

Beo String Quartet with Pianist Ilya Yakushev

Ryan Ash - cello

Andrew Giordano - violin

Jason Neukom - violin

Sean Neukom - viola

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 | 7:30 P.M.
CASPARY AUDITORIUM

For more information about the concert series, please contact:

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Program

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)

Piano Quintet in G Minor, Op. 57

Prelude: Lento

Fugue: Adagio

Scherzo: Allegretto

Intermezzo: Lento

Finale: Allegretto

Shostakovich

Prelude and Fugue No. 24 in D Minor, from 24 Preludes and Fugues, Op. 87

INTERMISSION

(15 minutes)

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

String Quartet No. 9 in C Major, Op. 59 "Razumovsky," No. 3

Introduzione: Andante con moto – Allegro vivace

Andante con moto quasi allegretto

Menuetto: Grazioso

Allegro molto

Program and personnel subject to change.

As a courtesy to the artists, please remain seated until they have left the hall.

Beo String Quartet and Ilya Yakushev appear by arrangement with Lisa Sapinkopf Artists.

Featuring

Beo String Quartet

Ryan Ash - cello

Andrew Giordano - violin

Jason Neukom - violin

Sean Neukom - viola

Celebrating its tenth anniversary, the Beo String Quartet has established itself as a daring, genre-defying ensemble. Founded in 2015 by brothers Sean and Jason Neukom, Beo has toured widely across the USA, South America, and Europe. Their performances of Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Shostakovich have drawn comparisons to the finest quartets of today, while they also champion contemporary composers including Gabriela Ortiz, Missy Mazzoli, and their own violist, Sean Neukom.

With over 140 works performed, including 65 world premieres, Beo combines traditional repertoire with adventurous new projects. Their 2023 New York debut at the Morgan Library and Museum earned high praise, and their recording *131* on their own NeuKraft Records label was hailed in *Fanfare* for its sincerity, energy, and fusion of past and present.

Equally committed to education, Beo has reached more than 3,500 students through residencies, school visits, and workshops. Their annual composition competition at the Charlotte New Music Festival attracts hundreds of entries, ensuring new works enter the quartet's repertoire. True to their name—Beo, Latin for “to make happy”—the quartet continues to inspire audiences worldwide.

Ilya Yakushev

Piano

Pianist Ilya Yakushev has earned acclaim worldwide, performing in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Davies Symphony Hall, Sejong Performing Arts Center (Seoul), Great Philharmonic Hall (St. Petersburg), and Victoria Hall (Singapore). He has appeared as soloist with the San Francisco Symphony, BBC Concert Orchestra, Boston Pops, Rochester Philharmonic, Utah Symphony, and many others.

Winner of the 2005 World Piano Competition, Mr. Yakushev earned his first award at age 12 as a prizewinner of the Young Artists Concerto Competition in his native St. Petersburg. Since then, he has been recognized with many awards and prizes, including First Prize at the Donostia Hiria International Piano Competition in San Sebastian, Spain, The Award for Excellence in Performance, presented by the Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation in Moscow and, most recently, the Gawon International Music Society's Award in Seoul, Korea.

Mr. Yakushev attended the Rimsky-Korsakov College of Music before moving to New York to study with legendary pianist Vladimir Feltsman at Mannes College of Music. A Yamaha artist, he now maintains a busy schedule of recitals, concertos, and chamber music, including collaborations with tonight's Beo String Quartet, cellist Thomas Mesa, and members of the St. Lawrence String Quartet.

2025–2026 Peggy Rockefeller Concert Donors

The concert series was founded in 1958 by Professor Theodore Shedlovsky and renamed in 1996 in memory of Peggy Rockefeller, wife of longtime chair David Rockefeller. The Rockefeller University gratefully acknowledges the following contributors who make it possible for us to offer affordable tickets for every performance, as well as subsidized tickets for students and postdoctoral fellows:

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As of September 25, 2025

The Rockefeller University

The Rockefeller University is one of the world's foremost institutions dedicated to research and graduate education in the biology, chemistry, and physics. Founded by John D. Rockefeller, Sr., in 1901 as The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, it was the first institution in the United States devoted exclusively to biomedical research. In the 1950s, the institute expanded its mission to include graduate education. It was renamed The Rockefeller University in 1965.

