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## **Music in Mind Concert Series Presents Irina Muresanu's "Four Strings Around the World" on February 5, 2017 at 3pm**

Program to include two world premieres inspired by Native American and Indian music

**The Clarice, University of Maryland** - Virtuoso violinist Irina Muresanu will present her highly acclaimed solo recital program *Four Strings Around the World* at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on February 5, 2017 at 3.00 pm. The program will feature the newly commissioned pieces by Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate and Shirish Korde. These two commissions – as well as an album to be released later this year on the Sono Luminus label - were a result of the 2016 "*Creative and Performing Arts Award*" awarded to Muresanu by the University of Maryland.

The recital will be a part of UMD's 2016-2017 Music in Mind concert series which presents premier faculty and guest artists in recital settings. This program's audio/visual presentation is guest curated by UMD ethnomusicology professor Larry Witzleben.

### **About *Four Strings Around the World***

Muresanu's *Four Strings Around the World* is a compelling program celebrating the diversity of cultures around the world through the uniting voice of a single medium: the violin. The journey, designed by Irina Muresanu, starts in Europe with the fiddling buoyancy of pieces by Romanian, Russian and Irish composers (Enescu, Shchedrin and Flynn respectively) and two titanic pillars of the solo violin repertoire: Paganini's *Caprice no. 24* and the Bach *Chaconne*. The program continues sonic exploration through works of composers with musical roots in Persian (Reza



Vali), Chinese (Bright Sheng) and Indian (Shirish Korde) cultures. Each of these pieces uses a different modal system, creating a wide variety of sound effects. After a brief detour in South America (via an Astor Piazzolla "Tango Etude"), "Four Strings" visits North American sounds. (Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate and Mark O'Connor).

Muresanu will continue her endeavors to perform this program around the world, as well as commission new pieces and discover more repertoire for solo violin that evokes the spirit of a certain nation.

*"Four Strings Around the World not only extends the superbly talented Muresanu in new directions, but offers a glimpse into variations of violin technique and approach that would only be gleaned by attending concerts in various country fairs, Irish pubs, campfire gatherings and parlors. The only thing these works had in common was a kind of magical virtuosity that Muresanu regaled the audience with in a most facile manner..." Cape Cod Times, July 2014*

## **Program**

### **European Music**

George Enescu (1881- 1955) - Four Airs in Romanian Folk Style

Rodion Shchedrin (b. 1932) - Gypsy Melody

Dave Flynn (b. 1977) - Tar Eis an Caoineadh

Niccolo Paganini (1782-1840) - Caprice no. 24

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962) - Recitativo and Scherzo, op. 6

J. S. Bach (1685-1750) - Ciaccona in D minor

### **Music of the Middle and Far East, South Asia, South and North America**

Reza Vali (b. 1952) - Calligraphy no. 5

Shirish Korde (b. 1945) - Vak

Bright Sheng (b. 1955) - The Stream Flows

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992) - Tango Caprice no. 3

Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate (b. 1968) - Oshta – Four

Mark O'Connor (b. 1961) - Cricket Dance

A live performance at the Yamaha Artists center in New York City, June 2014, of the Enescu is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUodx68FmFo>

A live performance at the Boston Atheneum, October 2014, of the Bright Sheng is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9PxNYICSM>

A live interview and performance in the Fraser Performance Studio in Boston, April 2013, of the O'Connor is available here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiXG40\\_jjEg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiXG40_jjEg)



### **About Irina Muresanu**

Romanian violinist Irina Muresanu has won the hearts of audiences and critics alike with her “irresistible,” (Boston Globe) exciting, elegant and heartfelt performances of the classic, romantic and modern repertoire. The Globe has also come to praise her as “not just a virtuoso, but an artist” and the Los Angeles Times has written that her “musical luster, melting lyricism and colorful conception made Irina Muresanu’s performance especially admirable”. Her performances have been frequently cited as among the Best of Classical Music Performances by the Boston Globe, most recently for a 2016 recital with pianist Roberto Plano titled “Rorem, Ravel, and Rags.”

Irina Muresanu currently serves on the faculty of the University of Maryland and has taught in the Music Departments of Boston Conservatory, Harvard and MIT. Her ensemble, the Boston Trio, was Ensemble-in-Residence at the New England Conservatory, the institution at which she received the prestigious Artist Diploma degree and a Doctorate in Musical Arts degree.

#### **Calendar information:**

Sunday February 5, 2017 3pm  
Music in Mind Series: “Four Strings Around the World”  
Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center  
8270 Alumni Drive  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742-1625

<https://theclarice.umd.edu/events/2017/music-in-mind-four-strings-around-the-world-a-global-tableau-of-solo-violin-repertoire>

\$25 for adults  
\$10 for students and youth

For information about Irina Muresanu and *Four Strings Around the World*, please contact:

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