

Black Cedar

"...explores a path less trod..."

Kris Palmer, flute

Steve Lin, guitar

Isaac Pastor-Chermak, cello

Music at Noon, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Sacramento
June 27, 2018

Sonata in G Major, K. 91 by Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

Grave

Allegro

Grave

Allegro

Drei Nachtstücke (1990) by Klaus Hinrich Stahmer (b. 1941)

Chimären des Zweifels

Schwarze Zungen der Nacht

Ça va, monsieur Croche?

Flute Sonata in C Major, BWV 1033 by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Andante

Allegro

Adagio

Menuett

In Transit (2017) by Ursula Kwong-Brown (b. 1987)

Commissioned by Black Cedar

Romance Del Diablo by Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

La Danza Tarantella by Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)



Black Cedar's accolades include multiple grants from the Zellerbach Family Foundation and the San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music, an invite to the National Flute Association Convention, and a critically acclaimed 2016 debut album, *A Path Less Trod*. "While the instrumentation is unconventional, it is surprisingly effective," writes Stephen Smoliar of The Rehearsal Studio. The trio's commissions include Ursula Kwong-Brown's *In Transit* (2017), Mark Fish' *The Devil Inside* (2016), *Miscellaneous Music* (2015) by Durwynne Hsieh and *Of Emblems* (2014) by Garrett Shatzer. Since their inception in 2013, Black Cedar has performed over 60 concerts throughout

California, and they've appeared repeatedly on KALW 91.7 FM in San Francisco, KKUP 91.5 FM in San Jose, and KWMR 90.5 FM in Marin County. "Hats off to them!" writes the Santa Cruz Sentinel. "Black Cedar forges a new repertoire with flair...audiences will be fortunate for the opportunity to hear live performances as these three musicians pave their own unique road." says San Francisco Classical Voice.

Visit www.blackcedar.biz for more information.

Kris Palmer is a winner of the Carmel Chamber Music Society Competition, a second prize winner in the National Flute Association Young Artist Competition, and a Carnegie Hall Recital Debut winner with Artists International. She is a former member of the New Mexico Symphony, and she holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts from Rice University. The New York Concert Review calls her "*clearly among the few current performers on any instrument to fully understand the nature of French Baroque music.*" www.krispalmer.com

Steve Lin is a winner of both the Boston GuitarFest Competition and the East Carolina University Guitar Competition. A recording artist for VGo Recordings, Steve has released two albums, *Eliot Fisk Series Vol. 1*, and *Imagen*. Classical Guitar magazine calls Lin "*a confident player with a powerful sound, quick hands, and a solid musical memory.*" Steve holds a Masters degree from the Yale School of Music and is the Professor of Guitar at San Jose State University. www.linguitar.com

Isaac Pastor-Chermak is Principal Cellist of Portland Opera and Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony; Associate Principal Cellist of Stockton Symphony; and a member of Santa Barbara Symphony, Monterey Symphony, Santa Cruz Symphony, and Dayton Philharmonic. He is a frequent chamber music partner with pianists Miles Graber and Alison Lee, and he is the founder and principal conductor of Solano Youth Chamber Orchestra. Isaac earned a Bachelor of Arts with Honors from U.C. Berkeley and a Master of Music with Honors from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. www.isaacpastorchermak.com

Italian composer **Domenico Scarlatti** spent much of his career as a music instructor and court composer for the royal houses of Spain and Portugal. His music is clearly in the Baroque style that defines the first half of the eighteenth century, but his work also ends up influencing the development of the Classical style, and this stylistic transition can be heard in his later works. Like his renowned father Alessandro Scarlatti, he composed in a variety of musical forms, but his lasting legacy is an output of 555 keyboard sonatas. This *G Major Sonata* has been arranged for Black Cedar by their guitarist Steve Lin.

Drei Nachtstücke by **Klaus Hinrich Stahmer** is from an eight-movement work written over thirty years ago but rarely heard outside of Germany. The movements feature the seldom-heard bass flute, creating low tone color pairings with the cello to great effect. Stahmer was born in Szczecin, Poland in 1945 but soon fled west to Germany with his family upon the approach of the Soviet military during the post-World War II East-West divide.

Johann Sebastian Bach was not widely known throughout Europe during his lifetime. He considered himself to be a conscientious craftsman merely doing his job to the best of his ability towards the service of his superiors, for the enjoyment of his fellow man, and most importantly to Bach, to the glory of God. Yet, two hundred years after his death, his music holds the highest position in the canon of European art music, and his name is venerated more than that of any other composer. This *C Major Flute Sonata* comes from a set of six sonatas that Bach composed for the flute and a keyboard instrument, roughly between 1730 and 1740. This is another work adapted for Black Cedar by guitarist Steve Lin.

Ursula Kwong-Brown is a Ph.D. candidate in U.C. Berkeley's music composition program, and Black Cedar has commissioned two works from her for this season: *Sunrise* for solo alto flute, and *In Transit* for the trio. *In Transit* was commissioned with support from the San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music and was inspired by the BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit): both the sounds of the train itself and the journeys of the over 60,000 people who use it daily. The work begins with a harmonized and distorted recording of a train which fades away as the instruments enter.

Astor Piazzolla is best known for being the father and inventor of *Tango Nuevo*, a revolutionary new genre in which jazz rhythms and classical music were infused into tango. *Tango Nuevo*, at first, was strongly rejected in

his home country Argentina, but eventually was appreciated and celebrated for the genius it was throughout the world. Steve Lin arranged *Romance Del Diablo* for Black Cedar.

Gioachino Rossini's *La Danza Tarantella* is a fine example of a patter song, which typically has a fast tempo and a rapid succession of rhythmic patterns with a single syllable or word on each note, creating a very fast moving text delivery for the singer to accomplish. *La Danza* comes from a collection of songs titled *Les soirées musicales* (1830–1835), and Bay Area composer Durwynne Hsieh arranged it for Black Cedar.