



Neave Trio Presents *In The Air* – A Valentines Day Program featuring music by Rachmaninoff, Piazzolla, and Beach plus the Boston Premiere of Lisa Ralia Heffter’s *From Deep Space with Oxygen for Love*



Photo by Jacob Lewis Lovendahl available in high resolution upon request

Friday, February 14, 2020 at 8pm

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall | 27 Garden Street | Cambridge, MA

Suggested donation of \$20, but free tickets are available. More information: www.longy.edu

Watch Neave Trio perform Piazzolla’s *Las cuatro estaciones porteñas* at WGBH’s Fraser Performance Studio

“The Neave Trio gave a beautifully shaped performance” – *The Wall Street Journal* / www.neavetrio.com

Cambridge, MA – On **Friday, February 14, 2020 at 8pm**, the **Neave Trio** presents its winter recital as Alumni Artists, Faculty Ensemble-in-Residence at the **Longy School of Music of Bard College** in **Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall** (27 Garden Street). This program, entitled *In The Air* is an intimate Valentine’s Day concert brimming with passionate music. Neave Trio will present the Boston premiere of **Lisa Ralia Heffter’s *From Deep Space with Oxygen for Love***, a piece that Heffter was inspired to write when she heard the trio perform. “They gave meaning to every single note,” she recalls admirably.

Heffter holds a master’s degree from the Juilliard School and *The New York Times* has praised her classical chamber music as “astonishingly beautiful.” On the opposite end of the musical spectrum, she can “totally blow away” rock operas, according to *Rolling Stone*. Heffter’s favorite creative works are the epic stories she sets to music, where she can combine her various musical abilities which give license to show off her powerful theatrical torch ballads, noble anthems, wildly fun pop songs, and magnificent chorale prowess.

In addition, Neave Trio performs a collection of emotional and thematic works by Rachmaninoff, Beach, and Piazzolla. Though it was composed when he was just 18 years old, **Sergei Rachmaninoff’s *Trio élégiaque in G minor*** shows in the virtuoso piano part his ability to cover a wide spectrum of sound colors.

Amy Beach’s *Piano Trio, Op. 150*, composed late in her career, is recorded on Neave Trio’s latest album, *Her Voice* (Chandos Records, 2019). *The Strad* praises, “The dreamy cello melody of the opening Allegro - luxuriously played by Mikhail Veselov - blooms into tender interplay between the strings. Violinist Anna Williams echoes Veselov’s delicate touch, underpinned by eminently sensitive pianism from Eri Nakamura. It’s a finely etched and persuasive performance...”

Astor Piazzolla's original score for *Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas* matched his quintet: bandoneón, piano, guitar, bass, and violin. José Bragato, who worked with Piazzolla for many years and arranged many of his works, created a stylish version for piano trio, true to the Argentine tango spirit. In the tradition of tango spontaneity and flexibility, he takes liberties with textures, ornamentation, and other details of Piazzolla's themes. *Gramophone* describes their recording of this arrangement from *Celebrating Piazzolla* (Azica Records, 2018) as "thrilling," having "wild energy," and "electrifying," while *Classics Today* writes, "the energetic edginess, the snap, the rhythm sound convincing, totally invigorating, and authentic."

About Neave Trio: Since forming in 2010, Neave Trio – violinist Anna Williams, cellist Mikhail Veselov, and pianist Eri Nakamura – has earned enormous praise for its engaging, cutting-edge performances. *WQXR* explains, "Neave' is actually a Gaelic name meaning 'bright' and 'radiant', both of which certainly apply to this trio's music making." *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* included Neave in its "Best of 2014" and "Best of 2016" roundups, claiming, "their unanimity, communication, variety of touch, and expressive sensibility rate first tier."

Neave has performed at many esteemed concert series and at festivals worldwide, including Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival, Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Smithsonian American Art Museum, 92nd Street Y, Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Norfolk and Norwich Chamber Music Series (United Kingdom), and the Samoylov and Rimsky Korsakow Museums' Chamber Music Series in St. Petersburg (Russia). The Trio has also appeared frequently as soloists for Beethoven's Triple Concerto with orchestras across the country and held residency positions at Brown University, University of Virginia, San Diego State University as the first ever Fisch/Axelrod Trio-in-Residence, and the Banff Centre (Canada), among many other institutions. Neave Trio was also in residence at the MIT School of Architecture and Design in collaboration with dancer/choreographer Richard Colton.

Neave Trio strives to champion new works by living composers and reach wider audiences through innovative concert presentations, regularly collaborating with artists of all mediums. These collaborations include performances with the Blythe Barton Dance Company; graphic programmer Andrew Ringler and media artist Bing Lin; the interactive concert series "STEIN2.0," with composer Amanuel Zarzowski; *Klee Musings* by acclaimed American composer Augusta Read Thomas, which was premiered by Neave; the premiere of Eric Nathan's *Missing Words V*, sponsored by Coretet; and a music video by filmmaker Amanda Alvarez Díaz of Astor Piazzolla's "Otoño Porteño."

In addition to *Her Voice* and *Celebrating Piazzolla*, Neave Trio's other recordings include *French Moments* (Chandos Records, 2018) featuring the only known piano trios by Debussy, Fauré, and Roussel and the group's debut album, *American Moments* (Chandos Records, 2016), which includes works by Korngold, Foote, and Bernstein.

Highlights of Neave's 2019-20 season include concerts at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Arizona Friends of Chamber Music, Brown University, Feldman Chamber Music Society, Chamber Music Society of Williamsburg, and the Boise Chamber Music Series, among many others.

For more information, visit www.neavetrio.com.

About Longy School of Music of Bard College: Longy School of Music of Bard College prepares musicians to make a difference in their world with a social imperative that is at the core of the School's curriculum. Breaking down the traditional conservatory constraints, Longy prepares our students to lead meaningful lives in music through project-based learning courses and performances alongside professional partners. Internationally recognized for its efforts to meet a changing musical landscape head-on, Longy gives its graduates the opportunity to perform professionally, teach in a variety of settings, and expand access within classical music.

Longy's innovative curriculum compels students to explore their artistry, take risks, hone their technique, and become the musician the world needs them to be. Spearheaded by world-class faculty, Longy promotes profound musical understanding and technical mastery and inspires growth of imagination, fostering an attitude of inquiry about the musician's role in the world.

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