

Music for Plucked Strings

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra (Mark Davis, Director)

Daniel K. Moore, Guest Conductor

The Music Mansion, 88 Meeting Street, Providence RI

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 8:00 PM

Grooves #1

Owen Hartford

Music for Play

Claudio Mandonico

Entrata – Canzona – Ritmico

Pursuit

Thomas Smith

Eclipse

Michelle Nelson

Poco Allegro – Adagio – Allegro

Robert Margo, Mandola in G

Abendmusik

Kurt Schwaen (1909 – 2007)

Allegretto – Moderato – Poco Mosso - Vivo

Notes (by Robert Margo): Our program begins with a PMO classic – “Grooves #1” by PMO composer emeritus Owen Hartford, followed by a classic of the European repertoire for plucked strings, “Music for Play,” by the Italian composer Claudio Mandonico. Earlier this spring we gave the United States premieres of “Pursuit,” by Philadelphia-area composer Thomas Smith; and “Eclipse” by the Australian composer Michelle Nelson, a concerto for mandola in G (octave mandolin) and mandolin orchestra. We end with another classic of the European repertoire, “Abendmusik” by the German composer Kurt Schwaen.

The original **Providence Mandolin Orchestra** was founded in 1911 by William Place Jr, one of the leading mandolinists in early twentieth century America. The modern PMO dates from the early 1970s, when it was revived by Hibbard Perry, a former student of Place, Jr. Since then, the PMO has become the leading American mandolin ensemble with regular performances throughout the eastern United States and multiple tours to Europe. The PMO is dedicated to the performance of original contemporary music, including many pieces written for the ensemble. **Mark Davis**, who pursues an active

career as a conductor and performer on guitar and mandolin, has served as the PMO's music director since 1989.

Daniel K. Moore played mandocello with the PMO for nearly twenty years beginning in 1996. As a music educator and conductor, Dan's other passion has been English handbells (he has served local and national handbell organizations in a variety of capacities) and although recently retired, he has continued to be active as a clinician and mentor to handbell choirs throughout New England.

Visit the Providence Mandolin on Facebook, on YouTube, and at <http://www.providencemandolin.org/>.

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

Director: Mark Davis

Guest Conductor: Daniel K. Moore

First Mandolin: Christine Chito, Mark Davis

Second Mandolin: Mark Chuoke, Cedwyn Morgan, Paul Wilde

Mandola in C: Gayle Raposa

Mandola in G: Mark Davis, Robert Margo

Mandocello: Oliver Reid

Classical Guitar: Mark Armstrong, Beverly Davis

Bass: Peter DiCicco, Hiatt Knapp