



2018 MECHANICS HALL  
MUSIC FESTIVAL

## FESTIVAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE - August 8 -15, 2018

The **Mechanics Hall Summer Music Festival** is a treat for classical music audiences during a period of the year when there are few options for great live music. Affordable and freshly inspirational, these concerts celebrate some of our finest regional musicians - no need to look across the oceans for talent, we have plenty right here.

### Wednesday, August 8 • 12 noon

*Cosmic Dualities - Conversations among instruments: A varied array of musical duets*

Olga Rogach (piano), Will Sherwood (piano), William Ness (organ), Scott Daugherty (trumpet)

### Thursday, August 9 • 7PM

*Imperio in Stereo - Concerto for Two Pianos (orchestral accompaniment on the Hook Organ)*

Featured work: Saint-Saëns - *Carnival of the Animals*

### Friday August 10 • 7PM

*Seele Musicale Chamber Ensemble in Concert: Delicious Delirium*

Eclectic repertoire from Baroque to Contemporary

### Sunday, August 12 • 3PM

Peter Krasinski - Internationally acclaimed silent film live accompaniment on the historic Hook Organ.

### Tuesday, August 14 • 7PM

Liana Paniyeva, piano, in concert - virtuoso piano masterpieces, including Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition

### Wednesday, August 15 • 12 noon

Young Artist Showcase - Wesley Hall, organ, in concert, *A Tour of Favorite Pipe Organ Repertoire*

### Wednesday, August 15 • 7PM

Song and Sunset - Showcasing Soprano & Piano: Maria Ferrante and Brett Maguire

## UNIQUE ASPECTS OF THE SERIES

- Variety of instrumentation & ensembles, with all local-area musicians.
- Rarely performed repertoire that is still listenable, accessible, and enjoyable Web-based "appendices" for program notes, historical information, biographies - viewing encouraged on your tablets/phones during the concert. (The hall is equipped with high-connection WiFi.)
- Live video projection of performer close-ups during the concert
- Very affordable ticket prices; complimentary tickets for less fortunate and for non-profit volunteers

## LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship of the 2018 Mechanics Hall Summer Music Festival shows your dedication to live music performance in Central Massachusetts. Your organization will be seen by hundreds of concertgoers and associated with fine classical music.

- Banners
- Program Book Ad
- Marketing Table in the hall for concertgoers to browse & take your literature
- VIP seating for staff/employees; complimentary tickets to give to your clients
- VIP reception with the artist(s); VIP tour of Mechanics Hall and the Hook Organ
- Provide free tickets for underprivileged and area non-profit volunteers

## SELECTED BIOGRAPHIES

### Roy & Kristjon Imperio

**Roy Imperio** has performed internationally and in the United States as a soloist, accompanist, collaborative pianist, and chamber musician. A versatile pianist, he co-founded various ensembles such as the Windhammer Chamber Players, the Bulfinch Players, and continues to perform with the Nashaway Trio, and Trio Orione. He holds music degrees from the University of the Philippines and Andrews University and has also taken master classes with Menahem Pressler at Indiana University. He has released two CDs: "Music of Frederic Chopin: a Life of Passion" for solo piano and "Holiday Music in New England" with the Bulfinch Players. A dedicated music teacher he continues to serve as an adjunct faculty at Atlantic Union College and teaches piano at the Thayer Performing Arts Center, 77 Arts Academy in Acton, and Fitchburg State University. He is one of the collaborative pianists at Boston Conservatory and currently the Director of Music at the Faith United Parish in Fitchburg, MA.

**Kristjon Imperio** B.M.Ed, graduated from Atlantic Union College, studying piano with his father Roy Imperio and organ

with William Ness. He has since remained active as a pianist, organist, and clinician throughout New England, most recently as Choral Clinician for the AUC Music Clinic in Hartford, CT (2011, 2015) and Piano Clinician for the NNEC Music Clinic, in Freeport, ME (2005-2014). In 2008, he founded Nashaway Chorus, Inc., and served as Music Director of the organization. Kristjon is also Minister of Music at First Congregational Church of West Boylston MA, Organist at the College Church of SDA in Lancaster MA, Adjunct Faculty at Anna Maria College in Paxton MA, and is a Founding Member of the New England Piano Trio and Seele Musicale Chamber Ensemble.

