



MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

*presents*

## Leonid Sigal and Friends

Leonid Sigal, violin  
Aekyung Kim, viola  
Peter Zay, cello  
Andrius Žlabys, piano



**LEONID  
SIGAL** and friends

**FRIDAY APRIL 16, 2021 7:30 PM**

Limited in-person seating  
Livestreamed at [www.reddoormusic.org](http://www.reddoormusic.org)



MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

Friday, April 16, 2021  
7:30 p.m.

*A warm welcome to all, both in person and online!*

*We welcome your donations in the basket at the center of the hall or at [www.reddoormusic.org/donate](http://www.reddoormusic.org/donate).*

*Please give generously to help us continue presenting needed musical refreshment.*

*A suggested donation of \$20 would be appreciated.*

*Not on our email reminder list? Sign up today at [www.reddoormusic.org/signup](http://www.reddoormusic.org/signup).*

*Join us for the remainder of our season – see the end of this program for details.*

**For COVID-19 Safety, the following protocols are in place for those attending in person:**

- **Wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times.** Masks are required regardless of vaccine status. We have disposable masks should you need one.
- **Practice social distancing at all times.** Observe signs and the directions of ushers about where to sit. Greet one another from a distance, do not linger in the building after the ushers have dismissed you.
- **If you might need to get up during the concert, please sit on the right side of the nave.** The first-floor restrooms are available should you need them. Please refrain from going into other areas of the building.
- **Children must stay with their accompanying adult(s).**
- **Entry is through the main red doors only,** so park accordingly.
- **Please do not leave your seat until directed by an usher;** exiting will happen row-by-row starting from the rear of the hall.
- **Exit is through the red doors or the side door into the cloister,** as directed by an usher.
- **There will not be a meet-the-artist reception.** Any social time must happen outside.

## PROGRAM

### **Violin Sonata No. 1 in F minor, Opus 80**

Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)

Andante assai  
Allegro brusco  
Andante  
Allegroissimo

### **Piano Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Opus 15**

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Allegro molto moderato  
Scherzo: Allegro vivo  
Adagio  
Allegro

*Music at the Red Door is supported in part by the Richard P. Garmany Fund of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the Edward C. & Ann T. Roberts Foundation, the George A. & Grace L. Long Foundation, the Ensworth Charitable Foundation, the William & Alice Mortensen Foundation, and the Marjorie Jolidon Fund of the Greater Hartford Chapter, American Guild of Organists.*

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Hartford Symphony Orchestra Concertmaster **Leonid Sigal** has enjoyed a multifaceted career as recitalist, chamber musician, and orchestra leader. Starting with his early performances, he was praised by audiences and critics for his virtuosity and musical sensitivity. The *Miami Herald* wrote: “Sigal demonstrated what a fine violinist he is, playing passionately and cleanly with a soaring tone,” and the *Hartford Courant* echoes: “His tone was consistently sweet. He brought a clear sense of phrasing, articulation and effortless virtuosity.”

Born in Moscow, Russia, Sigal began violin studies at the age of five, and was accepted into the renowned Gnessin School of Music. He went on to attend and graduate with excellence from the Tchaikovsky Conservatory.

Winner of several violin competitions and recipient of the 1993 Meadows Artistic Scholarship Award, Sigal moved to the U.S., where he had studied with Erick Friedman and taken masterclasses with Isaac Stern and Pinchas Zukerman. In 1995, he was invited by Michael Tilson Thomas to a prestigious fellowship at the New World Symphony, where he was one of the principals and also coached as conductor.

His experience includes recitals, chamber music, and festival and orchestral appearances in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Germany, Great Britain, France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Russia, Japan, and South Korea. He has performed under Sir Georg Solti, Leonard Bernstein, Christoph Eschenbach, Michael Tilson Thomas, James Levine, and Herbert Blomstedt, to name a few. A passionate chamber musician, he has collaborated with Mstislav Rostropovich, Evgeny Kissin, Edgar Meyer, Joseph Silverstein, James Ehnes, Roberto Diaz, and William Wolfram among others. In 2007, he inaugurated and became artistic director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra’s (HSO’s) Sunday Serenades chamber music series at the Wadsworth Atheneum.

