2014–2015 season

October 6
The Baltimore Consort

Tuesday, October 21
Apple Hill String Quartet

November 10
Øystein Baadsvik, tuba
with Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn

February 16
Jim Walker, flute

March 23
Edmund Battersby, piano

April 13
James Pugh and Glenn Wilson
with the John Toomey Trio

Together Again!
Øystein Baadsvik, tuba
Andrey Kasparov, piano
Oksana Lutsyshyn, piano/harpsichord

Monday, November 10, 2014
8:00 p.m.
Wilson G. Chandler Recital Hall,
F. Ludwig Diehn Center for the Performing Arts

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festivals and other venues in Moscow, New York, Paris, Buenos Aires, Darmstadt, Yerevan, Ottawa, Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and many other cities in the former Soviet Union, Europe and the Americas. He was awarded the Second Prize at the Sergei Prokofiev International Composition Competition in Moscow, Russia, for his Piano Sonata No. 2. His compositions and articles have been published by the Kompozitor Publishing House in Moscow and Hungarian Music Quarterly in Budapest.

Kasparov and Lutsyshyn are prolific and internationally acclaimed recording artists. Their chamber and solo performances, as well as Kasparov's compositions, are featured on labels such as Naxos Records, Albany Records, CRS and VMM. Lutsyshyn has also made a recording with violinist Joshua Bell for the BBC. They have recently recorded four CDs with the complete works of Florent Schmitt for piano duet and duo on Naxos Grand Piano label. This set has gathered accolades such as “an interpretation as perfect as the music itself” (Michel Fleury, Classica, France), “elegance and telepathic sense of timing” (Byzantion, MusicWeb International, UK), “a refined and mellifluous interpretation” (Jonathan Sánchez Hernández, Ritmo, Spain), “an exceptional pair of musicians” (James Harrington, American Record Guide, USA) and “An outstanding production!” (Burkhard Schäffer, Piano News, Germany). In May 2013, the first CD of the Schmitt series was chosen as Recording of the Month and Critics’ Choice by MusicWeb International and Naxos, respectively. Kasparov and Lutsyshyn are currently working on two CDs with the complete works of Paul Bowles for piano solo and duo to be released on Naxos American Classics.

Kasparov presently serves as organist at Freemason Street Baptist Church in Norfolk while Lutsyshyn is currently music director and organist at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and organist at Chalice Christian Church in Virginia Beach.
Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn have won critical acclaim around the world for their compelling interpretations of diverse and adventurous repertoire. Describing the duo’s performances, music critics have praised them as “flawless,” “dazzling,” “electrifying” and “authoritative.”

Hailing from Armenian and Ukrainian families, Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn were educated at the Moscow State Conservatory and came to the United States in the 1990s to pursue advanced studies at Indiana University in Bloomington. They presently teach at Old Dominion University. Additionally, they are artistic co-directors of the Norfolk Chamber Consort and co-founders of the Invencia Piano Duo, which recently won in the Best Classical Category of the 2014 Veer Magazine Music Awards.

The musicians are active as soloists and collaborators as well, having performed with such renowned artists as violinist Joshua Bell, tenor James King, tubist Harvey Phillips and choreographer Jelon Vieira, among many others. In 1994, Kasparov premiered the newly discovered edition of Béla Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3, revised by the composer himself.

Both members of the duo are the recipients of prestigious awards. Lutsyshyn won Second Prize at the Vienna Modern Masters Third International Performers’ Recording Awards Competition. She was also a prizewinner at the William Kapell International Piano Competition in College Park, Md. As a result of the latter award, she debuted in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Kasparov won the Albert Roussel Prize at the Orléans International Piano Competition for 20th-century Music.

In addition to his career as a pianist, Kasparov is an active composer. His compositions have been performed at various

Øystein Baadsvik is the only tuba player to have carved out a career exclusively as a soloist, rather than becoming a member of an orchestra or accepting a teaching post. His multifaceted musical career as a soloist, chamber musician and recording artist has taken him all over the world. The unique virtuosity and musicality Baadsvik brings to the tuba has established him as the exemplar of the instrument.

