"Bonus": Workshop-Demonstration
by Fine Arts Quartet

1979-1980

Guarneri String Quartet
Aeolian Chamber Players
Alma Trio
Kronos String Quartet
"Bonus": Workshop-Demonstration
by Aeolian Chamber
Players
"Bonus": Workshop-Demonstration
by Kronos String Quartet

1980-1981

Beaux Arts Trio
La Salle Quartet
Music from Marlboro
Chilingirian String Quartet
"Bonus": Alma Trio

* * * * *

Plan to join us for our
twenty-sixth season, featuring four
Sunday concerts and a Saturday
workshop-demonstration:

TOKYO STRING QUARTET (10-18-81)
BORODIN PIANO TRIO (1-17-82)
VERMEER STRING QUARTET (2-28-82)
ANNAPOLIS BRASS QUINTET (Work-
shop-demonstration 4-17-82,
Concert 4-18-82)

THE ALMA TRIO

With special joy, we welcome the return of THE ALMA TRIO to our Friends of Chamber Music stage. It seems especially appropriate that our twenty-fifth anniversary concert be presented by this superb trio, which has a long association with Friends of Chamber Music.

The Alma Trio has appeared three times before on our series -- in 1960, 1965 and 1980. In addition, two members of the trio, Messrs. Baller and Rejto, performed as a duo on our 1959 series. These two outstanding musicians also were heard in Stockton last year when they donated their services for a fund-raising concert to benefit the Virginia Short McLaughlin Scholarship at the UOP Conservatory of Music.

The trio was organized in 1944 at the Alma estate (near Los Gatos, California) of violinist Yehudi Menuhin. The group has traveled to Cuba, Canada, the Orient, New Zealand, Australia, Western Europe, Czechoslovakia, USSR, Hungary, and South Africa, in addition to innumerable coast-to-coast tours in the United States.

ADOLPH BALLER was born in Poland. When he was eleven, he started to give piano recitals in Central Europe, and soon was soloing with major European orchestras, including the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra at the Salzburg Festival. Besides the piano, he studied conducting at the Vienna Conservatory. His greatest influence was the composer and philosopher Hugo Kauder, with whom he studied composition. Baller composed sonatas for piano, chamber music, orchestra, string quartets, and songs. He is a member of the music faculty at Stanford University. This past season, he appeared in piano quintets with the Guarneri String Quartet, who twice have been on our Friends of Chamber Music series.

ANDOR TOTH is Professor of Music and Director of Orchestras and Opera at Stanford University. He has been a frequent soloist with many orchestras including the Cleveland, Dallas, Houston, Washington and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. He has guest conducted the Houston, Denver, and Los Angeles Chamber Orchestras and was producer and director of his own opera company in Houston, Texas. A master violin and chamber music teacher, he has been Professor of Violin at the Universities of Colorado and Texas, and at Oberlin Conservatory, and served as Director of the Chamber Music Center at San Francisco State University.

GABOR REJTO was born in Budapest. His mastery of the cello brought early recognition. Following his graduation from the Royal Academy in Budapest, he moved to Spain to study with Pablo Casals. He came to the United States in 1939. He has appeared with many of the major symphony orchestras of Europe and has also served as a member of the Lerner and Gordon String Quartets. He has been equally acclaimed for his solo and his chamber music interpretations. Regarded as one of the leading cello teachers in the USA, Mr. Rejto from 1954-1978 was chairman of the string department of the School of Music of the University of Southern California. In 1972 he was chosen "Artist - Teacher of the Year" by the American String Teachers Association.

SMOKING IS PROHIBITED IN THE AUDITORIUMS - PLEASE STEP OUTSIDE TO SMOKE

FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC, P. O. Box 126, Linden, California 95236.
For membership information telephone Ilse Perl Stone at (209) 464-4432 or
Helen McCrary at (209) 477-7973.

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