Sigal’s annual appearances as soloist with the HSO include highly acclaimed performances of Bruch’s *Scottish Fantasy*, Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons*, and concertos by Mozart, Brahms, Sibelius, Barber, and Shostakovich. In 2011, he performed and later recorded a world premiere of Stephen Michael Gryc’s *Harmonia Mundi: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*, written for him and commissioned by the HSO. Recent and upcoming season highlights include Brahms’ *Double Concerto* with cellist David Finckel; concertos by Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Brahms; Chausson’s *Poeme* and Waxman’s *Carmen Fantasy*; Saint Saens’ *Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso*; Ravel’s *Tzigane*; and Leonard Bernstein’s *Serenade after Plato’s Symposium* to commemorate the composer’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2018.

Sigal also serves as concertmaster and assistant conductor of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra, as well as faculty member at the University of Hartford’s Hartt School. Previously, as associate concertmaster of the Florida Philharmonic, he performed with the San Diego Symphony and Boston Symphony Orchestra. He has served as artistic director of the Miami Chamber Symphony, as well as violin faculty at the Eastern Music Festival. Since August of 2012, at the invitation of Music Director Gerard Schwarz, he has been part of the Emmy Award-winning and nationally syndicated program *All Star Orchestra* alongside fellow concertmasters and principals from the Philadelphia Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, The Met Orchestra, Boston, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Minnesota, and other major American orchestras.

**Aekyung Kim** is a diverse musician and currently the assistant principal violist of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. She travels to perform with other ensembles such as the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony, the Princeton Symphony, the Broad Street Orchestra, the Novus Ensemble, the Music and Medicine Orchestra, the Handel Festival Orchestra, and the Washington Heights Chamber Orchestra.

Kim is passionate about using chamber music as a means to engage in educational outreach. She is currently part of the Leadlights ensemble, a string group based in New York City dedicated to presenting contemporary and classical music in accessible, interactive ways. She has performed chamber music in venues such as the Peter Jay Sharp Theater in Lincoln Center, Ozawa Hall, the New York Supreme Court building, and the United Nations Headquarters.

Along with frequent performances in chamber, orchestra and educational outreach concerts, Kim brings music to the community through teaching. She is on faculty at the Fairfield | Trumbull School of Music, a member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas and a Suzuki Certified Teacher, and has her own private online studio. On top of her 10 years of private teaching experience, Kim received Suzuki training from the Hartt School and the School for Strings in Manhattan, further expanding her knowledge and skills in pedagogy. Between performance and teaching, she leads a busy lifestyle – one that gives her the greatest sense of fulfillment in sharing the joy of music making, and promoting music accessibility for all.

Kim graduated from The Juilliard School with both bachelor's and master's degrees in viola performance. There, she studied with the principal violist of the New York Philharmonic, Cynthia Phelps, and renowned pedagogists Heidi Castleman and Toby Appel. She has held solo performances at venues such as Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, Morse Recital Hall, Studzinski Recital Hall, and Tilles Center, and participated in prestigious festivals such as Tanglewood, Music Academy of the West, and Sarasota Music Festival. She has worked under conductors Christoph Von Dohnanyi, Gustavo Dudamel, Michael Tilson Thomas, Vladimir Jurowski, Stéphane Denève, Leonard Slatkin, Alan Gilbertt, Jaap van Zweden, and Andris Nelsons, and collaborated with world-renowned artists such as Gil Shaham, Emanuel Ax, Itzhak Perlman, and Roberto Diaz. Some of the most cherished moments in her performance career include playing alongside Yo-Yo Ma for the Kennedy Center Honors, and performing Mahler's *Symphony No. 1* at the Koussevitzky Music Shed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

A highly sought-after musician, **Peter Zay** is equally at home in orchestras, chamber ensembles, bands, and as a soloist. He fuses his classical training with many multi-genre styles in his performances, compositions, and arrangements. Recently, Zay has been performing extensively on both cello and guitar with fiddler and violinist EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks for a diverse series of concerts featuring old-time fiddle and classical music. Their programming is a combination of their own unique arrangements with more traditional repertoire for in-person concerts, livestreams, and videos.