In 2026, Rockefeller University will commemorate 125 years of advancing science for the benefit of humanity. This is a milestone for the university community, as well as a landmark occasion for the global scientific enterprise. In conjunction with the 125th anniversary, Rockefeller will also mark 70 years of the David Rockefeller Graduate Program. Discover 125 is a celebration of these two notable anniversaries.

The Rockefeller University Community

- 72 heads of laboratory
- 200 research scientists
- 210 postdoctoral investigators
- 270 Ph.D. and M.D.-Ph.D. students
- 1,512 alumni
- 1,325 support staff

Acclaimed Scientists

In the course of Rockefeller's history, 26 of its scientists have been awarded the Nobel Prize; 26 have received a Lasker Award; and 20 have garnered the National Medal of Science, the nation's highest scientific honor.

At Present, the Faculty at Rockefeller Includes

- 5 Nobel laureates
- 7 recipients of Lasker Awards
- 34 members of the National Academy of Sciences
- 4 recipients of MacArthur Fellowships
- 3 recipients of the National Medal of Science

Some Clinical Concerns under Study

- Aging
- Alzheimer's disease
- Antibiotic resistance
- Arthritis
- Autoimmune disorders
- Autism
- Cancer
- Covid-19
- Diabetes
- Heart disease and stroke
- Hepatitis
- HIV/AIDS
- Obesity, nutrition, and weight loss
- Parkinson's disease
- Skin diseases
- Tuberculosis
- Vaccine development
- Vision and hearing disorders

The Rockefeller University Hospital

Established in 1910, The Rockefeller University Hospital was the first hospital in the nation dedicated exclusively to patient-oriented investigations. Patients at the hospital are participants in clinical studies that build on basic research findings from Rockefeller laboratories. This allows the university to maintain an unbroken spectrum of research, from basic to clinical.

Groundbreaking Accomplishments

Among the pioneering discoveries at Rockefeller are many seminal advances that have transformed science and reduced human suffering. Scientists at Rockefeller:

- Discovered that DNA is the chemical of heredity
- Developed vaccines against meningitis and pneumococcal pneumonia
- Determined that cancer can be caused by a virus
- Discovered blood groups, improving the safety of blood transfusions
- Isolated and first successfully tested natural antibiotics
- Developed methadone maintenance to treat opioid addiction
- Developed the combination drug therapy for treatment of AIDS
- Showed that an adult brain of a higher species can form new nerve cells
- Discovered an obesity gene and the weight-regulating hormone leptin
- Discovered the dendritic cell, a key regulator of the immune system
- Identified the molecular mechanisms controlling circadian rhythm
- Developed assays that paved the way for drugs that cure hepatitis C
- Discovered GLP-1, the basis of revolutionary weight-loss drugs

An Exceptional Place to Learn

Rockefeller's Ph.D. program offers training in the biomedical and physical sciences. With neighboring Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Weill Cornell Medicine, the university also offers one of the nation's top M.D.-Ph.D. programs. In addition, Rockefeller provides intensive postgraduate training. At any one time, more than 200 postdoctoral investigators conduct research in university laboratories. Rockefeller's acclaimed Clinical Scholars Program, a three-year master's degree program, provides a unique opportunity for recent M.D. or M.D.-Ph.D. recipients to begin careers in patient-oriented research. Working with senior faculty members, clinical scholars develop and implement translational research studies at The Rockefeller University Hospital.

Infrastructure that Fosters Collaboration and Interaction

Rockefeller invented the modern bioscience institute, and has spent the past 124 years perfecting it. The university's beautifully landscaped 16-acre campus includes nine research buildings containing roughly 500,000 square feet of laboratory space, where investigators employ the latest technology to answer the most challenging questions in their fields. The Stavros Niarchos Foundation–David Rockefeller River Campus, which opened in 2019 and features the Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Research Building, provides a state-of-the-art laboratory space, a river view dining commons, academic and conference centers, and magnificent rooftop gardens.

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