

A close-up photograph of a wooden guitar body, showing the neck joint, a gold tuning peg, and a decorative inlay on the side. The wood has a warm, reddish-brown tone and a smooth finish. The background is dark and out of focus.

**HOUGHTON**  
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GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

**ARTIST  
SERIES**

[ 2017-18 ]





## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Music: a bridge between cultures, a healing balm and an expression of the soul. We seek the comfort of music in times of good and times of trouble, unable to explain its power and depth, able only to let it move through us.

We at the Greatbatch School of Music welcome you to the 2017-2018 Artist Series. We're thrilled to have you share in the wonder and mystery that is music. As is our custom, we strive to bring you an experience like no other, one that you carry with you long after the final notes have faded away. Join with us as we worship our Creator with contemporary-flair hymns from Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass and allow the rhythm of Spanish two-piano music from the Martín-Melitón Piano Duo to melt our cares away. Stand amazed by the incredibly talented saxophonist Otis Murphy—returning to Houghton by popular demand—and relax to the internationally acclaimed Russian String Orchestra. Finally, witness the international talent of Hungarian-born Samuel Nebyu as he teams up with 2001 Houghton graduate Bethany Brooks on piano.

God has truly blessed us and this year's artists with the mission of sharing the musical talents He has bestowed, and it is my prayer that you leave each concert feeling those powerful blessings.

Armenio Suzano

Dean and Director, Greatbatch School of Music

**Friday, September 15, 2017 | 7:30 p.m.**

## **TIM ZIMMERMAN & THE KING'S BRASS**



Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass present hymn classics with a contemporary flair. The King's Brass features three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, percussion and keyboards. These instruments blend together to create a time of innovative worship that will be enjoyed by all generations.

Secular and sacred music critics alike applaud their concerts as "superb in every way," "innovative and well played" and "Truly, an unforgettable experience!"

The King's Brass, formed three decades ago, comprises professional musicians from across the country who desire to use the instruments they love to lead others in praise and worship. Based out of Fort Wayne, Indiana, the group plays over 120 concerts per year from coast to coast as well as international destinations. Members hail from Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas.

The King's Brass' most recent recording is titled "Hope." This CD, released on the Summit Records label, features the group's flugelhorns and low brass along with special guests Men of The Chapel and Aire Born Strings.

**Friday, October 20, 2017 | 7:30 p.m.**

**MARTIN-MELITÓN PIANO DUO**





Spanish-born duo-pianists Elena Martín and Jose Melitón have been hailed by critics and audiences alike for their compelling talent and authority in the realm of Spanish two-piano music. In numerous collaborations with Spanish embassies and cultural institutions worldwide, they have served as ambassadors of two-piano music from Spain. The duo has conquered the most critical audiences in the United States, Europe and Asia, performing more than a dozen original transcriptions of music by various Spanish composers. Ms. Martín and Mr. Melitón also perform standard two-piano repertoire, including works for two pianos and orchestra. The duo has received enthusiastic acclaim as guest artists in festivals, concert series, master classes and workshops in more than 30 states in the U.S. alone as well as in fine halls throughout the world. Live and recorded performances continue to appear on numerous TV and radio broadcasts throughout the U.S., Asia and Europe.

Spain's Ministry of External Affairs proudly supports many of their artistic endeavors, including the recording of their CDs "Duende" and "Jaleo" on the Centaur Label, which have been featured in various international music publications. Ms. Martín and Mr. Melitón both hold degrees from the Real Conservatorio Superior de Música de Madrid as well as The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Friday, November 3, 2017 | 7:30 p.m.**

**OTIS MURPHY**





International soloist and clinician Otis Murphy, professor of saxophone at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, has gained wide recognition in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. He has performed in great concert halls around the world, appeared/presented at more than a dozen international festivals and music schools, and been a guest soloist with ensembles such as the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (Scotland), Tokyo Sinfonia (Japan), Flint Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Royal Chamber Orchestra of Wallonie (Belgium), Bruno Moderna Chamber Orchestra, Musashino Wind Ensemble (Japan), the United States Navy Band and the Yamaha Symphonic Band.

