

Clarice Presents

**YING QUARTET &
XAVIER FOLEY, DOUBLE BASS**



Friday, April 12, 2024 • 8PM

GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND

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PHOTO & VIDEO

Please note, photo and video recording of this performance is strictly prohibited.

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**YING QUARTET &
 XAVIER FOLEY, DOUBLE BASS**

Robin Scott, *violin*
 Janet Ying, *violin*
 Philip Ying, *viola*
 David Ying, *cello*

with Xavier Foley, *bass*

Franz Joseph Haydn
 (1732–1809)

String Quartet in B-flat major, Op. 50, No. 1
 Allegro
 Adagio
 Menuetto. Poco allegretto–Trio
 Finale. Vivace

Xavier Foley
 (b. 1994)

*Mayflower**
 Departure
 Silent sea
 Settlement

INTERMISSION

Antonin Dvořák
 (1841–1904)

Quintet in G major, Op. 77
 Allegro con fuoco
 Scherzo. Allegro vivace
 Poco andante
 Allegro assai

*The Clarice is a co-commissioner on this piece.

This engagement is made possible through the ArtsCONNECT program of Mid Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. This performance is also supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council and The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation.



THE MORRIS & GWENDOLYN
 CAFRITZ FOUNDATION

Xavier Foley, (b. 1994)

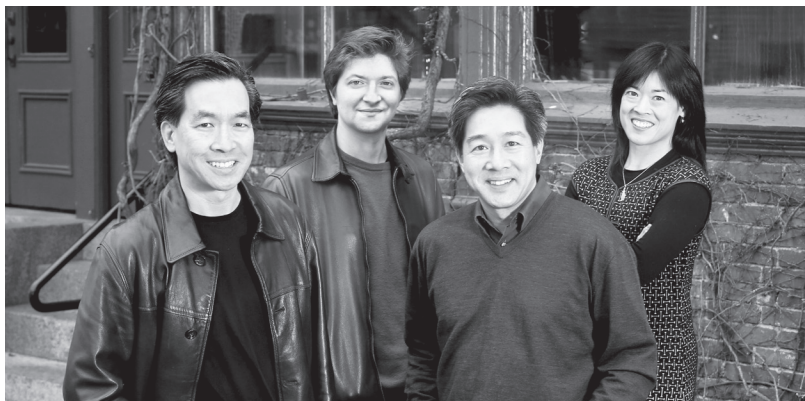
When I, Xavier Foley, first started playing the double bass, I often found myself performing the same symphonies with various youth orchestras. One of these symphonies that stood out in particular was called Symphony No. 9, “New World,” by Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904). Since the commission for this work was to be paired with Dvořák’s String Quintet No. 2, Op. 77, I decided to write a quintet that was affiliated with the idea of the “New World,” which eventually blossomed into a three-movement work in which I decided to call *Mayflower*; named after an English sailing ship that transported 102 passengers in search of a new life in the “New World” (often referred to as America) in year 1620. It is now my pleasure to present to audiences around the world my work, *Mayflower*, which in summary, is the recapitulation of my early experiences performing ‘early American’ inspired works by Antonín Dvořák.

Engagement on Campus and the Community

Both the Ying Quartet and Xavier Foley were very generous with their time during their residency. The quartet coached students in the UMD School of Music during a chamber music class, then performed and recorded original works by UMD composers during a public reading. Xavier Foley taught a masterclass for several students from the UMD School of Music's double bass studio, in addition to participating in the composer reading.

YING QUARTET





Ying Quartet

The Grammy Award-winning Ying Quartet occupies a position of unique prominence in the classical music world, combining brilliantly communicative performances with a fearlessly imaginative view of chamber music in today's world. Now in its third decade, the quartet has established itself as an ensemble of the highest musical qualifications. The quartet's performances regularly take place in many of the world's most important concert halls; at the same time, the Ying's belief that concert music can also be a meaningful part of everyday life has drawn the foursome to perform in settings as diverse as the workplace, schools, juvenile prisons and the White House.

