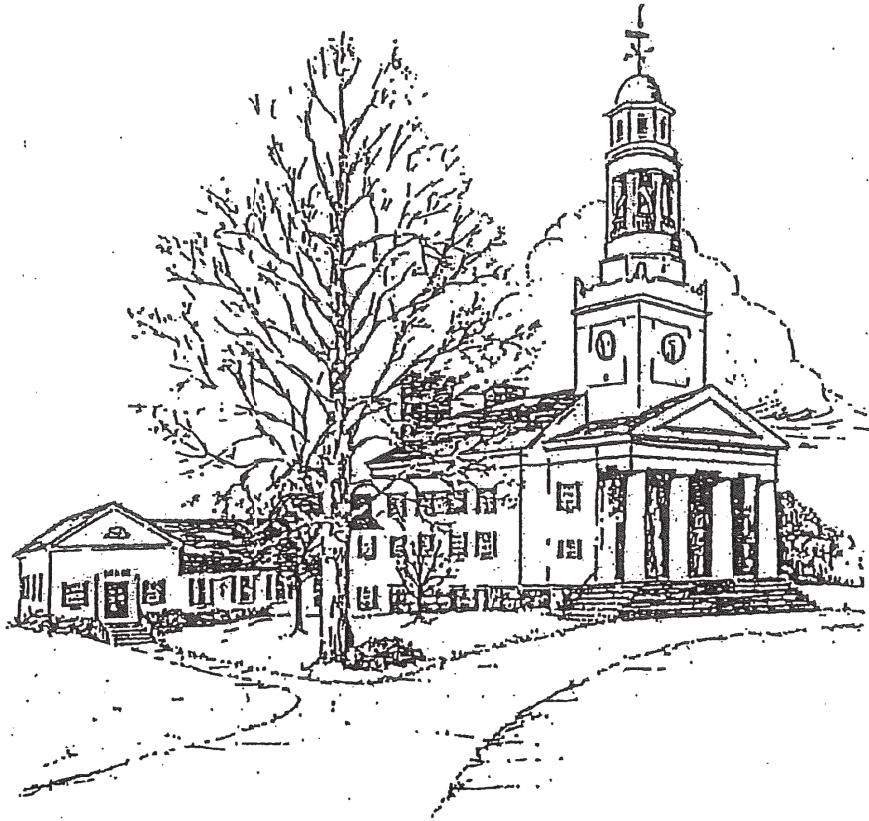


First Parish in Concord Presents



The Providence Mandolin Orchestra
Mark Davis, Director
With Special Guest Artist Robert Paul Sullivan

June 17, 2006
8 p.m.

I.

Suite No. 6	Hermann Ambrosius
Prelude	
Minuet	
Sarabande	
Gavotte-Trio	
Badinerie	
Song of Japanese Autumn	Yasuo Kuwahara
Song for My Father	Clarice Assad
Concerto per orchestra a pizzico	Victor Kioulaphides
Sinfonia	
Notturmo	
Rondo	
Concerto in C Major (RV 425)	Antonio Vivaldi
Allegro	
Largo	
Presto	
Robert Paul Sullivan, mandolin	

II.

American Songs (announced from the stage)	Traditional
Robert Paul Sullivan, mandocello	
Abendmusik: Nocturne de Salon, Op. 227	Ferdinando Carulli
Allegro	
Largo	
Allegretto Grazioso	
Summer Music	Robert Martel
Morning Song	
Meditation	
Evening Dance	
Mark Davis, guitar	
Robert Paul Sullivan, guitar	
Concierto de Media Luna	Jose Luis Barroso
Recuerdos	
Elegia	
Danza	
Chagall's Mandolin	Hankus Netsky
Eastern Wind	
Song of Longing	
Silenced Voices	
Song of Passion	
Sirba	
Robert Paul Sullivan, mandolin	

Program Notes by Robert A. Margo

Italy is the ancestral home of the mandolin, spiritually and literally. It was in Italy that the “mandolino” and “mandoline” first made their appearances in the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Vivaldi and Beethoven, among others, wrote concertos for the mandolin; Mozart gave it prominence in his opera *Don Giovanni* and, more recently Gustav Mahler gave it a place in his 7th and 8th symphonies. Today the mandolin is performed widely by classical orchestras and solo musicians around the world. In the U.S., it is most popularly known as an essential member of blue-grass, klezmer and country-western bands.

