Mark Kaplan has established himself as one of the leading violinists of his generation. His consummate artistry has resulted in engagements with nearly every major American and European orchestra, including the New York, Berlin and Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestras, the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, the Chicago and National Symphony Orchestras, and the symphony orchestras of London, Paris, Geneva, Barcelona and Budapest. He has collaborated with many of the world's foremost conductors, among them Ormandy, Tennstedt, Maazel, Masur, Dutoit, Bychkov, Comissiona, Conlon, Foster, Gatti, Rattle, Robertson, Salonen, Semkov, Skrowaczewski, Slatkin and Zinman; and has appeared regularly at festivals such as Aspen, Blossom, Chautauqua, Grant Park, Ravinia, Saratoga and Wolf Trap. Among the particularly memorable musical experiences for Mr. Kaplan have been Beethoven violin concerto performances with Klaus Tennstedt and the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra, several appearances with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, and his many projects involving the solo works of Bach. In addition to his solo music-making, Mr. Kaplan is also devoted to chamber music. From 1982 to 2000, he performed and recorded extensively with cellist Colin Carr and the late pianist David Golub, as the Golub-Kaplan-Carr Trio. Now, together with pianist Yael Weiss and cellist Clancy Newman, Mr. Kaplan is continuing that distinguished tradition, appearing as the Weiss-Kaplan-Newman Trio with recordings and performances world-wide. Mr. Kaplan has a wide range of repertoire currently available on compact disc. Recently released from Koch International Classics are concerti of Berg and Stravinsky, the Lalo Symphonie Espagnole and the Concierto Espagnol of Joan Manen, all under the baton of Lawrence Foster. Other recordings include violin concerti of Bartók, Dohnányi, Paganini, Wieniawski and Viotti; Spanish Dances of Sarasate; works with piano of Bartók and Schumann; the solo violin works of J.S. Bach; and trios of Brahms, Debussy, Dvorak, Fauré, Mendelssohn, Rachmaninov, Saint-Saens and Schubert. A recording of Tchaikovsky and Smetana trios received the 1996 INDIE Award for "Best Classical Album by an Ensemble." Since 2005, Mark Kaplan has been Professor of Violin at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, and prior to that he served as Professor with Distinction at UCLA. He is a graduate of the Juilliard School, where he was a student of Dorothy DeLay and recipient of the Fritz Kreisler Memorial Scholarship. Mark Kaplan plays a violin made by Antonio Stradivari in 1685, known as the "Marquis."
Program

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Major, op. 78
Vivace ma non troppo
Adagio - Piu Andante
Allegro molto moderato

Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major, op. 100
Allegro amabile
Andante tranquillo - Vivace
Allegretto grazioso

INTERMESSION

Two Rhapsodies for Piano, op. 79
Agitato in B Minor
Molto Passionato ma non troppo in G Minor

Sonata for Violin and Piano in D Minor, op. 108
Allegro
Adagio
Un poco presto e con sentimento
Presto agitato

A captivating presence on the concert scene is pianist Yael Weiss, hailed by many of today's greatest musicians and critics for visionary interpretations of surpassing depth, immediacy and communicative power. Following a recent recital, the Washington Post portrayed her as "a pianist who delves deeply and tellingly into that cloudy area where fantasymorphs into improvisation, inventiveness being common to both." Ms. Weiss has performed across the United States, Europe, Japan, Korea and South America at such venues as the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall and London's Wigmore Hall. Her New York recital debut, presented by the Metropolitan Museum, was acclaimed by the New York Times as, "remarkably powerful and intense . . . fine technique and musicianship in the service of an arresting array of music." A frequent soloist with major orchestras, Ms. Weiss has appeared with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Chautauqua Festival Orchestra, Prague Chamber Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Israel Chamber Orchestra, and the Brazil National Symphony, among others. Yael Weiss's discography encompasses piano works by over a dozen composers, with two recent releases, "Robert Schumann: Piano Works" and "88 Keys to Joy", both on the Koch International Classics label. Ms. Weiss is also devoted to chamber music, and tours worldwide with her piano trio, the Weiss-Kaplan-Newman Trio with violinist Mark Kaplan and cellist Clancy Newman. A selection featuring the trio was chosen for the 2003 "Best of St. Paul Sunday" CD. A new CD of a recently commissioned piano trio by Paul Chihara was released last year on Bridge Records. Ms. Weiss is a regular favorite at international music festivals including the Marlboro, Ravinia, City of London, Banff, Parry Sound, Caramoor, and the Seattle Chamber Music Festival. Ms. Weiss has been honored with distinguished prizes from the 2002 Naumburg International Piano Competition and the Kosciusko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition, and has been a recipient of the Presser Award as well as grants from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation. She has presented masterclasses for universities throughout the United States and Europe, and currently serves on the faculty of the Indiana University School of Music. She studied with Richard Goode and Edward Aldwell at the Mannes College of Music and with Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory. Yael Weiss makes her home in New York City and Bloomington. Her website at www.yaelweiss.com offers further information as well as a personal visit with the artist.