The Ying Quartet first came to professional prominence in the early 1990s as the first recipient of an NEA Rural Residence Grant which led to it serving as the resident quartet of Jesup, Iowa, a farm town of 2,000 people. Playing before audiences of 6 to 600 in homes, schools, churches and banks, the Quartet had its first opportunities to use music and creative endeavor to help build community and authentic human connection. The Quartet considers its time in Jesup the foundation of its present musical life and goals.

The Quartet's 2023-24 season features performances for Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Chamber Music Society of Logan, Music Toronto and Chamber Music Albuquerque. In Spring 2024, the Ying Quartet teams up with bassist and composer Xavier Foley for a collaboration built around their shared passion for Dvořák and the progressive approach that he demonstrated through his life and music.

The Ying's ongoing LifeMusic commissioning project, created in response to its commitment to expanding the rich string quartet repertoire, has already achieved an impressive history. Supported by the Institute for American Music, the Ying Quartet commissions both established and emerging composers to create music that reflects contemporary American life.

Recent works include Billy Childs' *Awakening*; Lera Auerbach's *Sylvia's Diary*; Lowell Liebermann's *String Quartet No. 3, To the Victims of War*; Sebastian Currier's *Next Atlantis*; and John Novacek's *Three Rags for String Quartet*. In August 2016, the Ying Quartet released a new Schumann/ Beethoven recording on Sono Luminus with renowned cellist Zuill Bailey, and in that season the five toured with the Schumann Cello Concerto transcribed for cello and string quartet along with Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata," also reimagined for cello quintet.



Xavier Foley

Xavier Foley is known for communicating his virtuosity and passion for music on the double bass, which is rarely presented as a solo instrument.

Xavier is a first prize winner of the 2016 YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, winner of the 2014 Sphinx Competition and a 2018 Recipient of the Avery Fisher Career Grant. He has performed recitals at Shriver Hall, Rockport Music, La Jolla Chamber Music Society, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, National Gallery of Art and the Harriman-Jewell Series. An avid chamber musician, he has appeared with the Chamber

Music Society of Lincoln Center, Marlboro Music Festival, Tippet Rise Music Festival, Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival and Skaneateles Festival.

As a composer, Xavier's *For Justice and Peace* was premiered by The Sphinx Organization at Carnegie Hall in October 2019, and co-commissioned by both organizations. It has since been performed by such orchestras as the Atlanta Symphony, New West Symphony, Oregon Symphony and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Xavier's bass concerto, *Soul Bass*, was commissioned and premiered by the Atlanta Symphony, with following performances with the Baltimore Symphony under their new Music Director Jonathon Heyward and with the Kansas City Symphony under Michael Stern.

Upcoming and recent commissions for Xavier Foley include Santa Fe Pro Musica, The Cabrillo Festival in conjunction with the Mahler Foundation, The Sphinx Organization co-commissioned with Carnegie Hall and the New World Symphony, Chicago Symphony's MusicNOW (curated by Jessie Montgomery) and the Oregon Symphony, where he has been named Artist-in-Residence for the next three seasons.

During the 23-24 season Xavier will tour extensively throughout North America with the Sphinx Virtuosi playing his new concerto, *Galaxy Concertante*, for two double basses commissioned by Sphinx Virtuosi, New World Symphony and Carnegie Hall, and will also make concerto appearances performing his own works with the Spartanburg Philharmonic, San Luis Obispo Symphony, Chicago Sinfonietta, University of South Carolina Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Northwest Sinfonietta, and Oregon Symphony. He will also tour with the Ying Quartet performing a new bass quintet and will appear in recital with Abbey Church Events, Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center @ the University of Alabama, Castleon Festival, Ashmont Hill Chamber Music, Schubert Club, Bowlus Fine Arts Center and Calgary Pro Musica.

A native of Marietta, GA, Xavier is an alumnus of the Perlman Music Program, and earned his Bachelor of Music from the Curtis Institute of Music working with Edgar Meyer and Hal Robinson. His double bass was crafted by Rumano Solano.

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