

Lysander Piano Trio

James Kim, cello

Itamar Zorman, violin

Liza Stepanova, piano

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025 | 7:30 P.M.
CASPARY AUDITORIUM

Program

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

Piano Trio No. 1 in D Major, Op. 70, “Ghost”

I. Allegro vivace e con brio

II. Largo assai ed espressivo

III. Presto

Rebecca Clarke (1886–1979)

Piano Trio (1921)

I. Moderato ma appassionato

II. Andante molto semplice

III. Allegro vigoroso

INTERMISSION

(15 minutes)

Arnold Schönberg (1874–1951)

Verklärte Nacht, Op. 4 (arr. Eduard Steuermann)

For more information about the concert series, please contact:

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212-327-8967 • dlochoshvi@rockefeller.edu • www.rockefeller.edu/peggy

Program and personnel subject to change.

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

Lysander Piano Trio appears by arrangement with Dinin Arts Management & Consulting.

Featuring

James Kim, cello Itamar Zorman, violin
Liza Stepanova, piano

The **Lysander Piano Trio**, whose name is inspired by the character in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, was formed at The Juilliard School. They studied with Ronald Copes of the Juilliard String Quartet, along with the late Joseph Kalichstein and Seymour Lipkin. The Trio has spent over a decade performing around the US and abroad with appearances at notable venues such as the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater, Los Angeles' Da Camera Society, Atlanta's Spivey Hall, San Francisco's Music at Kohl Mansion, Calgary Pro Musica in Canada, Pro Musica San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, and a tour of Israel.

Early in their career, Lysander became a standout at competitions, with top honors at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition (Grand Prize), the J. C. Arriaga Chamber Music Competition (First Prize), and the Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition. The Lysander Trio is devoted to inventive programming, finding intriguing connections between works from all over the world, and uncovering lesser-known gems of the repertoire from the past to the present.

James Kim

Winner of the 2006 David Popper International Cello Competition and 2012 Salon de Virtuosi's Sony Career Grant, Mr. Kim is a laureate of the 2015 Isang Yun International Cello Competition and 2024 Naumburg International Cello Competition. He holds an Artist Diploma from The Juilliard School as well as a Doctor of Musical Arts from Manhattan School of Music. Mr. Kim currently serves as Assistant Professor of Cello at the University of Georgia, Hugh Hodgson School of Music.

Liza Stepanova

Ms. Stepanova received her DMA from The Juilliard School with a Richard F. French Award for outstanding doctoral work. Following teaching positions at The Juilliard School and Smith College, she joined the faculty of the University of Georgia, Hugh Hodgson School of Music, where she was recently promoted to Professor of Piano. Ms. Stepanova also co-directs the biannual Chamber Music Athens festival featuring acclaimed artists performing and teaching alongside UGA faculty and students.

Itamar Zorman

Awarded the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award for 2014, Mr. Zorman is also the winner of the 2013 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition in Russia. Born in Tel Aviv to a family of musicians, he began his violin studies at the age of six. He received his Bachelor of Music from the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance and his Master of Music from The Juilliard School. Mr. Zorman plays on a 1734 Guarneri del Gesù, from the collection of Yehuda Zisapel.

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 November 18, 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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The Rockefeller University is an independent, nonprofit institute that relies on a broad base of government and private support to advance its mission of biomedical research. Each year, a committed group of individuals, foundations, and corporations helps to fund the university's scientific and educational programs. For information about these programs, or to discuss ways in which you can support and advance the work of the university, please contact:

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