The National Society of Arts and Letters
Boca Raton/South Florida Chapter

Lynn University Conservatory of Music
3601 N. Military Trail, Boca Raton, Florida 33431

present

The Second National Violin Competition

February 11, 2007  Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Lynn University
Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall
PROGRAM

Introduction
Welcome
Greetings

Dr. Catherine Dower-Gold
Dr. Jon Robertson
Ruth Albright
Alyce Erickson
Tao Lin, piano

VIII. Violin Concerto in d, Op. 47
Allegro moderato
Adagio di molto
Allegro ma non tantp
Jean Sibelius
Benjamin Beilman
Community High School, Ann Arbor, Michigan

X. Violin Concerto in D, Op. 77
Allegro non troppo
Adagio
Allegro giocoso, ma non troppo vivace
Johannes Brahms
Nathan Geim
Indiana University Jacobs School of Music
David Lyons, piano

XXI. Violin Concerto in D, Op. 35
Allegro moderato
Canzonetta
Allegro vivacissimo
Pyotr Il’yich Tchaikovsky
Esther Kim
Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

Intermission

XXIV. Violin Concerto, No. 2
Allegro non troppo
Andante tranquillo
Allegro molto
Bela Bartok
Jonathan Magness
University of Minnesota

XXV. Violin Concerto, No. 2
Allegro non troppo
Andante tranquillo
Allegro molto
Bela Bartok
Daniela Shtereva
Carnegie Mellon University
AWARD CEREMONY

Underwriters

First Place: Lynn University Conservatory of Music $10,000

Second Place: Donald and Georgia Mandich $5,000

Third Place: Jane Bennett $3,500

Roy and Mary Ellen Barden $1,000

Adele Marie Barrett $500

Catherine Dower Gold $500

Alyce Erickson $500

Carol Snyder $500

Tao Lin, piano

A frequent performer in a hundred programs each year, Tao Lin was born into a musical family in Shanghai, China. Admitted to the Shanghai Conservatory at eight years of age, his progress was rapid, resulting in his winning numerous prizes in competitions, including the Alexander Tcherepnin Award. He was a founding member of the Shanghai Trio, which was a finalist in the First International Chamber Music Competition in Osaka, Japan. He came to Boca Raton to study with Dr. Roberta Rust in 1990 at the Harid Conservatory where he received the Award for Outstanding Performance, and graduate studies with Ivan Davis at the University of Miami. He was a prize winner in many competitions including NSAL. He has concertized in Europe, Scandinavia, and the United States as a guest artist and has several CDs available in the Conservatory Ticket Office.
In his sixth season as Music Director of both the New Mexico and Puerto Rican Symphonies, Guillermo Figueroa’s intense, passionate musicianship, his elegant and precise technique, and especially his rapport with players and audiences alike, have earned him critical acclaim and international recognition. These characteristics have elevated both organizations to the higher ranks of American orchestras.

Guillermo Figueroa was chosen to be Music Director of the Sante Fe, New Mexico, Symphony Orchestra after receiving rave reviews from the audiences, musicians, critics, and Board of Directors. In the 2004-2005 season, he was reappointed for a five-year term. The Symphony Orchestra of Puerto Rico is the foremost musical ensemble of that country and one of the most eminent orchestras of the Americas.

Also a renowned violinist, Figueroa is a founding member of the world-famous Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. With that group he has been concertmaster and soloist in performances throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia and made over fifty recordings for Deutsche Gramophone. For ten years he was concertmaster of the New York City Ballet, appearing in over a hundred performances of violin concerti by Barber, Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Berg, Glass, Bach, and Brahms.

With his violinist wife, Valerie Turner, they founded and are the Artistic Directors of the highly acclaimed Festival de Musica Rondena Chamber Series in Albuquerque. As part of Puerto Rico’s most distinguished musical family he has appeared with the Figueroa Chamber Ensemble at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and the Kennedy Center.

