

78TH SEASON OF

# CONCERTS

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART | NOVEMBER 10, 2019



# PROGRAM

## Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet

With the Musik Tanztheater Kids from the  
German International School, Washington, DC

*Celebrating the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall,  
and the finale to the year of German-American friendship,  
“Wunderbar Together.”*

November 10, 2019 | 3:30

West Building, West Garden Court

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)  
Prelude and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 539  
(after 1720)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)  
Transcribed by Harry Staton  
*Songs without Words* (1829–1845)

Op. 62, no. 4  
Op. 102, no. 6  
Op. 19b, no. 6  
Op. 102, no. 3  
Op. 67, no. 5  
Op. 102, no. 5

Jörn-Uwe Fahrenkrog-Petersen (b. 1960),  
and Carlo Karges (1951–2002)  
“99 Luftballons” (1983)  
Musik Tanztheater Kids

*This concert is presented in collaboration with the Embassy of  
the Federal Republic of Germany.*

# THE MUSICIANS

## Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet

The Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet, founded in 1896, can probably be described as the oldest chamber music ensemble of its kind. During that first season, leading woodwind soloists, headed by oboist Alfred Gleißberg and significantly supported by Gewandhaus Music Director Arthur Nikisch, presented themselves for the first time to audiences. In the century of its history, the ensemble has become a permanent, traditional part of the world-famous Gewandhaus Orchestra. Chamber music correlates closely with orchestral music, and the quintet’s woodwind players also play in Gewandhaus Orchestra concerts. They consequently understand each other almost telepathically, making this quintet unique in its style of music. The five instrumental soloists who form this ensemble are quite rightly proud of this long tradition.

The current musicians not only perform quintet repertoire, but also play musical delicacies with expanded instrumentation. In cooperation with pianists Elisabeth Leonskaja and Peter Rösel, the group performs works such as the piano quintets by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven. The quintet is joined by other Gewandhaus musicians for serenades and wind ensemble music and also demonstrates its artistic caliber outside its Leipzig home every year in five to ten chamber music soirées. The group performs regularly in the cloister of the venerable Cistercian monastery Walkenried. Over the past few years, the five musicians were celebrated guests at the Beethoven-Haus in Bonn, the Mecklenburg-West Pomeranian Music Festival, the Philharmonic Chamber Music Festival of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Cologne Philharmony, as well as in the Alpirsbach, Maulbronn, and Bebenhausen monasteries, and at the Dresden Semper Opera.

## Katalin Stefula, flute

Katalin Stefula began her studies at the conservatory in Bratislava, Slovakia. From 1995 to 1996, she studied at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest under J. Bálint, and then changed to the Mozarteum University in Salzburg under M.M. Kofler. In 1996 and in 2001, she was an award winner at the competition Prague Spring, as well as in 2000, at the international flute competition in Cremona. She won first prize in 1995, at the international radio competition Concertino Praga; in 1997, at the Leonardo de Lorenzo competition in Viggiano; and in 2002, at the international competition in Krakow. Her orchestral career started in 1999 at the Orchestra Academy of the Munich Philharmonic. From 2001 to 2002, she was made solo flutist of the Prague Symphony. Since September 2002, Stefula has been engaged at the Gewandhaus and is a member of the Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet.

### **Simon Sommerhalder, oboe**

Swiss oboist Simon Sommerhalder was born in 1987, in Detmold, Germany, and grew up in Italy. He had his first lessons at the age of nine with Hans Elhorst in Lugano. Later he studied with Diethelm Jonas in Lübeck and with Francesco Di Rosa in Milan. Sommerhalder attended master classes with Maurice Bourgue, Ingo Goritzki, Hansjörg Schellenberger, and others.