Today's concert features two of the classics of the modern repertoire for mandolin orchestra, Hermann Ambroisus' "Suite No. 6", written in a friendly, neo-baroque style; and Yasuo Kuwahara's "Song of Japanese Autumn", a romantic work whose cadenza is spiced by pentatonic scales and arpeggios that hazily evoke the music of the composer's homeland. Jose Luis Barroso's "Concierto de Media Luna" wears its Spanish origins on its sleeves, with pointed references to flamenco harmonies and rhythms. The concert also features a remarkable new work, Victor Kioulaphides' "Concerto per orchestra a pizzico", composed for the Dutch ensemble Het Consort and given its United States premiere in February by the Providence Mandolin Orchestra. Written for the Providence Mandolin Orchestra, Clarice Assad's "Song for My Father" is filled with the subtle harmonies and infectious rhythms of the composer's native Brazil.

The mandolin is often partnered with the classical guitar. Ferdinando Carulli was one of the most prolific of the early nineteenth century guitarist-composers. Carulli's "Nocturne de Salon" falls easy on the ear with its sprightly melodies. Robert Martel is a classical guitarist and composer from Massachusetts. His works for mandolin orchestra have been performed widely, including by the Providence Mandolin Orchestra, which featured his piece "Sky Colored Lake" on its recording "Songs Without Words". True to its title, Martel's "Summer Music" for guitar duo features breezy harmonies and relaxed rhythms.

A multi-instrumentalist, composer, and scholar, Hankus Netsky teaches improvisation and Jewish music at the New England Conservatory. He is the founder and director of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, an internationally renowned Yiddish music ensemble. He has composed extensively for film and television, and has collaborated with such artists as Itzhak Perlman, Robin Williams, Joel Grey, and Theodore Bikel. Inspired by Chagall's depiction of the mandolin in his paintings Netsky's four movement concerto deftly mixes both Yiddish sounds and improvisation (by the soloist).

Robert Paul Sullivan studied guitar with Hibbard Perry, Rey de la Torre, Oscar Gighlia, and Emilio Pujol, among others. He has taught at the University of Rhode Island, Syracuse University, Clark University and the New England Conservatory. A master of all instruments plucked, his recent performances have included the Boston Symphony Orchestra's opening Gala concert of Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* with conductor James Levine in Boston and New York; Boston Celebrity Series; Alea III; New Hampshire Symphony Orchestra; Rhode Island Symphony Orchestra; Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra; Boston Ballet; Boston Opera Company; Musica Viva, and Broadway productions of *Chicago*, *Ragtime*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Man of La Mancha*. Several of Sullivan's students have gone onto important careers, including John Muratore, Hopkinson Smith, and Crawford Young.

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra was founded by the late Hibbard Perry in 1971. Since then, it has become one of the leading American mandolin ensembles, with regular appearances throughout the Eastern United States, Canada, and Western Europe. With well over two hundred pieces in its repertoire, the PMO features a wide range of musical styles from Renaissance dances to Baroque concertos, turn-of-the-century nostalgia, and avant-garde expressions. The group's unique tonality has inspired exciting new works by Clarice Assad, Will Ayton, Owen Hartford, Eva Kendrick, Barbara Kolb, Robert Martel, Michael Nix, Stephen Funk Pearson and many others. The Orchestra is under the direction of Mark Davis. Mr. Davis pursues an active career as a solo performer, educator and conductor.

Performers:

Director: Mark Davis

First Mandolin: Joshua Bell (concertmaster), Michael Cappelli, Yvette Cote, Robert Margo, Chang Lee

Second Mandolin: Lynne Bell, Antonio Carlyon, Owen Hartford, Lisa Topakian, Paul Wilde

Mandola: Steve Caddick, Mack Johnston, Will Melton, Gayle Raposa

Mandocello: Duane Golomb, Dan Moore, Matt Synder

Guitar: Mark Armstrong, Christine Chito, Beverly Davis, Scott Hacker

Bass: Gino Cicchetti, Dave Parr