

Neo Camerata

Emotionally Stirring - Technically Impressive

Neo Camerata performs new classical music by award winning composer Mark Landson which combines the emotion and beauty of classical, the excitement and energy of pop music, and the awe-inspiring technique of virtuoso musicians. Critics have called it a “genre-busting,” “technically impressive,” “emotionally stirring” and “totally cool and amazing” experience.

A concert of Neo Camerata is often described as “A Journey of Mind and Emotion.” The group has performed at the Cannes Film Festival, the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, in concert halls and rock clubs, with symphony orchestras and pop stars.



Mark Landson has been recognized as “One of the Top 100 Creatives in Dallas” and an “Arts Entrepreneur Forward Thinker” in his work as Director of Open Classical. As composer, his new classical compositions have been praised as “Stravinsky at his most lyrical”, and “a unique combination of pop inspiration and classical craft”.

Landson’s compositions take the audience on a journey of emotions, melding the techniques of classical composition with infectious melodies, contemporary pop harmonic language and rhythmic drive. Recent commissioned works include the operetta “Goldilocks” (Dec 2015), ballet “Le Mozart Noir” (Feb 2016), and cello sonata (April 2017). In December, 2016, his string quartet “Travels” took first place at the “The Ear” in New York, a competition in New York where the audience is asked which piece they want to hear again.



Marina Dichenko studied violin at the Central Music School in Kharkov, Ukraine, continuing her studies at the Gnessin Academy of Music in Moscow, in the violin class of Halida Akhtiamova, in the chamber ensemble class of Leonid Blok, and in the string quartet class of Valentin Berlinsky (the cellist in the famous Borodin Quartet). In 2014, she graduated from the Artist Diploma programme at TCU School of Music in Fort Worth, USA. She has won prizes in chamber music competitions in Donetsk, Ukraine, and at the International Taneyev Chamber Music Competition in Russia. As a soloist and member of chamber groups she has performed in concerts and festivals in Ukraine, Russia, Belgium, Japan, and the United States. In the last few years, she has served as concertmaster of the TCU Symphony Orchestra and the Odysseus Chamber Orchestra and has regularly performed with the symphony orchestras in Plano, Las Colinas, San Angelo, Arlington and Garland. She is

currently Teaching Artist on the Youth Music Program in Fort Worth and a violin teacher at Art Wheel Studio in Roanoke, USA.

Cave Without A Name

Performance: Throne Room – January 13th at 7 PM

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Violinist **Stephen Page** enjoys a diverse musical career. As a performer, he has soloed with the Las Colinas Symphony, the Garland Symphony, and the Arlington Symphony, as well as with various Dallas-area chamber groups. His orchestral involvement has taken him around the world, and he has performed in both Russia and the United Kingdom. He serves as concertmaster for the McKinney Summer Musicals, as well as First Violinist for the Las Colinas Symphony. He is the founder of The Texas String Quartet, a Dallas-based chamber ensemble that regularly performs all around the state of Texas. He is also an electric violinist with several Dallas bands, including the David

Gallegos Band, a Nuevo Flamenco group. As a teacher, Stephen enjoys his private violin/viola studio, and is a sought-after clinician for the Frisco, McKinney and Plano school districts. He has been an orchestra director for both the Richardson and Irving school districts, and was involved in developing curriculum for and teaching the charter class of the Frisco-based Elementary Strings program.

Stephen began his studies at the age of six. His high school teachers were violinist and composer Michael McLean and Dallas Symphony violinist Diane Kitzman. He was accepted with full scholarship into Southern Methodist University, where he studied with the internationally well-known violinist and pedagogue Edward Schmieder. After receiving his Bachelor of Music in Instrumental Performance, he continued his studies at Northwestern University under Chicago Symphony Violinist Blair Milton, and graduated with a Master of Music in String Performance.

Stephen and his wife Anna Katherine live with their three children in Frisco. He enjoys travel of all kinds, movies, and playing racquet sports.



John Landefeld has been sought after as an orchestral cellist. In 1993, he accepted a special invitation to be a member of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida. There he performed as co-principal cellist under the acclaimed conductor Michael Tilson Thomas. In 1994, he attended Southern Methodist University (SMU), performing the duties of principal cellist in the Meadows Symphony Orchestra. While studying at SMU, Mr. Landefeld studied with Christopher Adkins, principal cellist of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. In addition to appearances with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and the Dallas Chamber Orchestra, Mr. Landefeld

has performed with musicians from the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Milwaukee Symphony. He has collaborated with prestigious conductors such as, James de Priest, Leon Fleisher, Simon Rattle, Alexander Schneider, Leonard Slatkin, Neeme Jarvi and Miguel Harth-Bedoya.

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Sergio Cepeda has been highly acclaimed for his exciting, passionate tenor voice and commanding stage presence, making this young and upcoming tenor the "whole package." Reviewing a recent performance of the Magic Flute, a critic wrote: "Mr. Cepeda's beautiful tenor voice handled Tamino's music with elegance, appropriate color, and well-balanced tone throughout. His acting was clear and direct. He made a handsome and dashing young prince." Another critic said about Mr. Cepeda's Orchestra of New Spain debut, "Sergio Cepeda has a wonderful lyric tenor voice. Pure honey. It is perfectly produced, and even throughout all of the registers." Mr. Cepeda's performances on the operatic stage have taken him throughout the USA and Europe, performing such roles as Tamino in "The Magic Flute", Nemorino in "L'elisir d'amore", Alfredo in "La Traviata", Romeo in "Romeo et Juliette", Edgardo in "Lucia di Lammermoor", and Don Ottavio in "Don Giovanni."

Mr. Cepeda is at ease performing a wide variety of musical genres, such as classical, jazz, pop and mariachi. In vocal competitions, Mr. Cepeda has been a solid contender and was the 1st prize recipient of the 2012 Winspear Opera Scholarship Competition, and 1st Audience Prize (5th Prize with the judges) at Shreveport Opera's Singer of the Year Competition in 2013. Florida Grand Opera/Young Patronesses of Opera awarded him the 2nd Prize in 2013. Mr. Cepeda's formal studies from 2006-2013 earned him degrees from the University of Texas at Arlington (B.M. Music Business, 2009), TCU (M.M.Voice Performance, 2011), and University of North Texas (Post-graduate Artist Certificate in Opera Performance, 2013.)

He maintains a private studio in DFW and continues his training with Gioacchino Li Vigni and the Mediterranean Opera Studio in Sicily and New York. Mr. Cepeda's performances for charity and fundraising events helped raise over \$300,000 (2011-2016) for various local, national and international organizations and disaster relief programs. Mr. Cepeda's most recent performances include Flavio in Bellini's "Norma" for Knoxville Opera, Manuel Garcia in "Dudas satisfechas" for Orchestra of New Spain, Obadiah in Mendelssohn's "Elijah" with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, along with miscellaneous concert work. He resides in Ft. Worth with his wife Melissa, daughter Paloma, son Sergio Andres, and ... a third child on the way in 2017!

Program:

"Travels" for String Quartet by Mark Landson

"The Juliet Letters" - Song cycle for tenor and string quartet by Elvis Costello and the Brodsky String Quartet.

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