Murphy holds Doctor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music (where he graduated with the Performer's Certificate, the highest honor given to a performer at this institution) as well as a Bachelor of Music in music education degree from the University of Georgia. Additionally, he pursued advanced studies in France under a Fulbright Fellowship for foreign study at the Conservatoire National Régional de Musique in Cergy-Pontoise, earning the Prix de Perfectionnement by a unanimous decision of the jury. Murphy is a Yamaha Performing Artist and a D'Addario Performing Artist and member of D'Addario's Musician's Advisory Board. He is a founding member and soprano saxophonist in the Solaire Saxophone Quartet. Murphy resides in Bloomington, Indiana, with his wife, Haruko, and their six children.

venues to request particular pieces or assist in the goal of crafting a program which adapts the ensembles skills to suit the particular strengths of the space.

**Friday, February 16, 2018 | 7:30 p.m.**

**BETHANY BROOKS AND SAMUEL NEBYU**



Bethany Brooks is a freelance pianist and piano teacher in the greater Philadelphia area. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from Houghton College, a Master of Music in collaborative piano and chamber music from Temple University, and a Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music (London, England). Brooks was a prizewinner in the 2001 Bartok-Kabalevsky-Prokofiev International Piano Competition

and has performed as a soloist and collaborative artist in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; New York, New York; Nashville, Tennessee; London, England; Mexico City, Mexico; Odessa, Ukraine; and Istanbul, Turkey. She is the principal pianist for the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra and a faculty member at the Csehy Summer School of Music and has served as a staff pianist for the Crescendo Summer Institute in eastern Hungary since 2008. Her solo recording project, *Quarry Street Hymnal*, features the works of Joshua Stamper and blurs the lines between classical, jazz, folk and experimental textures.

Samuel Nebyu began playing violin at the tender age of six and attended the Young Talents Program at the Brussels Royal Conservatory at 15 years old, where he received tutelage from renowned musicians. He was a violinist-in-residence for several years at the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Belgium. Currently, he is studying at Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University. Nebyu was the grand prize winner of the 2015 National American String Teachers Association Solo Competition as well as notable violin competitions in Romania and Paris, France. He has performed at international music festivals or as a solo or collaborative artist in Austria, Belgium, Israel, Italy, Romania and the United States. In 2016, Nebyu received the prestigious Clifton Emerging Artist Award and became a prize winner of the Mozarteum Salzburg Festpiel competition—the only violinist out of 291 to be selected as one of the eight winners—and was further honored to conclude the winners concert at the Mozarteum Grosse Saal. His new CD, *Violin Gems from Black Composers*, was recently released on the BCM+D label.

**Monday, March 12, 2018 | 7:30 p.m.**

## **RUSSIAN STRING ORCHESTRA**



Founded in 1991, the orchestra—comprising some of Russia’s finest young string players—has carved a niche for itself under the creative baton of its founder and music director Misha Rachlevsky. Whether it is their highly acclaimed CDs or mesmerizing concerts, the Russian String Orchestra’s warmth and high energy create addictive performances that stay with listeners long after the last note has been played.

About half of nearly 2,000 concerts the orchestra has performed to date have taken place in Moscow with the rest played on tours in 24 countries in Europe, North America, South America and the Far East. The orchestra's discography of over 30 CDs has received widespread international acclaim, such as the Diapason d'Or award in France, Critics Choice in London's Gramophone, Critics Choice in The New York Times and Record of the Year award in Hong Kong. Of about 1000 compositions in the orchestra's repertoire, over 20 were written especially for the orchestra by composers from Russia, Europe and the United States.

The signature quality of the orchestra is depth and variety of its repertoire, from early baroque to compositions written on commission from Russian String Orchestra. The orchestra prides itself on offering interesting and often unique programs, not only for its home audience, but on tour as well.





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Friday, December 1 8:00 P.M. (Houghton, NY)

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Pre-sale tickets may be purchased online at  
[www.houghton.edu/prism](http://www.houghton.edu/prism)  
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