

TRUDY CRANEY

SOPRANO

Poetica Ensemble, Sunday, April 23rd at 5pm, Scorca Hall, 330 7th Ave, NYC NY

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Poetica Ensemble will perform at New York City's Opera America performance space, SCORCA Hall (330 7th Ave, betw. 28 & 29th Sts) on SUNDAY, APRIL 23RD AT 5:00PM.

Program includes works by Bach, Dohnanyi, J.J. Niles, & Schubert. Ticket prices at \$20, teens and children are free. The ensemble consists of violinist, Song-A Cho, violist, Christopher Shaughnessy, cellist, Rebecca Perea, soprano, Trudy Craney and pianist, Thomas Bohlert.

Artist Bios:

Song-A Cho, violinist, is an ardent performer and educator. She is a founding member of the Amicizia Piano Trio, the Poetica String Quartet, the Phoenix Trio, Duo Celesti and the New Baroque Soloists. Her performance engagements have taken her to Central Asia, the Mozarteum in Austria, and throughout the U.S, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and Kennedy Center. She has been a concertmistress for the Peconic Chamber Orchestra, the Juilliard Orchestra, and the South Shore Chamber Orchestra, and was a member of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. Song-A maintains a full teaching studio and is a passionate advocate of chamber music for young musicians.

Christopher Shaughnessy, viola, began studying the violin at age eight and later, in college, majored in viola. Since then he has studied under many renowned teachers including Eugene Becker and William Lincer of the New York Philharmonic. He has played in the Toledo Symphony and the Caracas Philharmonic. An active chamber musician, he has been a member of the North Shore Pro Musica for many years, founding member of the Poetica String Quartet and Duo Celesti. He has guest-conducted many orchestras on Long Island and has been an orchestra director at the William Floyd high School.

Trudy Craney, soprano, is known in the U.S.A. and internationally as a bel canto, baroque, and contemporary soprano in the fields of opera, oratorio, orchestral works, and song. Some of her appearances include works such as John Adams's "Nixon in China" as Madame Mao at Avery Fisher Hall, Houston Grand Opera, San Francisco Opera, the Edinburgh Festival, Netherlands Opera, and the Frankfurt Opera. Other venues are the Mai Musical Bordeaux, the Maryland Handel Festival, a European tour of 39 performances of Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" as the Queen of the Night, and Verdi's "Rigoletto" as Gilda, the title role of "Lucia di Lammer-moor," "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" as Konstanze, and Prokofiev's "The Fiery Angel." A champion of contemporary song repertoire, Trudy has commissioned composers Noa Ain and Martin Hennessy to write song cycles. While continuing to perform, Trudy teaches voice in Manhattan.

Rebecca Perea, a native of the greater Boston area, grew up in an environment where music and art were always an integral part of her life. As a youth, Ms. Perea discovered the cello, with its rich, lush tone, and it soon became her passion. She has given extensive performances throughout the United States and Europe, highlighted by a tour of Hungary, Austria, and the former Yugoslavia. In addition to having been Principal Cellist of the Temple Chamber Orchestra and Austin Musical Theatre, Rebecca has supported the performance of 20th century literature, premiering works in the Long Island Composer's Symposium in Southampton. She also has plenty of studio work to her acclaim, recording on the albums of up and coming singer/songwriters, Alan Semerdjian, and the award-winning Patricia Shih, to name a few. Chamber music has always been a great love of hers - she presently continues to play with various ensembles: the Vintage String Quartet, Counterclockwise Ensemble, the Phoenix Trio, Bach & Forth, The June Rise, and the critically acclaimed Hampton Chamber Orchestra. Ms. Perea has performed with many top artists, such as Natalie Cole, Bobby McFerrin, and Itzak Perlman. In the teaching arena, she has participated as a cello instructor in the nationally renowned Texas String Project. Rebecca currently maintains a private cello studio at her home in Huntington, Long Island.

Thomas Bohlert, piano, recently retired as director of music at First Presbyterian Church of East Hampton since 2000, where he led the Music at the Old Town Church series and until this year has been the accompanist for the Choral Society of the Hamptons. With Trudy Craney, he was a founding member of the Bach & Forth chamber music ensemble. Thom has given many organ recitals in the greater New York area, and in Germany. He has a master of music degree from Manhattan School of Music and a fellowship certificate from the American Guild of Organists. He studied at the Mannes College of Music as well and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in piano (cum laude) from Wagner College. He is a composer of organ, choir, and handbell music, some of which is published by Belwin-Mills, Selah Publishing, and Hope Publishing. Additionally he is a music writer for the East Hampton Star.