He studied under the celebrated tuba player Harvey Phillips, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the music department at Indiana University, and with the legendary Arnold Jacobs, who had a 40-year career and position of principal tuba with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Baadsvik’s international career began in 1991 when he was awarded two prizes at the prestigious Concours International d’Exécution Musicale in Geneva. At this point he had developed an amazing virtuoso technique and was very well equipped musically to step out on the world stage.

His international engagements include performances with Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Bergen Philharmonic, L’Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Musica Vitae (Swedish Chamber Orchestra), the Taipei National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan, Orchestra Victoria of Melbourne, Warsaw Philharmonic, Wratislavia Chamber Orchestra, Gdansk Philharmonic, Trondheim Symphony Orchestra, Sweden’s Norrköping Symphony Orchestra and the Singapore Philharmonic. He appears regularly at the Melbourne International Festival of Brass. The festival’s honorary patron, the world-renowned horn player Barry Tuckwell, said: “Øystein Baadsvik, a great musician and a great performer, is the most remarkable tuba player I have ever heard.”
Baadsvik is well known for his master classes and tuba clinics which are frequently held in numerous leading universities throughout the United States including The Juilliard School, Indiana University, Cleveland Institute of Music, Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and the University of Wisconsin. He works constantly to expand the musical aspects of the tuba, performing solo repertoire for tuba and orchestra, and collaborating with jazz and rock musicians. In all these genres, his guiding principle has been to communicate directly with his audience. His development of new tuba-playing techniques has been used in a number of more recent works for the instrument. In recognition, the Norwegian state in 1999 awarded Baadsvik a two-year scholarship to continue this work. In praise of his performance in Warsaw, newspaper critic Ruch Muzyczny said, “After listening to the concert with Baadsvik as soloist in the Tuba Concerto of Ralph Vaughan Williams with the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra and conductor Christopher Seaman, the reviewer wishes that pianists and violinists should study the tuba for at least one year during his education to learn where to find models for phrasing and rubato tempo.”

Baadsvik has premiered some 40 solo works by composers from the USA, Russia, Sweden, Norway and Switzerland. He has added to the tuba literature with his own compositions and conducts many of his own orchestral concerts.

Baadsvik is an active recording artist whose CDs receive unstinting praise. During the last two years he reached a major breakthrough in Japan, where his CDs ranked second in sales of recordings for all wind instruments. The recent “Tuba Carnival” was released in 40 countries on the BIS label and became an instant hit. It is offered through the Musical Heritage Society, a premier source of classical music recordings, and is rapidly becoming a popular classic with public radio broadcasts on BBC, NPR, ABC radio in Australia, SR in Sweden and NRK in Norway as well as other radio stations in New Zealand, Poland and Germany. It was recommended by the music magazine ClassicToday as one of the six best recordings in the world for solo instrument and orchestra in 2003. The magazine said, “State-of-the-art recorded sound caps an extremely well planned, perfectly executed recital in which humor, charm and virtuosity combine to make the best possible case for the tuba as star of the show.” In “Danzas” for tuba and piano, a collaboration with Niklas Sivelöv, Baadsvik chose works with the common theme of the dance and included compositions by Piazzolla, Hindemith and Gordon Jacob.

His 2006 Carnegie Hall recital debut featured the works recorded on “Danzas,” which are also on the BIS label. Another important recent release is the recording of the music of Kalevi Aho (b. 1949), one of the leading Finnish composers of his generation. Baadsvik performs his Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra with the Norrköping Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Jan Sandström. Germany’s Klassik.com said, “Borders are redefined. Five out of five stars for interpretation and sound quality.”

In December 2007, Baadsvik released a CD on BIS as soloist with the Swedish Wind Orchestra and conductor Christian Lindberg. It includes the tuba concerti of Fredrik Höberg, Boris Diew, Daniel Nelson and Baadsvik’s composition, “Fnugg Blue.”

The next scheduled release includes the tuba concerti of Ralph Vaughan Williams, John Williams and Alexander Arutiunian with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and conductor Ann Manson.