

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Minn SWest String Fest, Saturday, April 27, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, MN, 10 AM to 6 PM

Suzuki Group Recital, Saturday, May 4, 2 PM, Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church, 2149 Edgcumbe Road, St. Paul

SPCM Showcase at MetroNOME, Saturday, May 4, 4-6 PM
Fingal's Cave, MetroNOME Brewery, 385 Broadway Street, St. Paul

Spring Student Recitals, Saturday, May 11, Noon-7 PM, St. Paul
Reformation Lutheran Church, 100 Oxford St N, St. Paul

Coffee Concert: Havana String Quartet and Friends, Wednesday, May 15,
Noon, Danish American Institute, 3030 W. River Pkwy, Minneapolis

Livestream details are available through our website: www.thespcm.org



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, and through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Additional funding is made possible by generous donations from Boss Foundation, Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts, Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation, Ecolab Foundation, Anna M. Heilmaier Foundation, the Art and Martha Kaemmer Fund of HRK Foundation, the Saint Paul Foundation, the Twin Cities Opera Guild, and an anonymous donor.

The SAINT PAUL CONSERVATORY of MUSIC

100 Oxford Street North, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104

www.thespcm.org | info@thespcm.org | 651.224.2205



Coffee Concerts 2023-2024

Songs with Strings

James Sherepa, voice

Milena Petkovic, guitar

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

12 Noon

Edgcumbe Presbyterian Church

2149 Edgcumbe Road

St. Paul, MN

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

James Sherepa is a singing actor from Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is a graduate of Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music, and the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign), where he earned his Bachelor and Master's degrees respectively. Upon moving to Anoka, MN he joins The Gregorian Singers as well as the St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir, as a section leader. As an instructor, he has worked with the St. Paul Conservatory of Music, Northern Starz Center for the Performing Arts, and Lyric Arts Theatre in Anoka. Additionally, he is the general music teacher at Montessori Renaissance Academy in Anoka, teaching students in grades 1 through 8. James' vocal background consists mainly of opera and classical art song. He has performed with Sugar Creek Opera (Watseka), Southern Illinois Music Festival (Carbondale), MIOpera (Bloomington-Normal), Cleveland Opera Theater (Cleveland), and The Station Theater (Urbana) among others. Some of James' favorite performances include; Farinelli and the King (Farinelli), Hansel and Gretel (Witch), and Die Entführung aus dem Serail (Pedrillo). Beyond the stage, James has a passion for private vocal instruction, and has been teaching for over a decade. He brings a strong understanding of vocal technique that allows him to teach classical repertoire as well as contemporary musical theatre, jazz, and pop music. James embraces the responsibility of encouraging young singers to find their voice and share that gift.

Milena Petkovic was born in Prizren, Serbia. She began playing classical guitar at the age of eleven. She finished High Music School in Belgrade with three diplomas: Music Theory, Lute and Classical Guitar. In 2011 Milena graduated from the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad with a Bachelor of Music Degree in Guitar Performance under the guidance of Prof. Zoran Krajišnik. During her studies she participated in numerous national and international music festivals and competitions. Her awards include: second prize for guitar performance at the International Guitar Festival, Kustendil, Bulgaria (2006), first prize at Guitar Open Festival in Subotica, Serbia (2010), and second prize at Naissus Guitar Festival in Niš, Serbia (2010). She continued her studies at Indiana University, graduating in 2014 with a Performer Diploma and Master's Degree in Guitar Performance from the Jacobs School of Music, under the guidance of Maestro Ernesto Bitetti. She received her DMA from the University of Minnesota in 2021. Milena often performs as a soloist and in various chamber ensembles – guitar duo, duo with flute, violin and clarinet. Since 2021 she has been a member of the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet. Milena has performed across the United States as well as in Serbia, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Hungary and Italy. Her teaching experience includes teaching beginner and advanced guitar classes and individual lessons for six years as a Teaching Assistant at Indiana University and University of Minnesota. She was also a Pre-College guitar instructor at the Jacobs School of Music for two years. Since 2018 Milena has worked with the Minnesota Guitar Society in their Guitar in Our Schools program as a project coordinator. She joined the faculty of the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music in 2017.

Where'er You Walk
G. F Handel
(1685-1759)

Folk Song Arrangements, Vol. 6
I. I Will Give My Love an Apple
II. Master Kilby
III. The Soldier and the Sailor
IV. Bonny at Morn
V. The Shooting of His Dear
VI. Sailor Boy
Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

Flow my tears (Lachrimae)
I saw my Lady weep
Come again
John Dowland
(1563-1626)

Sir John Smith, His Almain (solo guitar)
John Dowland

Think'st thou then by thy feigning
Rest awhile you cruel cares
Can she excuse my wrongs?
John Dowland

Strike The Viol
Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

***James Sherepa, voice
Milena Petkovic, guitar***

***A special thank you to Edgumbe Presbyterian Church for the
use of your beautiful sanctuary.***