

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra

Mark Davis, Director

Hampton Community Center, 178 Main St, Hampton CT

November 18, 2017 @ 7:30 PM

Suite Española <i>Rujero – Paradetas – Pasacalle – Villano – Españolaleta - Canarios</i>	Gaspar Sanz (1640-1710) Arr. M. Grandio
History of a Texas Wildflower Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Samba	Owen Hartford
Le Cygne (“The Swan”) Taka Kanaya, soloist	Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921), Arr. M. Davis
Memories of the Future <i>Astride My Velocipede – Deep Sea Voyage – Lighter than Air</i>	Joel Hobbs
(Intermission)	
Heavens on Earth <i>New Harmony – Equity – Shakertown</i>	John Goodin
Prelude No. 2 Taka Kanaya, Assistant Conductor	Hidenori Yoshimizu
Suite Española <i>Fandango – Granadina – Malagueña – Zapateado</i>	Enrique de Ulierte (1904-1984), Arr. G. Lago

Program Notes by Robert A. Margo: Today’s concert is bookended by two classic Spanish works for plucked strings – Gaspar Sanz’s “Suite Espanola”, originally for the baroque guitar; and Enrique de Ulierte’s “Suite Espanola,” a staple of the literature for bandurria ensemble. Owen Hartford is the long-time resident composer of the Providence Mandolin Orchestra. His “History” was one of 15 prize-winning pieces in a competition held by the Austin Mandolin Orchestra, each piece precisely one-minute (!) long. Hartford’s “Twinkle, Twinkle” sets the familiar nursery rhyme to a samba beat and Brazilian harmonies. The beautiful melody of Camille Saint-Saëns’ “The Swan” is performed here by PMO mando-cellist Taka Kanaya, in a new arrangement for plucked string ensemble by Mark Davis. Joel Hobb’s remarkable three-movement “Memories of the Future” was commissioned by the Classical Mandolin Society of America for performance at its 2015 convention, held in Austin TX. John Goodin’s “Heavens on

Earth” is influenced by folk and old-time music. Hidenori Yoshimizu’s beautiful “Prelude No. 2” is a popular contemporary work played by many Japanese mandolin orchestras.

The **Providence Mandolin Orchestra** (PMO) is:

Director: Mark Davis

Assistant Conductor: Taka Kanaya

First Mandolin: Lynne Bell, Christine Chito, Owen Hartford, Mark Davis

Second Mandolin: Mark Chuoke, John Rufo, Paul Wilde

Mandola: Don Hauge, Robert Margo, Gayle Raposa

Mandocello: Taka Kanaya, Oliver Reid

Guitar: Beverly Davis, James Macartney

Bass: Hiatt Knapp

The origins of the **Providence Mandolin Orchestra** can be traced back to performances in the first decades of the twentieth century with Giuseppe Pettine and William Place Jr. The modern version of the PMO dates from 1971, when it was revived by Hibbard Perry. Since then the PMO has become one of the leading American mandolin ensembles with regular performances throughout the eastern United States and Western Europe. The PMO has a long-standing commitment to the performance of contemporary music, including many pieces written for the ensemble by composers such as Clarice Assad, Owen Hartford, Michael Nix, Emiel Stöpler, Francine Trester, and Frank Wallace. PMO Music Director **Mark Davis** began his guitar and mandolin studies with Hibbard Perry, and continued with Siegfried Behrend from whom he inherited his fascination with contemporary forms of musical expression. Davis has been Music Director of the Providence Mandolin Orchestra since 1989.

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