In 2006, Sommerhalder appeared as a finalist in the Eurovision Young Musicians competition in Vienna, performing Mozart's Oboe Concerto with the Wiener Symphoniker, broadcast live on television throughout Europe. He is a former member of both Claudio Abbado's Orchestra Mozart in Bologna and the Orchestra Filarmonica "Arturo Toscanini," under Lorin Maazel. In 2006, Maazel appointed Sommerhalder assistant principal oboe of the newly founded orchestra for the opera in Valencia, Spain. In 2010, Sommerhalder held the position of principal English horn with the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, under Antonio Pappano. Since 2008, Sommerhalder has held the position of principal English horn with the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, and since 2016, he has been a member of the Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet.

### **Thomas Ziesch, clarinet**

Thomas Ziesch received his first clarinet lesson at the Bautzen School of Music and continued his education at the Special School of Music in Dresden. In 1980, he began studying at the Carl Maria von Weber College of Music in Dresden. He was awarded a diploma at the International Markneukirchen Music Competition. In 1985, he performed with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, and has been a member of the Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet since 1989.

### **Ralf Götz, horn**

Ralf Götz received his musical training at the Gera School of Music and later at the Special School of Music in Halle/Saale. From 1979 to 1983, he studied at the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy College of Music in Leipzig, under Hermann Märker. He won awards at the International Markneukirchen Music Competition in 1982 and 1984. He performed with the Gewandhaus Orchestra in 1983, and has been a member of the Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet and the Bach Orchestra since 1984.

### **Albert Kegel, bassoon**

Albert Kegel had his first bassoon lesson in 1980 with Fritz Goffing in Bremen. From 1989 to 1994, he studied at the College of Music in Hannover under Klaus Thunemann. During this period, Kegel was also a member of the Young German Philharmonic. In 1991, he won first prize with the Divertimento Trio at the German College Competition. Kegel has been bassoonist in the Gewandhaus Orchestra since 1992. He became a member of the Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet in 1997.

## **PROGRAM NOTE**

### **A Celebration of Freedom and Friendship**

On November 9, 1989, Berlin was reunited. The Berlin Wall fell. It was the end of the massive border complex that left Berlin divided into East and West for twenty-eight years, tearing apart families, friends, and neighbors. Today, Berlin is known as a place of freedom, opportunity, and individuality.

Work constructing the Berlin Wall began on August 13, 1961. The wall stood as a symbol of a divided city and country, of terror and the Cold War. Overnight, it changed an entire nation. For many people, the fall of the wall was the best day of their lives—the day they regained their freedom through a “peaceful revolution.”

Until the end of 2019, Germany is celebrating a year of German-American friendship, knowing that the United States and Germany are “Wunderbar Together,” stronger as friends and partners. Working with over two hundred partners, we are showcasing our close bonds in more than one thousand events in all fifty states. We are painting a picture of everything German-American relations stand for, including science, the arts, culture, language, business, and sports. Wunderbar Together is a comprehensive and collaborative initiative funded by the German Federal Foreign Office, implemented by the Goethe-Institut, and supported by the Federation of German Industries (BDI). We are looking forward to Americans across the country joining our celebration and telling the stories at the core of German-American friendship.

With a program crafted for today's concert by the Gewandhaus Woodwind Quintet, which includes a special appearance by the Musik Tanztheater Kids from the German International School of Washington, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the power of cultural diplomacy to break down barriers, physical and imagined. Guitarist Carlo Karges wrote the lyrics for “99 Luftballons”—an antiwar protest song. Karges, a member of the band Nena, had attended a Rolling Stones concert in 1982 in West Berlin, where the Stones released hundreds of helium-filled balloons. Karges wondered how East German or Soviet forces might react if balloons crossed the Berlin Wall. The music was composed by the band's keyboardist, Jörn-Uwe Fahrenkrog-Petersen.