Maestro Figueroa studied with his father and uncle at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico and with Oscar Shumsky and Felix Galimar at the Juilliard School of Music. His conducting studies were with Harold Farberman in New York.

Figueroa has collaborated with many leading twentieth-century artists, and is a leading advocate for new composers whose works he has world premiered and recorded.
Elmar Oliveira is one of the most commanding violinists of our time, with his unsurpassed combination of impeccable artistry and old world elegance. He is one of the few major artists committed to the entire spectrum of the violin world—constantly expanding traditional repertoire boundaries as a champion of contemporary music and rarely-heard works of the past, and devoting energy to the development of the young artists of tomorrow.

Elmar Oliveira, the son of Portuguese parents and native of Waterbury, Connecticut, was nine years old when he began studying violin with his brother John. He continued his studies at the Hartt College of Music and Manhattan School of Music, where he also received an honorary doctorate.

He won his first competition at age 14, performing with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. Elmar Oliveira is the first and only American violinist to win the Gold Medal at the Moscow Tchaikovsky International Competition. And he is the first violinist to receive the coveted Avery Fisher Prize, in addition to capturing First Prizes at the Naumberg International and the G.B. Dealy Competitions. Other honors include an honorary doctorate from Binghamton University and the Order of Santiago, Portugal’s highest civilian honor.

He has become a familiar and much-admired figure at the foremost concert venues. His repertoire is among the most diverse of any of today’s pre-eminent artists. While he has been hailed for his performances of standard violin literature, he is also a much sought after interpreter of contemporary music.

A prodigious recording artist, Elmar Oliveira’s best-selling recording with the Helsinki Philharmonic won the Cannes Classical Award and has appeared on Gramophone’s Editor’s Choice and Best Recordings lists world-wide. Of historical significance are two unique projects: a CD released by Bein & Fushi of Chicago, featuring Mr. Oliveira performing on some of the world’s greatest violins, and a recording highlighting the rare violins in the Library of Congress collection.
Aaron Rosand is among the world’s outstanding violinists whose masterful playing has captivated audiences and critics. A true violinist’s violinist, and “one of the great living exponents of Romantic violin music,” according to the *New York Times*, Rosand has made “some of the greatest recordings of this century” (*Gramophone Magazine*). Recordings lauded by *Strad* are “synonymous with immaculate technical achievement, beautiful multicultural tonal luster, artful playing, and a probing intellect.” Over half a century, the legendary concert violinist has recorded more than 150 compositions.

Rosand began an intensive study of the violin at age three. At age nine, he made his debut at the Chicago Opera House, which won him a scholarship to study with Leon Samentini at the Chicago Musical College. At age 10 he performed the Mendelssohn *Violin Concerto* with the Chicago Symphony. Next, he studied under Efrem Zimbalist at Curtis Institute in 1944, leaving for eighteen months of Special Services in the United States Eighth Army in Japan. Upon his return in 1947, Rosand was noticed by National Concert and Artist Corporation and encouraged to begin an extensive concert career. In 1948 he made his first professional debut at Town Hall in New York and became known as the “pinch-hitter” for performing any of 20 concertos at a moment’s notice.

