

THE CHESTER STRING QUARTET

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Aaron Berofsky, Violin
David Harding, Viola

Kathryn Votapek, Violin
Thomas Rosenberg, Cello

ALEXANDER TORADZE, Piano

A PRESENTATION OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND



THE CHESTER STRING QUARTET
and ALEXANDER TORADZE, Piano

A presentation of
INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTH BEND
Division of the Arts
Daniel Cohen, Chancellor
Robert W. Demarce, Jr., Dean of the Arts

Eight o'clock
Saturday, November 7, 1992
Campus Auditorium
Elgth Program, 1992-93 Season

The IUSB Alumni Association Board of Directors
cordially invites you to attend a post-concert reception
with Alexander Toradze and the Chester String Quartet
immediately following the concert.

The first collaboration of Alexander Toradze and the Chester String Quartet occurred in a recent concert in Baltimore about which *Baltimore Sun* music critic Stephen Wigler wrote: "His (Toradze) concert last night at Goucher College suggests that there are two Alexander Toradzes, one who conquered his instrument in Prokofiev's Sonata No. 7 with blinding prestidigitation and a command of sonority so vast that there were times when one feared for the walls in Kraushear Auditorium; and one who seduced his instrument in Haydn's Sonata No. 49 with a blend of refinement, delicacy of articulation and imaginative phrasing.

"Both Toradzes took one's breath away.

"A third Toradze was revealed after intermission in a performance of the Brahms F minor Quintet with the splendid Chester String Quartet that combined vigor, warmth and spontaneity."

Program

Quartet in Eb Major, Op. 33, #2, "The Joke" Haydn
Allegro moderato
Scherzo: Allegro
Largo e sostenuto
Finale: Presto

String Quartet #4, Op. 83 Shostakovich
Allegretto
Andantino
Allegretto
Allegretto

Intermission

Quintet for Piano and Strings in F Minor, Op. 34 Brahms
Allegro non troppo
Andante, un poco Adagio
Scherzo: Allegro
Finale: Poco sostenuto -- Allegro non troppo

The use of recording or photographic devices at a concert in any auditorium of IUSB is forbidden. Eating, drinking or smoking at such events is also prohibited. Attendance by children under the age of responsible behavior is discouraged.

The Chester String Quartet

One of America's most distinguished and sought after chamber ensembles, the Chester String Quartet has been called "one of the best and brightest of the country's young string quartets" by the *Boston Globe*. Their engaging style and deep sense of musical commitment have brought raves from audiences and critics throughout the United States. The Chester String Quartet's interpretations have also led to top prizes at international quartet competitions in Munich, Germany; Portsmouth, England and Chicago's Discovery Competition.

Recording artists for the Koch International Classics label, the Chester is currently engaged in recording nine CDs to appear over the next few years. Their recently released debut on Koch received critical acclaim from publications including *Fanfare Magazine* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

In addition to its performances of the standard repertoire, the Quartet has shown an ongoing interest in a wide range of collaborative and innovative work. In recent seasons they have given numerous performances at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall with the New York Chamber Ensemble and a performance with several noted jazz artists at Carnegie Recital Hall. They have appeared frequently on both radio and television, presented the entire Beethoven quartet cycle, commissioned and performed new works, and have maintained a commitment to playing and recording lesser known works in the chamber schedule, having appeared at such prestigious festivals as Newport, Aspen, Grand Tetons, Music Mountain, Cape May and South Mountain. They have joined in concert with many international solo artists and chamber musicians, previously recorded for the CRI, Stolet, and Pantheon labels, and have been

heard numerous times on National Public Radio, the BBC, and German State Radio. Founded at the Eastman School of Music, the Chester is currently Quartet-in-Residence at Indiana University South Bend where its members are all full-time faculty.

The members of the Chester Quartet play on a beautiful set of instruments, including violins by Jacob Stainer (Tyrol, 1668) and Michele Deconet (Venice, 1754), a viola by Pietro Antonio dalla Costa (Treviso, c. 1750), and a cello by Lorenzo Storioni (Cremona, 1794).



Alexander Toradze

Alexander Toradze is internationally recognized by musicians, critics and audiences alike as an outstanding keyboard virtuoso in the grand Romantic tradition. Distinguished above all for the highly emotional intensity of his playing, he has enriched the great Russian pianistic heritage with his own unorthodox interpretive conceptions, deeply poetic lyricism and visceral excitement.

Born in 1952 in Tbilisi, Georgia, Alexander Toradze came to worldwide prominence through his triumphs in numerous international contests, including the Van Cliburn Competition. He has since appeared with virtually every major North American orchestra, including those of Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minnesota, Montreal, Philadelphia, Seattle and Toronto and the National Symphony in Washington, D.C. His numerous New York appearances include recitals on Carnegie Hall's Great Pianists series and at the 92nd Street Y, as well as multiple engagements with the New York Philharmonic and at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. He has also performed with the Beethovenhalle and with the Warsaw Philharmonic orchestras in the United States.

In Europe, Mr. Toradze has appeared with such leading orchestras as the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, the Kirov Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Symphony and Philharmonia, the Bayerische Rundfunk orchestra in Munich, the City of Birmingham Orchestra, the Rotterdam Philharmonic, Moscow State and Philharmonic orchestras and the L'Orchestre National de France as well as the Netherlands, Finnish and Swedish radio orchestras.

Alexander Toradze graduated in 1975 from the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow and following post-graduate studies became a professor at the Moscow Conservatory. In 1983 Mr. Toradze requested asylum at the American Embassy in Madrid while on tour in Spain with the Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra of Moscow. Since that time he has made his home in the United States.

In 1992 Alexander Toradze was appointed to the Martin Endowed Professorship in Piano at Indiana University South Bend. This prestigious appointment was awarded to Mr. Toradze after a year-long search for candidates on four continents.

Alexander Toradze, his wife, Susan, and son, David, live in South Bend.



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