



Photo by Lisa Mazzucco

# Emerson String Quartet

Sponsored by:  
Guillermo Figueroa

**LYNN**  
Conservatory of Music

2018-2019 Season

# Emerson String Quartet

Saturday, January 12 – 7:30 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold  
Performing Arts Center

## Program

Lyric for Strings (1946)

George Walker  
(b.1922)

String Quartet No. 5, Sz. 102, BB 110

*Allegro*

*Adagio molto*

*Scherzo: alla bulgarese*

*Andante*

*Finale: Allegro vivace*

Béla Bartók  
(1881-1945)

### INTERMISSION

String Quintet in G Major, op. 111

*Allegro non troppo*

*Adagio*

*Un poco allegretto*

*Vivace*

Johannes Brahms  
(1833-1897)

Guillermo Figueroa, viola

**Please silence or turn off all electronic devices, including  
cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms.**

**Unauthorized recording or photography is strictly prohibited.**



Photo by Lisa Mazzucco

## Emerson String Quartet

The Emerson String Quartet has maintained its stature as one of the world's premier chamber music ensembles for more than four decades. The quartet has made more than 30 acclaimed recordings, and has been honored with nine Grammys® (including two for Best Classical Album), three Gramophone Awards, the Avery Fisher Prize, and Musical America's "Ensemble of the Year". The Emerson frequently collaborates with some of today's most esteemed composers to premiere new works, keeping the string quartet art form alive and relevant. They have partnered in performance with stellar soloists including René Fleming, Barbara Hannigan, Evgeny Kissin, Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman, to name a few.

During the 2018-2019 season the Emerson continues to perform as the quartet in residence at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. for its 40th season and returns to perform with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. The group's North American appearances include a performance at New York's Alice Tully Hall, and appears around North America that include the Library of Congress in Washington DC, Denver, Vancouver, Seattle, Houston, Indianapolis, Detroit, the Yale School of Music and University of Georgia, among others. The quartet also embarks on two European tours, performing in major venues in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy and Spain. During the summer of 2019, the Emerson will perform at Tanglewood, Ravinia, and the Aspen Music Festivals.

Other North American highlights include subsequent performances of *Shostakovich and The Black Monk: A Russian Fantasy*, the new theatrical production co-created by the acclaimed theater director James Glossman and the Quartet's violinist, Philip Setzer. The music/theater hybrid, co-commissioned by the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, Princeton University and Tanglewood Music Festival, has been presented at the Ravinia Music Festival, Wolf Trap, and in Seoul, South Korea. In spring 2019, the quartet will

reprise this work at Stony Brook University and the Orange County Performing Arts Center. In a bold intersection of chamber music and theater starring David Strathairn/Len Cariou and Jay O. Sanders/Sean Astin with the Emerson String Quartet, the audiences witness the trials of Dmitri Shostakovich's 40-year obsessive quest to create an opera based on Anton Chekhov's mystical tale: *The Black Monk*.

The Emerson's extensive recordings range from Bach to Harbison, including the complete string quartets of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Bartok, Webern and Shostakovich, as well as multi-CD sets of the major works of Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Dvorak. The ensemble has also recorded music by Tchaikovsky, Smetana, Debussy, Ravel, Barber and Ives. In April 2017, the Emerson released its latest album, *Chaconnes and Fantasias: Music of Britten and Purcell*, the first CD issue on the new label, Decca Gold. The Quartet has commissioned and performed new works from composers such as Thomas Adés, Kaija Saariaho, Wolfgang Rihm, Mark-Anthony Turnage, and Edgar Meyer.

