

For Immediate Release:
Renowned Jazz Violinist Regina Carter Performs
David Schiff's "4 Sisters" with MYS Symphony Orchestra;
Plus, Selections with Jazz Ensemble

PORTLAND, OR (January, 2020): Metropolitan Youth Symphony's concert on March 8 brings jazz virtuoso **Regina Carter** to Portland audiences. Carter joins the MYS Symphony Orchestra for the West Coast Premiere of local composer **David Schiff's** *4 Sisters* jazz violin concerto. Carter made her debut as a concerto soloist performing Schiff's jazz concerto with the Detroit Symphony in 2004, which included the premiere of a special solo at the beginning of work composed just for her. Hailed by the *Detroit Free Press* as an "engaging jazz violin concerto...that allow(s) Carter to announce her charismatic presence by painting the air with swing."

Carter closes the program performing with the MYS Jazz Ensemble in an exhilarating set of jazz classics from jazz legend Charles Mingus, to a world premiere by **John Blewster**, from Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble youth program.

For Grammy nominated artist Regina Carter, the violin isn't simply an improvisational vehicle; it's a passport to unexpected realms. Her quest for beauty combined with her passion for excellence did not escape the attention of the MacArthur Foundation, which awarded Regina their prestigious MacArthur fellowship 'genius grant'. Carter has been widely hailed by the media for her mastery of her instrument and her drive to expand its possibilities and lauded by *The Los Angeles Times* as "a talented, charismatic player who is almost single-handedly reviving interest in the violin as a jazz instrument." Most recently, the acclaimed violinist was awarded a Doris Duke Artist Award, and in 2018 was appointed as the Director of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's All-Female Jazz Residency, a unique summer immersion program for aspiring women jazz professionals.



The concert also features a world premiere, *Seereise*, which is German for "Sea Voyage". Music Director Raúl Gómez leads the Symphony Orchestra in this cinematic piece by the season's second composer from The Authentic Voice series, **Grace Miedziak**.

WHAT:

REGINA CARTER PLAYS 4 SISTERS

WHEN/WHERE:

Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 7:30 pm | Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

PROGRAM:

MYS Symphony Orchestra | Raúl Gómez, Conductor
Grace Miedziak, *Seereise*, World Premiere (part of The Authentic Voice series)
David Schiff, *4 Sisters*, featuring Regina Carter

MYS Jazz Ensemble | Ryan Meagher, Director
Jane Herbert, *O Gato*, arranged by Raul Gomez

Jim Hall, *All Across the City*, arranged by Ryan Meagher
Oscar Rasbach, *Trees*, arranged by Ryan Meagher
John Blewster, *Those Moments In Between*, World Premiere
Lee Konitz, *Sub-conscious-lee*
Ryan Meagher, *Build a Dream*
Charles Mingus, *All The Things You Could Be By Now If Sigmund Freud's Wife Was Your Mother*

TICKETS:

Tickets start at \$25. Student/Senior pricing available. Visit playmys.org or call 503-239-4566.

Composer and author **David Schiff** studied composition with John Corigliano and Ursula Mamlok at the Manhattan School of Music, and with Elliott Carter at the Juilliard School where he received his D.M.A.. He holds degrees in English literature from Columbia and Cambridge Universities. His major works include *Solus Rex*, for bass trombone and chamber ensemble commissioned by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and *4 Sisters*, a concerto for jazz violin and orchestra, which premiered in England in 1997 and received its American premiere with Regina Carter and the Detroit Symphony in 2004, and *Canzona* for brass, percussion and strings commissioned by the Seattle Symphony and premiered by them in January 2005 conducted by Gerard Schwarz.

Composer **Grace Miedziak**, a 17-year-old attending early college classes at Central Oregon Community College, composed the second of this season's three Authentic Voice symphonic commissions. Beyond piano and singing, Grace's interests extend to music as a therapeutic tool for the elderly. She plans to pursue a college degree in composition and has been recognized twice as an Honored Composer by Oregon Music Teachers Association (OMTA).



Last season, MYS launched **The Authentic Voice** series in partnership with **Fear No Music's** Young Composers Project. The partnership gives young composers an opportunity to write for and hear their work performed by full symphony orchestra, while giving ensemble musicians a chance to play never performed music by their peers.

The **Portland Jazz Composers' Ensemble** is a 12-piece jazz chamber orchestra which commissions and performs original works by its members and by other jazz composers in the Portland music community and beyond.

With a foundational commitment to access, the **Metropolitan Youth Symphony** educates, develops and promotes over 500 young musicians of all ages and levels of experience each year in one of the nation's largest youth orchestra programs. Learn more at playmys.org.

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metropolitan youth symphony

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