



## The Friends of Music at the Smithsonian

For nearly four decades, the Friends of Music at the Smithsonian has supported the activities of the Smithsonian Chamber Music Society at the National Museum of American History. Founded in 1971 by a handful of people interested in the Museum's unique series of concerts showcasing its outstanding collection of musical instruments, today the Friends of Music has a large and dedicated national membership. The support of the Friends for concerts, recordings, research, and the acquisition and conservation of instruments has made the Smithsonian Chamber Music Society the most ambitious and innovative museum program of its kind in the world. For more information, visit [www.smithsonianfom.org](http://www.smithsonianfom.org).

Your support will underwrite research and the acclaimed performances that make the instruments of the Smithsonian's collection live and sing. It can help purchase and restore rare and beautiful musical instruments of historic significance. Further, your contribution will enhance the Society's path-breaking education programs. Become a Friend of Music at the Smithsonian and participate in the preservation of so much that is vital to our great cultural heritage. If you would like to make a donation, send a separate check to: The Friends of Music, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, Washington, DC 20013-7012.

## Smithsonian Chamber Music Society 2009-2010 Season

The 33rd season of the **Smithsonian Chamber Music Society** features musical masterpieces from the 17th to the 20th century, played on some of the world's most highly prized musical instruments. Two series, featuring the SCMS's acclaimed artists, offer musical feasts simply unobtainable anywhere but at the Smithsonian. Concerts will be presented in two acoustically appropriate venues: the newly reopened Hall of Musical Instruments in the National Museum of American History and the opulent Grand Salon of the Renwick Gallery. As an added bonus, one hour prior to each program, SCMS artistic director **Kenneth Slowik** continues his popular pre-concert lectures, shedding light on the glorious music and the life and times of the featured composers.



KENNETH SLOWIK  
Artistic Director



JAMES WEAVER  
Founder

Smithsonian photos by Hugh Talman: Details of a baryton by Henner Harders, Putlitz, 2008, after an instrument purportedly owned by Joseph Haydn; harpsichord by Benoist Stehlen, Paris, 1760 (Smithsonian collection)



### Smithsonian Institution

The Smithsonian Associates  
P.O. Box 23293  
Washington, DC 20026-3293

## Smithsonian Chamber Music Society 2009-2010 Season



Smithsonian Institution

# The Axelrod Quartet: Stradivarius and Amati

SMITHSONIAN CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY audiences are privy to the unparalleled experience of being able to hear two magnificent quartets of instruments—one made by Antonio Stradivari, the other by his teacher Nicolò Amati—in this popular three-concert series. In November, the Axelrod Quartet continues its 2009 Haydn and Mendelssohn commemorations with one of the former's remarkable Op. 20 quartets and two works that demonstrate why Mendelssohn ranks among classical music's greatest prodigies. Joining the Axelrod members for Mendelssohn's splendid Octet, which will unite all eight Stradivarius and Amati instruments for a rare sonic experience, will be the Adelphi Quartet, recently named the Graduate Fellowship Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Maryland's School of Music. The January offering investigates the fugue as used by Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven. The April concerts reflect the type of program frequently played by the quartet led by Brahms' friend, the violinist Joseph Joachim. The Smithsonian's Amatis include the viola played in that famous ensemble by Emmanuel Wirth. The program also pays tribute to the 200th anniversary of the birth of Robert Schumann, who was among the first to recognize the young Brahms' genius.

**Saturday, November 14, 2009**

**Sunday, November 15, 2009**

Haydn: Quartet in G Minor, Op. 20, No. 3

Mendelssohn: Quartet in A Minor, Op. 13

Mendelssohn: Octet in E-flat Major, Op. 20

with The Adelphi Quartet

Daniel Sender and Francis Liu, violins; Jonathan Richards, viola; Elizabeth Meszaros, violoncello  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Saturday, January 23, 2010**

**Sunday, January 24, 2010**

Haydn: Quartet in C Major, Op. 20, No. 2

Mozart: Quartet in G Major, K387

Beethoven: Quartet in C-sharp Minor, Op. 131

Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Saturday, April 17, 2010**

**Sunday, April 18, 2010**

Beethoven: Quartet in G Major, Op. 18, No. 2

Brahms: Quartet in A Minor, Op. 51, No. 2

Schumann: Quartet in A Major, Op. 41, No. 3

Grand Salon of the Renwick Gallery

## The Axelrod Quartet

Locations:

Hall of Musical Instruments,  
American History Museum  
(Constitution Avenue  
at 14th Street, N.W.)

Grand Salon of the Renwick Gallery  
(Pennsylvania Avenue at 17th  
Street, N.W.)

Saturday Series (3 concerts)

Concerts at 8 p.m.

Pre-concert talks at 7 p.m.

Code BPJ8

Sunday Series (3 concerts)

Concerts at 7:30 p.m.

Pre-concert talks at 6:30 p.m.