Formed in 1976 and based in New York City, the Emerson was one of the first quartets whose violinists alternated in the first chair position. The quartet, which took its name from the American poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, balances busy performing careers with a commitment to teaching and serves as Quartet-in-Residence at Stony Brook University. In 2013, cellist Paul Watkins, a distinguished soloist, award-winning conductor, and devoted chamber musician, joined the original members of the Emerson Quartet. The reconfigured group has been praised by critics and fans alike around the world. In spring 2016, full-time Stony Brook faculty members Philip Setzer and Lawrence Dutton received the honor of Distinguished Professor, and part-time faculty members Eugene Drucker and Paul Watkins were awarded the title of Honorary Distinguished Professor. The Emerson had previously received honorary doctorates from Middlebury College, the College of Wooster, Bard College and the University of Hartford. In January 2015, the Quartet received the Richard J. Bogomolny National Service Award, Chamber Music America's highest honor, in recognition of its significant and lasting contribution to the chamber music field.

The Emerson Quartet enthusiastically endorses Thomastik strings.

**Emerson String Quartet** appears by arrangement with IMG Artists, LLC, 7 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10019. 212-994-3500.

**Emerson String Quartet** records for: DECCA



## Guillermo Figueroa

One of the most versatile and respected musical artists of his generation - renowned as conductor, violinist, violist and concertmaster - Guillermo Figueroa is the Principal Conductor of the Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra. He is also the Music Director of the Music in the Mountains Festival in Colorado and Music Director of the Lynn Philharmonia in Florida. He is the founder of the highly acclaimed Figueroa Music and Arts Project in Albuquerque.

Additionally, he was the Music Director of both the New Mexico Symphony and the Puerto Rico Symphony. With this last orchestra, he performed to critical acclaim at Carnegie Hall in 2003, the Kennedy Center in 2004 and Spain in 2005.

International appearances include the Toronto Symphony, Iceland Symphony, the Baltic Philharmonic in Poland, Orquesta del Teatro Argentino in La Plata, Xalapa (Mexico), the Orquesta de Cordoba in Spain and the Orquesta Sinfonica de Chile. In the US he has appeared with the symphony orchestras of Detroit, New Jersey, Memphis, Phoenix, Colorado, Tucson, Santa Fe, Fairfax, San Jose, the Juilliard Orchestra and the New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center.

Mr. Figueroa has collaborated with many of the leading artists of our time, including Itzhak Perlman, YoYo Ma, Hilary Hahn, Placido Domingo, Joshua Bell, Olga Kern, Janos Starker, James Galway, Midori, Horacio Gutierrez, the Emerson and Fine Arts String Quartets, Ben Hepner, Rachel Barton Pine, Pepe and Angel Romero, Elmar Oliveira, Vadim Gluzman and Philippe Quint.

Mr. Figueroa has conducted the premieres of works by important composers, such as Roberto Sierra, Ernesto Cordero and Miguel del Águila. An advocate for new music, Mr. Figueroa and the NMSO won an Award for Adventurous Programming from the League of American Orchestras in 2007.

A renowned violinist as well, his recording of Ernesto Cordero's violin concertos for the Naxos label received a Latin Grammy nomination in 2012. Figueroa was Concertmaster of the New York City Ballet, and a Founding Member and Concertmaster of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, making over fifty recordings for Deutsche Grammophon. Also accomplished on the viola, Figueroa performs frequently as guest of the Fine Arts, American, Amernet and Orion string quartets.

Figueroa has given the world premieres of four violin concertos written for him: in 1995 the Concertino by Mario Davidovsky, at Carnegie Hall with Orpheus; in 2007 the Double Concerto by Harold Farberman, with the American Symphony at Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center; in 2008 the Violin Concerto by Miguel del Aguila, commissioned by Figueroa and the NMSO and in 2009 Insula, Suite Concertante, by Ernesto Cordero with the Solisti di Zagreb in Zagreb.

He has appeared at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Music in the Vineyards in California, Festival Groba in Spain and Music from Angel Fire. Figueroa has recorded the Three Violin Sonatas by Bartok for the Eroica Classical label, with pianist Robert Koenig, and an album of virtuoso violin music by for the NMSO label, with pianist Ivonne Figueroa.