**Father and son** have played and continue to collaborate in an extraordinary musical relationship—Roy performing as soloist and Kristjon as conductor for the Chopin First Piano Concerto with the Nashaway Philharmonic String Ensemble, playing one piano four-hands at the Natick Steinway Showcase Room, performing many duets for organ and piano, Roy singing in the Nashaway Chorus with Kristjon as Music Director, and playing in their premiere performance as duo piano virtuosos at Thayer Performing Arts Center last year. Today's final piece, *Les Preludes* by Liszt is aptly descriptive of what is more to come and not the end. Their music collaboration is the delight of all who hear them.



## artists Cosmic Dualities

**Olga Rogach** received a Master of Music degree from Russia's famed St. Petersburg Conservatory. After graduation she was appointed to the St. Petersburg Music College Faculty and became a featured pianist for the Literary Association of St. Petersburg and the All-Russian Theatrical Society. She emigrated to the U.S. in 1991. A leading regional piano teacher, Ms. Rogach has a private piano studio and is a private piano instructor at WPI. Many of her students have been prize and scholarship winners in international and local competitions.

Ms. Rogach performs extensively in New England, and is acclaimed for her recitals and collaborations with instrumentalists and vocalists. In addition Ms. Rogach is a Music Director of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist church in Northborough, pianist for Master Singers of Worcester, and an official pianist and a board member of the Greater Worcester Opera Company.

**Will Sherwood** is the Artistic Director for the Mechanics Hall Worcester Organ Concert Series and Principal Organist at Mechanics Hall. He has been Director of Music & Organist at First Unitarian for 30+ years, and is currently Dean of Worcester AGO. He has appeared in concert at Mechanics Hall, as well as guest artist with the Boston Pops, and on organ concert tour in Europe and the U.S. For thirty years, he was a Sr. Engineering Manager at Intel (formerly Digital (DEC) ). Since corporate retirement, he is CTO & Owner of Sherwood Hosting, providing web hosting, web & graphic design (including this program book), & database design, and commercial photography services.

**PETER EDWIN KRASINSKI** is broadly recognized as a motivating consultant for the pipe organ community, and as a conductor, organist and music educator, whose imaginative and energetic performances elevate and inform audiences. Well respected in both secular and sacred genres of his field, he has taught the enchantment of music to both public and private institutions in the greater Boston area for many years. His silent film performances have been hailed in the press as "a great marriage of movie and music".

Specializing in the art of live silent film accompaniment, worldwide, Mr. Krasinski's skills are vast: he was the recipient of the First Prize in Improvisation from the American Guild of Organists National Competition. A seasoned performer, he has played recitals at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels (Los Angeles), Notre-Dame Cathedral (Paris), Trinity Church (Boston), and Holy Name Cathedral (Chicago).

Mr. Krasinski has served as Dean of the Boston Chapter AGO, and is currently Organist of First Church of Christ, Scientist in Providence RI, accompanist at Beth El Temple Center Belmont MA, faculty member of St Paul's Choir School, Cambridge MA and regularly teaches improvisation master-classes to the Harvard Organ Society. He holds both a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education and Organ Performance, and the Master of Sacred Music Degree from Boston University.



Seele Musicale Chamber Ensemble



## Seele Musicale Chamber Ensemble

**Seele Musicale Chamber Ensemble** is a guild of passionate musicians, performing a wide range of repertoire with an emphasis on the nuances and emotions in the music performed. Now celebrating five years, it was the music of Bach, Handel and Vivaldi that brought local musicians together originally. Over the years, they have performed at the First Unitarian Church of Worcester, Tower Hill Botanic Garden, local libraries, the Lions Club, a homeless shelter, a yoga center. Earlier this year they appeared with acclaim at the Worcester Art Museum in a program entitled "Flights of Fancy" to accompany the museum's "Flora in Winter" exhibition, with music of Handel and Telemann.

SMCE has featured living composers to premiere several of their works. With close ties to the estate of the late composer Alan Hovhaness, they premiered the unpublished work *Sextet for Recorder, Harpsichord and String Quartet*. Additionally they have premiered vocal works by Frederic Sharaf, and piano works of David Stern. Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5*, was paired with a *Concerto Capriccioso* of living composer R.A. Moulds, which was commissioned 20 years ago and had never been played since.

Employing the common denominator between well known Baroque and modern composers, Seele personifies stories in music in colorful ways. In Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater Dolorosa*, Seele became the "grief" of Mother Mary, not merely "telling the story" of her grief. With the music of R.A. Moulds, the group became the country dance, and with Telemann, they added tambourine and vividly "danced" the Polish dance within the piece.

For the ensemble, Music is the magic—the musicians seek that infinite magic that connects the musical creations of composers present and past to the yearning ears of today's audience.