# TRANSLATIONS

## “99 Luftballons”

Hast du etwas Zeit für mich  
Dann singe ich ein Lied für dich  
Von 99 Luftballons  
Auf ihrem Weg zum Horizont  
Denkst du vielleicht g'rad an mich  
Dann singe ich ein Lied für dich  
Von 99 Luftballons  
Und dass so was von so was kommt

99 Luftballons  
Auf ihrem Weg zum Horizont  
Hielt man für Ufos aus dem All  
Darum schickte ein General  
'Ne Fliegerstaffel hinterher  
Alarm zu geben, wenn es so wär  
Dabei war'n da am Horizont  
Nur 99 Luftballons

99 Düsenjäger  
Jeder war ein großer Krieger  
Hielten sich für Captain Kirk  
Das gab ein großes Feuerwerk  
Die Nachbarn haben nichts gerafft  
Und fühlten sich gleich angemacht  
Dabei schoss man am Horizont  
Auf 99 Luftballons

99 Kriegsminister  
Streichholz und Benzinkanister  
Hielten sich für schlaue Leute  
Witterten schon fette Beute  
Riefen Krieg und wollten Macht  
Mann, wer hätte das gedacht  
Dass es einmal soweit kommt  
Wegen 99 Luftballons

## “99 Balloons”

Do you have some time for me  
If so I'll sing a song for you  
About 99 balloons  
On their way to the horizon  
Maybe you're thinking about me right now  
If so I'll sing a song for you  
About 99 balloons  
And that such a thing comes from such a thing

99 Balloons  
On their way to the horizon  
People think they're UFOs from space  
So a general sent up  
A fighter squadron after them  
Sound the alarm if it's so  
But there on the horizon were  
Only 99 balloons

99 fighter jets  
Each one's a great warrior  
Thought they were Captain Kirk  
Then came a lot of fireworks  
The neighbors didn't understand anything  
And felt like they were being provoked  
So they shot at the horizon  
At 99 balloons

99 war ministers  
Matches and gasoline canisters  
They thought they were clever people  
Already smelled a nice bounty  
Called for war and wanted power  
Man, who would've thought  
That things would someday go so far  
Because of 99 balloons

99 Jahre Krieg  
Ließen keinen Platz für Sieger  
Kriegsminister gibt's nicht mehr  
Und auch keine Düsenflieger  
Heute zieh' ich meine Runden  
Seh' die Welt in Trümmern liegen  
Hab' 'nen Luftballon gefunden  
Denk' an dich und lass' ihn fliegen

99 years of war  
Left no room for victors  
There are no more war ministers  
Nor any jet fighters  
Today I'm making my rounds  
See the world lying in ruins  
I found a balloon  
Think of you and let it fly (away)

## Upcoming Events of the Seventy-Eighth Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin Concerts

Unless otherwise noted, concerts are held in the West Building, West Garden Court.

### Winners from Washington Performing Arts 48th Annual Joseph and Goldie Feder Memorial String Competition

This competition is a staple program of Washington Performing Arts and provides opportunities to budding musicians.

November 16, 3:00

### Curtis on Tour

#### Curtis Winds and Strings

Featuring the music of Beethoven and Penderecki, with Curtis alumni Benjamin Schmid, one of today's most versatile violinists, and Gabriel Kovach, principal horn of the Phoenix Symphony.

November 17, 3:30

Sound Sketch

#### Atlantic Reed Consort

*Reflecting Pool: Music that Mirrors*

*Art on the Mezzanine*

East Building Mezzanine

November 22, 12:10

### Winners from Washington Performing Arts 5th Annual Misbin Family Memorial Chamber Music Competition

This year's winners of the competition will delight listeners with their varying age groups and instrumental make-up.

November 23, 3:00

## General Information

Admission to the National Gallery of Art and all of its programs is free of charge, except as noted.

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed.

Please be sure that all portable electronic devices are turned off.

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Concerts are made possible in part through the generosity of donors to the National Gallery of Art through The Circle. Reserved seating is available in recognition of their support. Please contact the development office at (202) 842-6450 or [circle@nga.gov](mailto:circle@nga.gov) for more information.

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cover Roy Lichtenstein, *A Cherokee Brave* (detail), 1952, National Gallery of Art, Washington, Gift of Roy and Dorothy Lichtenstein © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein, 1996.56.16

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