

The Voyager Ensemble

About

In the spirit of armchair travelers everywhere, the Voyager Ensemble explores a new country of the world every concert by combining standard repertoire from the country along with a contemporary work/commission by a composer from that region. Then musicians hailing from the same region join the ensemble with the aim of infusing the concert with cultural and musical flavors. Founded by violist David Yang and violinist Airi Yoshioka in 2016, the ensemble has featured music from Hungary, France, Argentina and this year, Finland. Voyager has given world premieres by Nicolas Bacri (France) and Fernando Altube (Argentina).

Concert Programs

Finnish Connection, March 2020

Jean Sibelius: String Quartet in Minor, op. 556 "Voces Intimae"
Einojuhani Rautavaara: String Quartet No. 1
Ilari Kaila (b.1978): Wisteria for String Quartet

Guest Artists: Kurt Nikkanen, violin
Martti Rousi, cello

Argentinian Connection: March, 2019

Fernando Altube (b.1960): String Quartet No. 2 "Palomitas"
Commissioned by The Voyager Ensemble (World Premiere at the Argentinian Consul in New York City.)
Astor Piazzola: Four for Tango
Alberto Ginastera: String Quartet No. 1

Guest Artists: Alejandro Drago, violin
Juan Sebastian Delgado, cello

French Connection: March, 2018

Nicolas Bacri (b. 1961) Baltimore Sketches, op. 142b , World-Premiere
Henri Dutilleux: Ainsi la nuit
Debussy: String Quartet in G Major op. 10
Maurice Ravel: Sonata for Violin and Cello

Guest Artists: Solenne Paidassi, violin
Tristan Cornut, cello

Hungarian Connection: February, 2017

Joseph Haydn: String Quartet, Op. 20. No. 5 in f minor
Béla Bartók: String Quartet No. 2, op. 17
Zoltán Kodály: Duo for Violin and Cello, op. 7

Guest Artists: Jacob Ashworth, violin
Matthew Sharp, cello