



PRESENTS

***“The Premiere”***

**Thomas Mesa, cello**  
**Daniela Shtereva, violin**

*November 14, 2020, 3pm*  
*The Knickerbocker Estate of Naples*

## **PROGRAM:**

**Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)**

Duo for Violin and Cello *"Fragment"*

**Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)**

Duo for Violin and Cello No.1 in C major

1. *Allegro comodo*
2. *Larghetto sostenuto*
3. *Rondo. Allegretto (Vivace)*

**Andrea Casarrubios**

*"SEVEN"*

*(Live Premiere)*

**Zoltan Kodaly (1882-1967)**

Duo for violin and cello op.7

1. *Allegro serioso, non troppo*
2. *Adagio*
3. *Maestoso e largamente, ma non troppo lento. Presto*

**Andrea Casarrubios' "SEVEN" for solo cello (2020)** is a tribute to the essential workers during the global COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to those who lost their lives and suffered from the crisis. My intention with this work is to create an experience in which two opposites coexist: solitude and resilience during isolation, and a sense of community and solidarity. The piece ends with seven bell-like sounds, alluding to New York's daily 7 PM tribute during the lockdown - the moment when New Yorkers clap from their windows, connecting with each other and expressing appreciation for those on the front lines.

## ***Thomas Mesa, guest cellist***

Cuban-American Thomas Mesa was the top prizewinner at the 2016 Sphinx, 2013 Thaviu, and 2006 Alhambra Orchestra Concerto competitions. He has appeared as concerto soloist with the Cleveland Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic at The Hollywood Bowl, and the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, among others. Recent recital engagements have included the Mainly Mozart Festival, Bargemusic, Carnegie Hall, the Supreme Court of the United States, the Heifetz Institute, and the International Beethoven Project. He tours with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and is the principal cellist of Sphinx Virtuosi. An ongoing collaborator with The Crossing, he appeared on the choir's 2017 Grammy-nominated album Bonhoeffer. A graduate of The Juilliard School and Northwestern University, he is currently a doctoral candidate at the Manhattan School of Music.

## ***Daniela Shtereva, violinist***

Daniela's Kennedy Center debut was described as "*shot through with fantasy and fire*" in the *Washington Post*. Her musical intensity is "*absolutely spine tingling*", says Rod Bliss of *The Strad* magazine. And yet, Joseph Silverstein, the venerated concertmaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, also recognized and praised the "*sensitive artistry*" of her playing.

Born in Bulgaria, Ms. Shtereva is a fifth-generation professional musician. She made her solo violin debut with orchestra at six. Her mastery of violin technique was cultivated by world-class pedagogues, themselves students of legendary violin virtuosos like David Oistrakh, Leonid Kogan and Yfrah Neaman. Ms. Shtereva graduated from the Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, in Sofia, Bulgaria upon receiving a full scholarship to further her education in the United States. She earned her Masters in Music from Louisiana State University and Artist Diploma from Carnegie Mellon University.

Ms. Shtereva is a winner of many competitions, including the Washington International String Competition and the National Society of Arts and Letters Lynn Violin Competition. Her solo appearances include the Redlands Symphony, Plovdiv Symphony, Pazardjik Symphony, and more. She has collaborated with the double Grammy award-winning violinist, James Ehnes and the Los Angeles Philharmonic principal cellist, Robert deMaine, among others. Recordings of Ms. Shtereva are maintained in the National Television and Radio Archive of Bulgaria. She has five albums released on the Music Minus One label and her most recent one, "PARALLAX", with Alexandra Carlson is in the running for Grammy 2020. Since 2008, Ms. Shtereva has held the David and Cecile Wang Chair with the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra (USA). She performs on an 1850 French violin, generously purchased for her from Naples investors.



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*Let's talk. If you are interested in finding out more, please get in touch. Perhaps you have a project in mind or would like to hear about our ideas. Find out how you can help. Please call Daniela at (239) 465-8132.*

***Art must be an expression of love or it is nothing.***

- Marc Chagall

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