In 1961, he and his first wife, Eileen Flissler, recorded all of Beethoven’s works for piano and violin, which was praised by the *New York Times* as one of the all-time best-selling violin records. In 1981, Rosand was invited to join his alma mater, the Curtis Institute of Music, as the Dorothy Richard Sterling Chair of Violin Studies. He is still a member of its Artist Faculty. A prolific recording and performing artist, Rosand enjoys an enduring career that has spanned more than six decades. According to *Strad*, Rosand’s technique is “undiminished by the passing years, interpretations honed to perfection by a lifetime of performances. He has always had the ability to make music sound fresh and spontaneous, his tone shaded with a flexible vibrato ideal for romantic music.”
Joseph Silverstein is one of the foremost concertmasters of recent decades and "a violinist of consummate taste, silvery timbre, and expressive majesty" (Cleveland Plain Dealer). In 1955, he joined the violin section of the Boston Symphony Orchestra as concertmaster, a position he held for 22 years, and assistant conductor in 1971 through 1984. During his tenure, he conducted over 100 concerts in the United States, Canada, and abroad. He also served several symphonies as artistic advisor. Before Boston, he spent three seasons with the Houston Symphony, one with Philadelphia Orchestra, and one season as concertmaster and assistant conductor of the Denver Symphony. He was the principal guest conductor of Seattle’s Northwest Chamber Orchestra, music director of the Utah Symphony Orchestra from 1983 to 1998, becoming conductor laureate in the 1998-1999 season. He was music director of the Chatauqua Symphony from 1986-1987 through 1988-1989.

Born in Detroit, he first studied with his father, followed by his formal training (1945-1950) at the Curtis Institute of Music from which he graduated in 1950. His teachers included Josef Gingold, Mischa Mischakoff, and Efrem Zimbalist.

As a conductor and soloist, Maestro Silverstein has appeared with hundreds of orchestras in the United States, as well as Japan, Israel, and Europe. As a participant in international competitions, he was a silver medalist in the 1959 Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels, and he also won the Naumberg Award in 1960.

He was a member of the faculties of Yale and Boston Universities, Longy School of Music, and Tanglewood, the Berkshire Music Center. He holds honorary degrees from Boston College, Rhode Island, and Tufts Universities and New England Conservatory. He is a member of the Curtis Institute of Music string and chamber music faculty, an artist member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York, and acting artistic director of the Portland, Maine Symphony. He has recorded extensively.
Since 1994, the National Society of Arts and Letters, a nonprofit organization, includes people who have been, or are, professionally engaged in the visual or performing arts, or who have actively sponsored or are sponsoring the work of young artists. NSAL encourages, assists, and sponsors creative and performing artists at the beginning of their artistic careers. In the spring, each chapter conducts an annual competition, the winner of which is escorted to the National Career Awards competition for greater career opportunities. Substantial monetary awards are offered, opportunities are provided for talented young artists to be heard and seen by professionals, patrons of the arts, and members of the media.

Lynn University currently hosts students from 46 states and 90 countries, providing education, support, and an environment enabling students to realize their true potential through a basic core of every major program—a liberal arts education. The Mission of the Conservatory of Music is to provide high-quality professional performance education for gifted young high-achiever musicians and set a superior standard for music performance education worldwide. Primary among its goals is nurturing and educating the student with attention to musicianship, artistry, and skills through intensive programs of study essential in the competitive field of music performance. The Conservatory Artist Faculty, a community of exceptionally accomplished and dedicated individuals, maintain active performance careers, bringing their experience and expertise to the aspiring student body.

COMMITTEE

Dr. Jon Robertson, Dean, Lynn University Conservatory of Music
Ruth Albright, National President NSAL
Alyce Erickson, President, Boca Raton/So. FL Chapter NSAL
Dr. Catherine Dower Gold, Chairman
José Alvarez, Judi Asselta, Adele Barrett, Christina Burr
Nancy Canary, Chloe Dolandis, Mindy Dolandi, Brandon Erickson
Dr. Luisa de Fuentes, Madi Guzinski, Rita Hobbs, Jason Hughes
Judith James, Carol Mandel, Donald Mandich, Patricia McCarthy
Marilyn Nelson, Phillipa Reboli, Dr. Nicholas Reboli
Charlotte Robinson, Fred Silver, Pamela Smith, Carol Snyder
Dorinda Spahr, William Sullivan, Monique de Vosjoli
Diane Wittig, Christopher Wittig

LYNN UNIVERSITY VOLUNTEERS
Matt Henderson, MM student
Mica Parkinson '07
Aziz Sapaev '09
Andrew Wood '09