

“Music For Plucked Strings”

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra, Mark M. Davis, Director

Weaver Library, 41 Grove St, East Providence RI

April 3, 2023, 6:30 PM

Tafelmusik Konrad Wölki (1904 – 1983)

Poco Allegretto – Adagio – Allegro Marciale – Poco Allegretto

Michael J. Raymond, Jr, recorder

Intermezzo, Op. 146 Raffaele Calace (1863 – 1934)

Moderato (from *First Concerto for Guitar and Small Orchestra*)[^] Laurindo Almeida (1917 – 1995)

Mark Armstrong, classical guitar

Au Café Cardamome James Kellaris

Movements #1 and #2 (from *Three Movements for Mandolin Orchestra*) Francine Trester

Open the Door to the North Wind (2022)[^] Ron Pearl

[^]World Premiere

Program Notes (by Robert Margo). Our concert begins with one of the classics of the modern German literature for “zupforchester”, Konrad Wölki’s *Tafelmusik*, with PMO member Michael J. Raymond, Jr. as recorder soloist. A late work, Raffaele Calace’s very beautiful (and harmonically complex) *Intermezzo* features extensive use of tremolo, the mandolin’s signature technique. Brazilian-born Laurindo Almeida was a leading classical guitarist in the United States after WW2, well-known for his early championing of the guitar music of Barrios, Villa-Lobos, and other Latin American composers. This is the first performance of PMO member Mark Armstrong’s innovative new arrangement for mandolin orchestra of the “Moderato” movement from Almeida’s first guitar concerto. James Kellaris is one of the today’s leading composers for plucked strings (and, in his “day” job, the James S. Womack/Gemini Corporation Professor of Signage and Visual Marketing at the University of Cincinnati). His latest work for mandolin orchestra, *Au Café Cardamome*, which the PMO premiered in March 2022, features extended techniques and extensive use of Greek melodies, rhythms, and harmonies. Francine Trester’s (Berklee School of Music) remarkable *Three Movements for Mandolin Orchestra* was commissioned for the PMO in 2006 by Robert Margo. Our program closes with a world premiere -- *Open the Door to the North Wind*, by the distinguished classical guitarist Ron Pearl, written in 2022 for the PMO.

The modern **Providence Mandolin Orchestra** dates from the early 1970s, 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’s music director since 1989, **Mark Davis** began his guitar and mandolin studies with Hibbard Perry in Rhode

Island and continued his musical training with the eminent German guitarist Siegfried Behrend. Davis has performed widely in the United States and abroad and has made numerous recordings. Visit the Providence Mandolin Orchestra on Facebook, Soundcloud, YouTube, and at <http://www.providencemandolin.org/>.

The **Providence Mandolin Orchestra** (Mark Davis, Director) is:

First Mandolin: Lynne Bell, Christine Chito, Mark Davis, John Rufo

Second Mandolin: Mark Chuoke, Marcie Glicksman, Cedwyn Morgan, Paul Wilde

Mandola in G: Robert Margo

Mandola in C: Gayle Raposa

Mandocello: Oliver Reid, Michael J. Raymond, Jr

Classical Guitar: Mark Armstrong, Beverly Davis

Bass: Hiatt Knapp