A cellist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra for more than 20 years, Zay recently sat as acting principal for performances of Ginastera's *Orchestral Variations*, of which his solos were called "spectacular" by the *Hartford Courant*. He is also the principal cellist of the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra and a member of the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra. He has performed numerous times with the Boston Lyric Opera, the Portland (ME) Symphony, the Barrington Stage Company, Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston, the Boston Modern Orchestra, the New World Symphony, and the New Haven and Springfield (MA) Symphonies. As a backing musician, he has toured with Diana Krall, Linda Ronstadt, Pepe Romero, and Andrea Bocelli, and he has appeared with Luciano Pavarotti, Barry Manilow, Peter Gabriel, Arlo Guthrie, Frankie Valli, the Beach Boys, Aretha Franklin, and many others. Zay performs regularly as the newest member of the Connecticut-based New World Trio, and he often appears as a guest artist on the Sunday Serenades Concert Series at the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, and at the Trinity College Concert Series. He has traveled frequently to Spain to perform as a guest of the Quartetto Saravasti, and as a member of the American Sinfonietta he has toured to many leading venues in Europe, including Vienna's Musikverein, Frankfurt's Alte Oper, and Stuttgart's Beethoven Saal. He has been featured live on WFCR and WAMC Public Radio and has been heard on radio broadcasts across the United States and Europe.

Zay is a soloist with the critically acclaimed New Bedford (MA) Symphony Orchestra's Learning in Concert program – an in-school partnership with the symphony and more than 50 local elementary schools in southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. As a member of the Mosaic String Trio, he has collaborated to create and perform many varied and engaging educational programs for thousands of school children throughout Connecticut. He is a devoted private cello instructor in the Boston region and is on the teaching staff for the Wayland Public Schools.

Zay has a BM in cello performance from the Hartt School and a MM from the Manhattan School of Music. His primary teachers were David Wells and David Geber. and he has been coached and mentored by members of the American, Emerson, Guarneri, and Muir String Quartets, and the Beaux Arts Trio. Music festivals to his credit include the International Musical Arts Institute in Fryeburg, Maine, the Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival (VT), the Taos Chamber Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, and the Bellingham (WA) and Wintergreen (VA) Festivals of Music.

Grammy-nominated pianist **Andrius Žlabys** has received international acclaim for his appearances with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Rotterdam Symphony, and Philharmonic Orchestra of Buenos Aires. He is a featured soloist in *Between Two Waves* by Victor Kissine for piano and string orchestra released on ECM in 2013 in collaboration with Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica. In 2012, Žlabys made his concerto debut at the Salzburg Festival performing Mozart's *Concerto K.467* with the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra, conducted by Mirga Grazinyte-Tyla.

Žlabys – born in Lithuania and trained at the Curtis Institute of Music – was 18 years old when the *Chicago Tribune* wrote: "Pianist-composer Andrius Žlabys is one of the most gifted young keyboard artists to emerge in years." Žlabys was also heralded by the *New York Sun* in a review titled *A Shining Hope of Pianists* after his recital at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Žlabys's artistry has received many other accolades from the press for his performances of "easy virtuosity" (*The Strad*), "generous and all encompassing" sound (*Philadelphia Inquirer*), "spell-binding interpretation" (*The Plain Dealer*) and his "wealth of musical perception" (*Greenville News*). This international acclaim has followed his uniquely honest approach to music, as described by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*: "The beloved C-major chord... rippled off Žlabys' hands with such open-hearted rightness that you couldn't escape the notion that the pianist was acting as Bach's ventriloquist..."

