

IOANA GALU AND ANTHONY NESLAND

WORKS FOR VIOLIN/VIOLA AND
TWO VIOLINS

BY LECLAIR | MOZART
BACEWICZ



TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024
7:30 P.M.

NATIONAL MUSIC MUSEUM
JANET LUCILLE WANZEK PERFORMANCE HALL



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

IOANA GALU AND ANTHONY NESLAND

WORKS FOR VIOLIN/VIOLA AND TWO VIOLINS

FEATURING NATIONAL MUSIC MUSEUM INSTRUMENTS

VIOLA by Franz Geissenhof, Vienna, 1807.

*Formerly in the collections of the noble Czartoryski family and the Gesellschaft für Musikfreunde, Vienna.
Gift of Philip Kass, 2023.*

VIOLIN by Giovanni Batista Ceruti, Cremona, ca. 1810.

Gift of J. Laiten Weed Estate, 1990.

PROGRAM

Sonata No. 6 Op. 3 in D Major for Two Violins Jean Marie Leclair
(1697–1764)

Andante

Allegro

Largo

Allegro ma non troppo

Ioana Galu and Anthony Nesland, violins

Duo in B flat Major for Violin and Viola KV 424 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756–1791)

Adagio-Allegro

Andante cantabile

Tema con variazioni

Anthony Nesland, violin; Ioana Galu, viola

Suite For Two Violins (1943) Grażyna Bacewicz
(1909–1969)

Allegro

Andante

Vivo

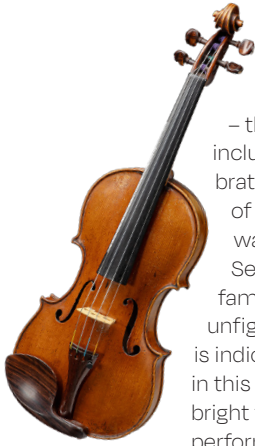
Tempo di menuetto

Allegro

Andante. Fughetta

Allegro

Ioana Galu and Anthony Nesland, violins



Violin by Giovanni Battista Ceruti

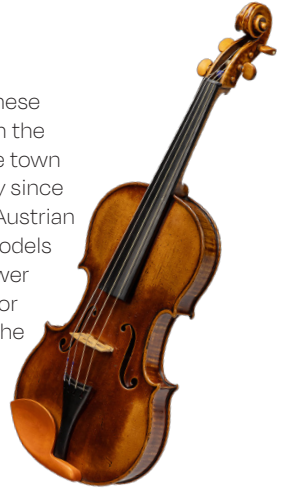
Cremona, Italy, ca. 1810

Cremona is famous as the birthplace of the violin as we know it – the town was home to some of the most famous makers in history, including the Amati, Stradivari, and Guarneri families. While its most celebrated period of making ended in the mid-18th century, smaller numbers of luthiers continued to work through the 19th century. One of those was Giovanni Batista Ceruti (1756-1817), who was born in the town Sesto, outside Cremona, and who may have worked with the Bergonzi family and Lorenzo Storioni. The NMM's Ceruti violin is made from plain, unfigured wood which is patched under the varnish to correct flaws. This is indicative of declines in the wood supply available to Cremonese makers in this late period. Nevertheless, it has a beautiful golden varnish, an even, bright tone, and genial, easy-going playing qualities, making it a versatile performing instrument. Gift of J. Laiten Weed Estate, 1990. NMM 4900.

Viola by Franz Geissenhof

Vienna, Austria, 1807

Franz Geissenhof (1753-1821) was one of the most celebrated Viennese luthiers, and he flourished in the midst of a musical culture filled with the music of Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. Geissenhof was from the town of Füssen, where instrument making had been an important industry since the late medieval period. In 1772, he moved to Vienna, the center of Austrian musical culture. By 1800 he abandoned the higher-arched Stainer models popular in German-speaking countries for a Stradivari model with lower arching. The NMM's viola is preserved with its original neck and interior components, making it a valuable document of Geissenhof's work. The instrument bears the brand of the Polish noble Czartorysky family. Is also branded GD / MF for the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde, a musical society founded in 1812 which sponsored musical performances and assembled an important archive. The viola was sold by the Gesellschaft in 1929. It is likely that before this point the viola had been used for many concerts involving prominent artists. Its small size and violin-like tone was characteristic of violas used for quartets and chamber music in the period. Gift of Philip Kass, 2023. NMM 15726.



Violin by Giovanni Battista Morassi

Cremona, Italy, 1965.

