

## Music for Plucked Strings

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra (PMO)

Hampton Community Center, 178 Main Street, Hampton CT  
Sunday, November 16, 3 PM

Mark Davis, Director

The City Awakens	Emiel Stöpler
Grooves #1	Owen Hartford
Prelude to “The Gadfly”	Dmitri Shostakovich (1906 – 1975, arr. Mark Linkins (1964 – 2024)
Music for Play	Claudio Mandonico
<i>Entrata – Canzona - Ritmico</i>	
Tanzstück	Cesar Bresgen (1913 – 1988)
A Lament for the Death of Polite Language	Robert Schulz (1950 – 2025)
Lieder ohne Worte	Konrad Wölki (1904 – 1983)
<i>Allegro Moderato – Andante sostenuto – Allegretto – Allegretto moderato</i>	

### Program Notes by Robert Margo:

We open with “The City Awakens” written for the PMO by the Dutch composer, Emiel Stöpler, in his characteristic rhythmic style derived from minimalism and popular music. Our program today features a PMO “classic, “Grooves #1,” by our resident composer emeritus Owen Hartford, followed by one of great works of the modern Italian repertoire for mandolin orchestra, Claudio Mandonico’s “Music for Play”. We continue with “Tanzstück,” an original work for mandolin orchestra by the Austrian composer, Cesar Bresgen. Australian composer Robert Schultz’s Scottish-inflected “Lament” bemoans the current (mis)-use of the English language -- “debased, shallow in content, full of clichés ... Where is the new generation of poets?” Our performance of Schultz’s piece at this concert is a memorial tribute to him (his death was sudden and unexpected). The Shostakovich prelude (arranged by Mark Linkins) is from the score to the popular 1955 film by Alexander Faintsimmer. Our concert concludes with one of the classic works of German “zupfimusik” – Konrad Wölki’s “Lieder ohne Worte,” in four movements.

The Providence Mandolin Orchestra is:

Music Director: Mark Davis  
First Mandolin: Lynne Bell, Christine Chito, Lisa Newby  
Second Mandolin: Mark Chuoke, Cedwyn Morgan  
Mandola in C: Gayle Raposa  
Mandola in G: Robert Margo, John Rufo  
Mandocello: Oliver Reid  
Classical Guitar: Mark Armstrong, Daniel Atwood, Beverly Davis  
Bass: Peter DiCicco

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's. Since then, the PMO has become one of the leading American mandolin and guitar ensembles 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. Visit the PMO online at <http://www.providencemandolin.org/>.