Code BPJ9

Resident Associate Members \$66

Senior Members \$60

General Admission \$84



Marc Destrubé  
violin



James Dunham  
viola



Marilyn McDonald  
violin



Kenneth Slowik  
violoncello

## The Axelrod String Quartet



The Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra, the Smithsonian Chamber Players, and the Castle Trio

## Masterworks of Four Centuries

THE SMITHSONIAN CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY celebrates its 33rd season with an appropriately eclectic repast, balancing familiar masterworks with undeservedly neglected *oeuvres perdues*. The season opens with the Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra presenting two works written for Washington, D.C., plus Schoenberg's passionately anti-Nazi setting of Lord Byron's 1814 "Ode to Napoleon." In November, the Smithsonian Chamber Players celebrate the Haydn Year, bringing back to Washington Dutch Baroque master Jaap Schröder (*primarius* of the Smithsonian String Quartet in the 1980s and '90s), the virtuoso flautist Christopher Krueger, and the Esterházy Machine's cellist Myron Lutzke. In January, the SCP Founders Trio offers a program of little-known French Baroque works, using two harpsichords from the Smithsonian's collection made by the late William Dowd, one of the prime movers of the 20th century's historical-harpsichord movement.

The Castle Trio, anchored by Lambert Orkis, returns, with friends, in early February to fête Robert Schumann's 200th anniversary. Later that month, Austrian violinist Ernst Kovacic leads a program of works by two of his great compatriots, including the seldom-heard *Bruckner Quintet*. The Viennese theme continues in March with a special Mozart-Beethoven-Schubert recital by Ian Swensen and Kenneth Slowik. The season concludes with a program combining the early Schoenberg *D Major Quartet*, which might easily be mistaken for a work of Dvořák, with that composer's *Bass Quintet*. Between these two pieces, Alban Berg's expressionistic *String Quartet*, Op. 3, offers a window on Vienna's collective psyche at the time of Sigmund Freud, Ludwig Wittgenstein, and Gustav Kilmnt.

Programs, locations, and artists subject to change.

**Sunday, October 11, 2009**

Igor Stravinsky: Dumbarton Oaks Concerto

Arnold Schonberg: Ode to Napoleon, Op. 41

Aaron Copland: Appalachian Spring (original version)

The Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra

Elisabeth Adkins, concertmaster; Kenneth Slowik, conductor,  
with Naoko Takao, piano, and Christopher Krueger, reciter  
Grand Salon of the Renwick Gallery

**Sunday, November 1, 2009**

Trios of Joseph Haydn

The Smithsonian Chamber Players

Jaap Schröder, violin; Christopher Krueger, flute; Myron  
Lutzke, violoncello; Kenneth Slowik, baryton & fortepiano  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010**

French Baroque music by Gaspard Le Roux and  
Louis, François, and Armand-Louis Couperin

The Smithsonian Chamber Players Founders Trio

James Weaver, harpsichord; Marilyn McDonald, violin;  
Kenneth Slowik, viola da gamba & harpsichord  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010**

Schumann: Trio in D Minor, Op. 63; Quintet in E-flat  
Major, Op. 44

The Castle Trio and Friends

Lambert Orkis, fortepiano; Marilyn McDonald, violin;  
Kenneth Slowik, violoncello; with Lisa-Beth Lambert, violin;  
and Steven Dann, viola  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Sunday, February 28, 2010**

Schubert: Quartet in A Minor, D 804

Bruckner: Quintet in F Major

The Smithsonian Chamber Players

Ernst Kovacic and Cynthia Roberts, violins; Steven Dann  
and Katherine Murdock, violas; Kenneth Slowik, violoncello  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Sunday, March 14, 2010**

Sonatas of Schubert, Beethoven, and Mozart

The Smithsonian Chamber Players

Ian Swensen, violin; Kenneth Slowik, fortepiano  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History

**Sunday, March 28, 2010**

Arnold Schoenberg: String Quartet in D Major

Alban Berg: String Quartet, Op. 3

Antonin Dvořák: Quintet in G Major, Op. 77

The Smithsonian Chamber Players

Mark Fewer and Jeffrey Multer, violins; Douglas McNabney,  
viola; Kenneth Slowik, violoncello; John Feeney, double bass  
Hall of Musical Instruments, American History



Elizabeth  
Adkins



Naoko  
Takao



Christopher  
Krueger



Jaap  
Schröder



Myron  
Lutzke



James  
Weaver



Lambert  
Orkis



Steven  
Dann



Lisa-Beth  
Lambert



Ernst  
Kovacic



Cynthia  
Roberts



Katherine  
Murdock



Ian  
Swensen



Mark  
Fewer



Jeffrey  
Multer



Douglas  
McNabney



John  
Feeney

## Masterworks of Four Centuries

Locations:

Hall of Musical Instruments, American History  
Museum (Constitution Avenue  
at 14th Street, N.W.)

Grand Salon of the Renwick Gallery  
(Pennsylvania Avenue at 17th Street, N.W.)

Sunday Series (7 concerts)

Concerts at 7:30 p.m.

Pre-concert talks at 6:30 p.m.

Code BPK1

Resident Associate Members \$95

Senior Members \$85

General Admission \$115

For tickets and information:

Visit [ResidentAssociates.org/Chamber](http://ResidentAssociates.org/Chamber) (No handling fee.)

Call 202-633-3030 (\$3 nonrefundable handling fee per phone order.)

Axelrod Quartet: Stradivarius and Amati (3 concerts)

Code BPJ8: Saturday Series

Code BPJ9: Sunday Series

Masterworks of Four Centuries (7 concerts)

Code BPK1: Sunday Series

Members in the Smithsonian Resident Associate Program save more than 25% on tickets.  
Not a member? Call 202-633-3030 and save on hundreds of programs.