

Simons Center for Geometry and Physics Art and Outreach Program Presents

SUMMER 2023 TUESDAY CONCERTS

Tuesday, August 22

Unraveling Ravel

Performance By

Grace Park (violin)

Sergey Antonov (cello)

Lia Nekrasov (actor – reading)

Inessa Gordeiko (film – performer)

Leon Livshin (piano, director and creator)

Dear Friends,

Let me begin by saying that the last concert was truly inspiring with a lovely reaction from the audience. It was a real pleasure to see such avid participation in terms of the questions from you all. It proves that our concept and ideas truly resonate with you ...

So, let's continue to engage, contribute and provoke! As Oscar Wilde said: "Give a man a mask and he'll tell you the truth." So, please bring your mask (or your inner mask?), your attire (costume), and your spirit, but if any of you choose to participate by not participating (in a true dandy's tradition), you are welcome to do so as well!

On **August 22nd at 5pm**, yet again, we will combine a story, music, and movies in an effort to unfold the enigmatic life of Maurice Ravel. Once again, I am privileged to work with fantastic musicians: the brilliant **Grace Park** (violin), poetic and virtuosic **Sergey Antonov** (cello), a renaissance film-performer **Inessa Gordeiko**, and, last but not least, our charming, aspiring student/actor and a dandy-in-the-making, **Lia Nekrasov**. We will play the ecstatic and powerful **Ravel's Piano Trio in A minor**, and also two of the composer's jewels **Pavane Pour une Infante Défunte** and **Pavane for four hands**. This concert is an effort to intimately explore Ravel—the man and his music. A deeply moving novella about Ravel by a wonderful novelist Jean Echenoz will help us hear Ravel's music in a new light.

The novella opens in 1928 as Maurice Ravel—a dandy, an eccentric, and a curmudgeon—crosses the Atlantic to begin his triumphant grand tour of the United States. Meanwhile, I would love to ask you to imagine and fantasize the rest of the story.

"To live is the rarest thing in the word. Most people just exist" (Oscar Wilde)

So let's live!!! Here is your playful chance to expose Ravel—by either reserve or provocation; pick your strategy, find an appropriate attire, wear it well and ... let's try to UN-RAVEL!

Musically yours,
Leon