

DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC
AT PRINCETON

Tuesday, April 4, 2023
4:30 PM — Masterclass
7:30 PM — Concert

Taplin Auditorium, Fine Hall

The Donna Weng Friedman '80 Masterclass Series

Masterclass Mark Peskanov, violin

Violin Sonata No. 1 in D minor, Op. 75:
I. Allegro agitato-Adagio

Camille Saint-Saëns
Performed by Abigail Nishiwaki '23
Kairy Khoshoeva, piano

Polyphonic Étude No. 6:
The Last Rose of Summer

Heinrich Wilhelm Ernst
Performed by Rachel Hsu '23

Violin Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 63:
II: Andante assai

Sergei Prokofiev
Performed by Madeline Farrar '24
Eric D. Plutz, piano

Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47:
III: Allegro, ma non tanto

Jean Sibelius
Performed by Nina Shih '24
Eric D. Plutz, piano

*The use of photographic, video, or audio equipment is strictly prohibited. Please turn off or mute electronic devices for the duration of the performance. **For more information about the Department of Music and other upcoming events, and to sign-up for our mailing list, please visit music.princeton.edu.***

The Donna Weng Friedman '80 Masterclass Series

Concert

Mark Peskanov, violin

PROGRAM

Baroque Suite

Adolphus Hailstork

Sonata No. 1 in D major

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata No. 3 in C minor

Edvard Grieg

with pianist Donna Weng Friedman '80

ABOUT

Mark Peskanov, Violinist — American virtuoso violinist and artistic visionary Mark Peskanov was born in Odessa. Peskanov sang before he could walk or talk, and soon became a star violin student at the famed Stolyarsky school. At fifteen, he emigrated to the United States, where he was immediately accepted at the Aspen Music Festival and the Juilliard School.

His phenomenal facility and musicianship won him both the Aspen and Juilliard concerto competitions, bringing him to the notice of Isaac Stern and Mstislav Rostropovich and rocketing him into the top echelons of the music world. Upon his debut with the Chicago Symphony, the *Chicago Tribune* called him a “sensational soloist.” *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* proclaimed, “Violinist Adds Glory Gto Odessa” and *The New York Times* declared, “Mark Peskanov is a tremendous young violinist and his Friday evening concert at Carnegie Hall was a triumph...He has it all— technique, temperament, and taste.”

Peskanov is a staunch champion of American composers. He premiered the John Williams Concerto with the St. Louis Symphony, and the Stanley Wolfe Concerto (written for Peskanov) with the New York Philharmonic. He has performed more than fifty concertos with virtually every major U.S. orchestra and in Europe, the Middle East, Australia, South America and Japan. Peskanov’s major accolades include the Avery Fischer Career Grant, the first Frederick R. Mann Award, and Carnegie Hall’s first Isaac Stern Award.

Peskanov inaugurated Tokyo’s Suntory Hall with Yo-Yo Ma and Stern, and Weill Recital Hall with Stern, Midori and Gil Shaham. Collaborating with these colleagues prompted Peskanov to turn intensively to the chamber music repertoire’s more intimate, complex, and dialogical possibilities. His delight in chamber music, his independent artistic vision, and his desire to mentor promising musicians as he had been mentored, led to Peskanov’s present role. Since 2005, he is president and artistic/executive director of Bargemusic, New York City’s floating concert hall, moored at the Fulton Ferry Landing under the Brooklyn Bridge. Peskanov has curated over 3,000 chamber concerts at Bargemusic, encompassing a vast range of genres and styles, presenting over 200 concerts annually to New York audiences. Under his leadership Bargemusic continues to evolve as an innovative, influential, and integral component of New York City’s cultural world.

Peskanov is known for his openness to an astonishing range of music and artists at all stages of their careers. Muses *The New York Times*, “One reason that openness seems to come so easily to Mr. Peskanov is that few proposals crossing his desk are likely to outpace his own vision of what Bargemusic can be.”

Donna Weng Friedman — Award winning pianist Donna Weng Friedman enjoys a varied career as a soloist, chamber musician, educator, curator, producer and app developer. Her album *Heritage and Harmony: Silver Linings*, featuring exclusively AAPI/BIPOC artists, was intended as a response to the wave of violence against Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) individuals, and aims to promote understanding and tolerance among people of all backgrounds. Recorded and released during the pandemic, the album was presented with two Silver Medals at the 2022 Global Music Awards.

In collaboration with WQXR, Donna created and produced *Heritage and Harmony*, a virtual concert series in celebration of Asian Pacific Heritage Month. Her story was featured on Asian Americans of New York & New Jersey | WLIW21, a segment of which has been aired on PBS numerous times.

Donna was awarded a 2022 New York Women Composer's grant. She is the co-creator and co-host of HER/MUSIC;HER/STORY with soprano Allison Charney, a mini-series on WQXR as well as a concert series that shines a light on women composers, past and present. She was the guest speaker on TEDx Santa Barbara's series Making Waves: Conversations with Influencers and Disruptors. Donna is the Artistic Advisor of Ariel Rivka Dance, an all-female dance company.

Donna was the featured guest artist on the National Women's History Museum's series NWHM Presents: Sundays@Home, honoring women whose activism and talents serve to inspire others. On March 8th, 2022, she launched a virtual education program in collaboration with the National Women's History Museum called Heritage and Harmony: Her Art, Her Voice, featuring leading female BIPOC role models in the arts who share their stories of heritage, their challenges and their triumphs, as they seek to inspire and empower future generations of groundbreaking young women.

Donna has performed in concert halls worldwide, and appeared as soloist with major symphony orchestras, including the Atlanta, Philadelphia and Shanghai Symphony Orchestras. She has collaborated with world-class artists including Carter Brey, Anthony McGill, Elizabeth Mann, Ani Kavafian, David Shifrin, St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble, Paul Neubauer, and Kelly Hall-Tompkins.

The curator of the **Donna Weng Friedman '80 Master Class Series** at Princeton University, she is also a member of Princeton University Music Department's Advisory Council. Donna is currently serving as Vice Chair to the Friends of Thirteen Advocacy Board/WNET. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University where she was a University Scholar and a Master's of Music Degree from the Juilliard School where she was a winner of the highly coveted Gina Bachauer Piano Competition as well as the William Petschek full scholarship award. Donna had the honor and privilege of studying with the great pedagogue Nadia Boulanger and the inimitable pianist Radu Lupu.