This violin is representative of the revival of high-end violin making in Cremona in the 20th century. Giovanni Battista Morassi (1934-2018) was born near Udine and studied violin making at the International School of Violin Making in Cremona. In addition to engaging in his own making, Morassi became an instructor in the school, teaching there until 1983. Morassi was an avid researcher and studied fine old Cremonese violins to inform his own work and teaching. As with many Italian luthiers, violinmaking was a family affair for Morassi, and his son and nephew followed him into the trade. This is Professor Galu's regular performance violin.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

ANTHONY NESLAND is a violinist, violist, and conductor residing in Rapid City, South Dakota. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he earned a degree in violin performance. During his time in Nebraska, Anthony studied violin with David Neely, Mahlon Darlington, and viola with Clark Potter. While in Lincoln, he also pursued studies in orchestral conducting under the tutelage of Dr. Tyler White for three and a half years. This included directing the UNL Campus Orchestra and conducting the UNL Symphony Orchestra in rehearsal. He was also invited to conduct in a masterclass with Keith Lockhart of the Boston Pops Orchestra. Anthony has performed with the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, Black Hills Symphony Orchestra, Kearney Symphony Orchestra, and the UNL Symphony Orchestra which included serving as concertmaster.

IOANA GALU, a native of Romania, has enjoyed a rich career as a performer, researcher and pedagogue in both Europe and the United States. Former Assistant Professor of Violin and chamber music at Gheorghe Dima Music Academy in Cluj, Romania, Galu has also been on the faculty at Heidelberg University, Bowling Green State University and The College of Wooster. Galu joined the University of South Dakota in 2016 and is currently Associate Professor of Violin/Viola, co-director of the USD Chamber Orchestra and member of the Rawlins Piano Trio. She has served on the faculty of the Eastern Music Festival (Greenboro, North Carolina) between 2004 and 2022, and is now the artistic director of the Arioso Chamber Players.

A graduate of Gheorghe Dima Music Academy, Romania, Galu earned a second master's degree in violin performance from Bowling Green State University, an Artist Diploma from University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music and a doctorate in Contemporary Music from Bowling Green State University. Her most important teachers were Victoria Nicolae, Vasile Beluska, Yim Won Bin and Penny Thompson Kruse.

Galu has completed additional studies with the Voces String Quartet, Amernet String Quartet, Alexandru Gavrilovici, Kiss Ladislau, Trio Kadek, Jacques Saint-Yves, Sherban Lupu, Devics Sandor and Wolfram Just. In 2000, she earned a scholarship to study at the Académie Musicale de Villecroze. France.

She has been awarded prizes in several national and international competitions, including Second Prize in the Mozart International Competition for Piano Trios (Romania), and First Prize and Special Prize of the SOROS Foundation at the George Enescu Violin National Competition (Romania). She also won the Second Prize in the

Starling Violin Competition College Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati (CCM) and was the winner of the CCM Concerto Competition with Bernstein's Serenade.

Galu has performed recitals in Romania, Hungary, Germany, France, Italy, and the United States. She appeared as soloist with Transylvania Philharmonic, Tg. Mures Philharmonic, Sibiu Philharmonic, and Satu Mare Philharmonic (Romania) and with CCM Orchestra, Heidelberg University Orchestra, Jackson Symphony Orchestra, Southern Great Lakes Symphony, Central Ohio Symphony, Perrysburg Symphony, BGSU Philharmonia, USD Chamber Orchestra, USD Symphony, USD Percussion Ensemble and South Dakota Symphony Orchestra (United States). Her most recent solo performances include Lou Harrison's *Concerto for Violin and Percussion Ensemble* and Malcolm Arnold's *Concerto for Two Violins and String Orchestra*.

Between 2006 and 2009 she served as the concertmaster of Central Ohio Symphony in Delaware, and between 2012 and 2016 she served as the concertmaster of the Southern Great Lakes Symphony Orchestra. Galu is currently a member of the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra.

Together with Bistrita Society of Concerts, Galu co-founded the "American Musicians in Transylvania" festival in her hometown of Bistrita, Romania. The festival brings together Romanian and American artists for chamber music concerts in different Transylvanian cities.

Galu presented the world premiere of Marilyn Shrude's violin concerto *Libro D'Ore* with the Central Ohio Symphony and the European premiere with the Sibiu State Philharmonic in Romania. She gave its United States premiere and subsequently recorded the concerto for Albany Records. Galu also recorded *Music Under Political Unrest – Works for Two Violins* by Grażyna Bacewicz, Henryk Górecki, and Michał Spisak with Iuliana Cotirlea, violin.