Organ Vesper Series

presents

OMAHA CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC FACULTY

Jesse Griggs, viola
Milvia Rodriguez, piano
Mary Amador, violin
Anne Madison, piano
William Wolcott, violin
Yulia Kalashnikova, piano

Sunday, April 26, 2009 3:00 p.m.

-Program-

Fantasia for Viola and Piano — Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778-1837)
Grave
Andante con moto
Allegro ma non troppo
Mr. Griggs and Ms. Rodriguez

Sonata in A major for Violin and Piano, Op. 100 — Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Ms. Amador and Ms. Madison
Allegro amabile
Andante tranquillo; vivace
Allegretto grazioso (quasi Andante)

-Intermission-

The Red Violin Caprices — John Corigiliano (1938-)
Mr. Wolcott

Fantaisie-Tableaux for two pianos op. 5 — Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)
I. *Barcarolle.* Allegretto
II. *La nuit... L'amour...* Adagio sostenuto (The night...the love...)
III. *Les Larmes.* Largo di molto (The Tears)
IV. *Pâques.* Allegro maestoso (Easter)
Ms. Kalashnikova and Ms. Rodriguez

www.organvesper.com

-Notes-

These Caprices, composed in conjunction with the score for Francois Girard's film The Red Violin, take a spacious, troubadour-inspired theme and vary it both linearly and stylistically. These Variations intentionally evoke Baroque, Gypsy, and arch-Romantic idioms as they examine the same materials (a dark, seven-chord chaconne as well as that principal theme) from differing aural viewpoints. The Caprices were created and ordered to reflect the structure of the film, in which Bussotti, a fictional 18th-century violin maker, crafts his greatest violin for his soon-to-be-born son. When Tragedy claims wife and child, the grief-stricken Bussotti, in a gesture both ardent and macabre, infuses the blood of this beloved into the varnish of the instrument. Their fates thus joined, the violin travels across three centuries through Vienna, London, Shanghai and Montreal, passing through the hands of a doomed child prodigy, a flamboyant virtuoso, a haunted Maoist commissar, and at last a willful Canadian expert, whose own plans for the violin finally complete the circle of parent and child united in art.

Program notes by John Corigliano

-The Artists-

Jesse Griggs earned his Master of Music degree in Viola Performance at Bowling Green State University in 2007 having been awarded the Graduate String Quartet Assistantship. For his undergraduate degree, he was awarded a full tuition music talent award to BGSU where he studied with Csaba Erdelyi and graduated with a Bachelor of Music in Viola Performance: Summa cum Laude and with University Honors. He has participated in master-classes with Donald McInnis, Paul Neubauer, Jeffrey Irvine, Roger Chase, Karen Ritscher, Anner Bylsma, Merry Peckham, Roland Vamos, and David Ying.
He has collaborated with musicians such as: Csaba Erdelyi, Rachel Barton Pine, Dr. Alan Smith, Dr Penny Kruse, Dr. Andrew Pelletier, Josh Groban, Trans Siberian Orchestra, and members of the Pacifica Quartet. Mr. Griggs has performed concertos with the Ottawa University Symphonette (KS), and Orchestra Omaha. .

Milvia Rodriguez is a soloist and accompanist actively performing in recitals, festivals and master classes around the world. She earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in piano performance, pedagogy and chamber music at Gnesin Institute of Music in Moscow, one of Russia's best pedagogical institutions. Before her studies in Moscow she studied music at conservatories and national schools of music in her native Cuba.
She is writing her dissertation and finishing her doctoral degree requirements at University of Nebraska, Lincoln, where she has taught private and group piano lessons and has served as an accompanist for instrumental studios and ensembles. She is a student of Paul Barnes at UNL and is currently studying with Aleksander Shtarkman at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mary Amador grew up in a musical family in Moline, Ill. It was natural for Mrs. Amador to take up the violin with both of her parents teaching music. After graduating from the University of Iowa, she continued her studies earning a Master of Music in violin performance at the University of Michigan. Her teachers include Allen Ohmes, Jacob Krachmalnick, and Camilla Wicks. Mrs. Amador has played as professional violinist since 1981 for the San Francisco Opera and Ballet Orchestras, the Modesto, Fresno, and Santa Rosa California orchestras and the Lincoln Symphony. She came to Omaha as the assistant concertmaster of the Omaha Symphony, and then taught strings in the Omaha Public schools. Besides serving on the faculty of Omaha Conservatory of Music, she currently performs with the Omaha Symphony and the Nova String Quartet.

Anne Madison has performed in Austria, Belgium, England, France, Hungary, Poland, Scotland, and Switzerland and recorded works included on six compact discs. After earning a Bachelor of Music degree with highest distinction from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Master of Music degree with distinction from Baylor University, she received an Artist Diploma from the Vienna Conservatory in Vienna, Austria. In Vienna, she concertized regularly with Vienna Philharmonic hornist Roland Horvath with whom she was the first to perform a concert in the Kaiser Pavilion in Schoenbrunn Palace and was featured in the 1999 concert series celebrating Johann Strauss.
Since returning to the United States, Madison has performed with several internationally recognized violin recitalists and appeared on concert series in Birmingham, England, Vienna, Austria, and in the Midwest. Madison is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music and is active as a clinician, speaker, and adjudicator. She serves as Chair of the Piano Department at Omaha Conservatory of Music.

A recipient of many awards, including the MTNA State and Regional competitions, **William Wolcott** has performed around the country as a soloist, orchestral, and session violinist. He studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music with David Updegraff and Linda Cerone before moving to Los Angeles to study privately with Eugene Fodor. He has performed in master classes and received coaching from such distinguished artists as Oleg Krysa, Jaime Laredo and Israel Baker.
Since returning to Omaha in 2003, his students have held principal positions in all Omaha Area Youth Orchestras, have captured first prize in the OAYO Concerto Competition, and have won the Nebraska Young Artist Award.

Yulia Kalashnikova grew up in a family of musicians in the heart of Russia. Her father plays viola in the local orchestra, and her mother is a piano teacher. Ms. Kalashnikova began her musical studies at age 5, and graduated in 1998 from Kazan State Conservatory in Kazan, Russia with Masters Degrees in piano performance, chamber ensemble, piano instruction, and accompaniment. Her principal teachers were Evgenia Zinger, who has since immigrated to the United States and teaches at the Manhattan School of Music; Alfia Burnashyva, one of the preeminent piano teachers in Russia today; and Uzefina Sokolskaya.
Prior to immigrating to Omaha in March of 2001, Ms. Kalashnikova was an accompanist at Kazan State Conservatory and a faculty member of the I.S. Palantai Music College. In addition to being part of Omaha Conservatory of Music's piano faculty, she is also the accompanist for the Omaha Children's Chorus.