Žlabys's concerts have included appearances on many of the world's leading stages, such as Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, Concertgebouw, Carnegie Hall, Phillips Collection, Teatro Colón, Wigmore Hall, Vienna's Musikverein, and Suntory Hall. He has also appeared at numerous festivals both in the US and abroad, including the Menuhin, Salzburg, Lockenhaus, and Caramoor music festivals, and made his Carnegie Hall debut at the Isaac Stern Auditorium with the New York Youth Symphony conducted by Misha Santora in 2001 in a performance of Beethoven's *First Piano Concerto*. He was also invited the following season as soloist with Kremerata Baltica to perform Benjamin Britten's *Young Apollo* at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall.

He has enjoyed collaborations with several esteemed musicians, including violist Yuri Bashmet, violinist Hilary Hahn, and an enduring collaboration with violinist Gidon Kremer, with whom Žlabys has toured extensively in Europe, Japan, South America, and the U.S.

In 2003, Žlabys received a Grammy nomination for his recording of Enescu's *Piano Quintet* with Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica. A multifaceted musician of wide-ranging repertoire, he holds a special reverence for J. S. Bach, while remaining a strong advocate for the contemporary stage with numerous works commissioned by and written for him. He was a winner of 2000 Astral Artists National auditions.

Žlabys began piano studies at the age of six in his native Lithuania with Laima Jakniuniene at the Ciurlionis Art School, and continued his studies in the US. with Victoria Mushkatkol (Interlochen Arts Academy), Seymour Lipkin (Curtis Institute of Music), Sergei Babayan (Cleveland Institute of Music), and Claude Frank (Yale School of Music).



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## MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

### 2020-2021 SEASON: Celebrating Live Music!

Music at the Red Door is delighted to welcome audiences back to the acoustic and visual splendor of the sanctuary at St. John's Episcopal Church, with a diverse array of engaging live and livestreamed musical events, including a season-long celebration of the 25th anniversary of St. John's renowned Austin Organ. We look forward to greeting you at St. John's as soon as it is safe to do so (where protective measures will be in place) and online, where *every event* will be livestreamed on St. John's YouTube and Facebook pages.

# Evensong

rest    reflect    worship

Sunday  
April 25, 2021  
5:00 p.m.

St. John's Schola  
Scott Lamlein, director

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of  
St. John's Renowned Austin Organ

# Pipes Alive!

**Sunday, May 2, 2021 12:30 pm**  
livestreamed from [www.reddoormusic.org](http://www.reddoormusic.org)  
Limited in-person seating

**EDWARD CLARK**  
Organist



MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR

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**JAZZ**  
at the red door



# NAT REEVES

AND FRIENDS

LIMITED IN-PERSON SEATING

**FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2021, 7:30 PM**  
IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAMED AT  
[REDDOORMUSIC.ORG](http://REDDOORMUSIC.ORG)


**Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of  
St. John's Renowned Austin Organ**


# Pipes Alive!

**Sunday, June 6, 2021 | 12:30 pm**  
**livestreamed from [www.reddoormusic.org](http://www.reddoormusic.org)**  
**Limited in-person seating**


## SEAN MCCARTHY

**Organist**




**MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR**

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**MUSIC AT THE RED DOOR** is the music series at St. John's Episcopal Church, West Hartford, and is committed to a mission of enriching the community with high-quality musical performances. The series has established St. John's as a destination for those seeking musical refreshment and excellence. It features a wide range of guest artists and professional performance groups, and draws on the existing strengths of our choirs, world-class Austin pipe organ, and welcoming and inspiring space. Concerts are open and accessible to all, with no admission charge, although donations are always welcome. **We hope to see you often at the Red Door!**

### **Music at the Red Door, Inc.**

St. John's Episcopal Church  
 679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford  
[www.reddoormusic.org](http://www.reddoormusic.org) - [scott@reddoormusic.org](mailto:scott@reddoormusic.org)  
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