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

## Upcoming events:

### 13<sup>th</sup> Annual New Music Festival

Yevgeniy Sharlat, Composer-in-Residence  
Lisa Leonard, director

Location: Count and Countess de Hoernle International Center | Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

ALL EVENTS FREE

### Spotlight No. 1: Young Composers

Friday, Jan. 18 – 7:30 p.m.

A platform for world premieres!

Witness the birth of music when it is first performed. This concert features the works of our sensational composition majors performed by the composers themselves and their peers.

### Master Class and Interview with Yevgeniy Sharlat

Saturday, Jan. 19 – 1 p.m.

Get to know the man behind the music. Lisa Leonard will interview Dr. Sharlat as he conducts a master class of his own music performed by select Conservatory students. Dr. Sharlat holds degrees from the Juilliard School, Curtis Institute and Yale University and serves on the composition faculty of the University of Texas at Austin. He has been commissioned by groups including Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, the Caramoor and Gilmore Festivals and the Seattle Chamber Players. He is the recipient of the 2006 Charles Ives Fellowship from American Academy of Arts and Letters and the Fromm Music Foundation Commission in addition to fellowships from MacDowell and Yaddo, and ASCAP's Morton Gould, Boosey & Hawkes, and Leiber & Stoller awards.

### Spotlight No. 2: Music of Yevgeniy Sharlat

Sunday, Jan. 20 – 4 p.m.

"That's often the definition of greatness in music – when something as abstract as pure tone starts to tap you on the shoulder with a message to look outside of music, and this [Sharlat's *Piano Quartet*] does that emphatically... it might be one of the most compelling works to enter the chamber music literature in some time. His aesthetic is unique, and yet it evolves even during the course of the work." - *Philadelphia Inquirer*

### An Evening of Chamber Music and Poems

Thursday, Jan. 24 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Snyder Sanctuary

Tickets: \$10

The Conservatory of Music and the Christine E. Lynn School of International Communication collaborate on a series of performances in the new Snyder Sanctuary. These concerts feature musical performances and dramatic poetry readings by Lynn's young artists.

## Philharmonia No. 4

Saturday, Jan. 26 – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, – Jan. 27 – 4 p.m.

Jon Robertson, conductor

Location: Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

BRAHMS	Academic Overture
BARBER	Adagio for Strings
DILORENZO	Phoenix Horn Concerto
	Gregory Miller, horn
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 5

Tickets:

Box	Orchestra	Mezzanine
\$50	\$40	\$35

## Mostly Music: “Tchaikovsky and Friends”

Thursday, Jan. 31 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Count and Countess de Hoernle International Center | Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

\$20

Peter Illyich Tchaikovsky was the first Russian composer whose music made a lasting impression internationally. During his creative years, however, he was often in conflict with Russian colleague composers including Rimsky-Korsakov, Borodin and Mussorgsky who had more nationalistic aesthetic goals.

## Fine Arts Quartet Events

Saturday, Feb. 2

Sunday, Feb. 3

Location: Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Tickets: \$20

The Fine Arts Quartet, “one of the gold-plated names in chamber music” (*Washington Post*), ranks among the most distinguished ensembles in chamber music today, with an illustrious history of performing success and an extensive legacy of over 200 recorded works. Founded in Chicago in 1946, the Quartet is one of the elite few to have recorded and toured internationally for well over a half-century.

## Fine Arts Quartet Concert

Saturday, Feb. 2 – 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$20

The Fine Arts Quartet is joined by Lynn Piano Professor Roberta Rust.

## Fine Arts Quartet Master Class

Sunday, Feb. 3 – 10 a.m.

Location: Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Tickets: Free



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**LYNN**  
Conservatory of Music

3601 N. Military Trail  
Boca Raton, FL 33431  
[Lynn.edu/music](http://Lynn.edu/music)

Box Office:  
+1 561-237-9000  
[events.lynn.edu](http://events.lynn.edu)