Individually, they are music teachers, engineers, music directors, writers, audio engineers, music students, orchestra members, but above all they connect with their musical spirits distilling the wonderment of music to grateful ears wherever they perform.

Visit us at [www.SeeleMusicale.com](http://www.SeeleMusicale.com)

artists



**William Ness** retired from First Baptist Church in 2015, having served there for over fourteen years. Organ teaching is now a big part of his life, teaching at Pakachoag Community Music School and privately. Being a church musician for over fifty years he has served congregations in Iowa, Michigan, Massachusetts, Tennessee, and now Connecticut. As a recitalist he has performed locally in many churches in Worcester County as soloist and collaborative artist. Mr. Ness will be performing in two concerts in this series.

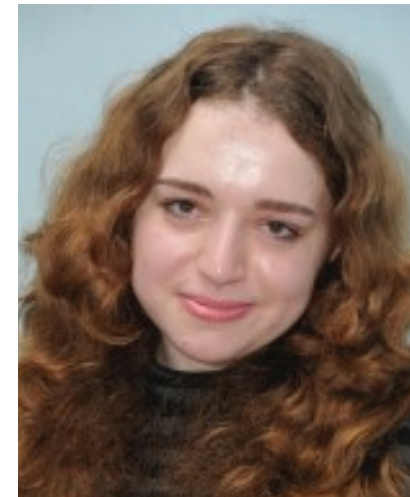
**American organ builders Elias and George Hook**, brothers from Boston, constructed the 52-stop, 3,504-pipe instrument in 1864. It is the oldest unaltered four-keyboard pipe organ in the Western Hemisphere located at its installation site. Restored in 1982 and again in 2013, the Hook Organ is one of the most popular and respected organs in the United States. It has been featured numerous times on National Public Radio, performed in several recordings, and has been featured on television and in a major motion picture, as well as in a music video starring Michael Crawford, the original "Phantom of the Opera."

From its beginnings as a performance hall instrument throughout its 150-year celebrated history, the Hook Organ has been a staple of the Central Mass classical music community. Thousands of organ concerts have been performed by international and local artists, as well as budding young talent. In addition, the instrument is used for weddings, public functions, and in concert with orchestras. The hall's acoustics and the Hook Organ sound are a match made in heaven.



**Wesley Hall** is an organist and keyboardist based in New England. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music, and holds an artist diploma and a master's degree in historical performance from the Oberlin Conservatory where he studied organ with James David Christie.

Wesley is an active recitalist, having given solo concerts throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe, and he has appeared as a soloist or continuo player with early music ensembles around the United States. In 2016 he received the Diapason Magazine's 20 Under 30 Award as an innovator in the organ and church music field, and he was recently awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in the Sursa American Organ Competition. Currently, he serves as the Minister of Music and the Arts at the First Baptist Church of Worcester, Massachusetts.



Currently living in Boston, **Liana Paniyeva** began winning prizes in piano competitions in Ukraine in 2002 when she earned Third Prize at the International Competitions in Memory of E. Gilels, First Prize at the International Competition in Memory of Prokofiev, and Second Prize at the International Competition in Memory of A. Karamanov. In 2008, Liana continued winning competitions: she won First Prize in the "Music World" International Competition in Italy, and she was the winner of "The Voice of Music" Piano Competition in Israel. In the United States in 2012, Ms. Paniyeva was the winner of the American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music; recipient of the Grand Prize at the Metropolitan International Piano Competition; and the winner of the AFAF Golden Era of Romantic Music International Competition. In 2013-2015, Ms. Paniyeva was awarded the E.B. Storrs Piano Scholarship from the Musical Club of Hartford. Ms.

Paniyeva was also awarded the Cargill Foundation Prize in the 2014 Scottish International Piano Competition in Glasgow, and became a prizewinner at the Iowa International Piano Competition in 2015.

She has performed at international festivals in Norway, Hungary, Syria, Italy, and Israel. During the 2012-2013 season, she performed three times at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Most recently, Liana played in concert halls of Scotland, South Africa, and in multiple states of the USA. Her solo recital in 2016 at the Myra Hess Concert Series in Chicago was broadcast live on WFMT Radio.

Liana graduated from the Donetsk Music Academy in Ukraine, and went on to earn her Professional Studies Certificate from the Manhattan School of Music in 2011. Her career continues with recitals in Hungary, Israel, Ukraine, USA, England, Syria, Canada, South Africa and Norway. Most recently, Ms. Paniyeva finished her Artist Diploma at The Hartt School of the University of Hartford.