

University of Maryland School of Music Presents

MASTERFUL STRINGS:

Amir Eldan, cello & Misha Namirovsky, piano



Tuesday, February 13, 2024 • 8PM

GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



**SCHOOL OF
MUSIC**

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MASTERFUL STRINGS

Amir Eldan, cello

Misha Namirovsky, piano

Three Songs Without Words Paul Ben Haim
(1897–1984)

- I. Arioso
- II. Ballad
- III. Sephardic Melody

Sonata in E Minor, Op. 38 Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

- I. Allegro non troppo
- II. Allegretto quasi Minuetto
- III. Allegro

Intermission

Suite populaire espagnole Manuel De Falla
(1876–1946)

- I. El paño moruno
- II. Asutriana
- III. Jota
- IV. Nana
- V. Canción
- VI. Polo

Sonata in F Minor, Op. 120 no. 1 Brahms

- I. Allegro Appassionato
- II. Andante un poco adagio
- III. Allegretto Grazioso
- IV. Vivace

Masterful Strings is funded in part by The Tretter Distinguished Faculty Fellowship in Violin and The Barbara K. Steppel Memorial Faculty Fellowship in Cello.



Amir Eldan performs as a soloist, chamber musician, and as guest principal cellist. In 2011-12, he served as principal cellist of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra by invitation from Zubin Mehta and a year later, as guest principal cellist with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. At age 22, he became the youngest member of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in New York, when he won the position of associate principal cellist and was invited by James Levine to perform with the MET Chamber Ensemble in Carnegie Hall.

As the winner of the Juilliard Competition, Eldan made his New York debut with the Brahms *Double Concerto* in Lincoln Center and has performed the six Bach *Cello Suites* in a series of concerts worldwide.

Eldan has collaborated in chamber music performances with members of the Cleveland, Guarneri, and Juilliard String Quartets and the Beaux Arts Trio, pianist Richard Goode, and cellists Lynn Harrell and Steven Isserlis.

Music festivals appearances include Bowdoin, Giverny (France), La Jolla (California), Pilsen (Czech Republic), Prussia Cove (England), and West Cork (Ireland). He also participated in the Marlboro music festival and toured with Musicians From Marlboro.

In 2006, while working on his doctorate, Eldan was appointed cello professor at the Oberlin Conservatory and served as chair of the String Department from 2015-19. He was a member of the Oberlin Trio and performed with the Trio throughout the U.S. and South Korea.

Professor Eldan holds a DMA and MM, both from Juilliard where he also served as a guest teacher. His performances have been featured on public television and radio in the U.S., Europe, and in Israel.

He was appointed a professor of cello at the University of Michigan in 2019.



Russian born American pianist Misha Namirovsky has been called a “master of his art” (The Norderstedter Zeitung – Hamburg) and a “lyrical poet” (Die Rheinpfalz – Frankfurt). His playing was characterized as “incredibly musical and sensitive, yet at the same time transparent and precise” (Klassik.TV). Professor Namirovsky is a winner of several international competitions including the prestigious German Piano Award in Frankfurt and Chopin Koscuiszco Foundation Competition in New York. Further prizes include the Promusicis award in Paris, the Gran Prix at the Cantu competition in Italy and first prize at the Louisiana International Piano Competition, among others.

Misha Namirovsky has received a deep and versatile education, spanning four countries and three continents. He began his studies in his native city of Moscow and continued his musical development in Israel, Germany, and the USA. Throughout his growth as a musician, he was accompanied and guided by wonderful musicians and renowned pedagogues such as Solomon Mikowsky, Eliso Verssaladze, and Hung-Kuan Chen. Further important influences include Mitsuko Uchida, Alfred Brendel, and Peter Weiley.

Namirovsky holds degrees from the Manhattan School of Music, Yale University, and the Munich Musikhochschule, and completed his D.M.A at the New England Conservatory in Boston. Misha Namirovsky is currently an associate professor of piano at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing.