

Michael Ludwig

Hailed by Strad Magazine for his "effortless, envy-provoking technique... sweet tone, brilliant expression, and grand style", Michael Ludwig enjoys a multi-faceted career as a soloist, recording artist, and chamber musician. A highly sought-after violin soloist, he has performed on four continents, including appearances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Pops, KBS Symphony in Seoul, Korea, Beijing Symphony, and the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, collaborating with such conductors as JoAnn Falletta, Sir Georg Solti, and John Williams among others. He has recorded with the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Lithuanian National Symphony, Buffalo Philharmonic, and Virginia Symphony. In addition to the United States, Ludwig has performed throughout Europe and Asia, including concerts in Germany, Spain, Poland, Portugal, Israel, China, and South Korea.



Valentina Igoshina



Since her appearance with us last year this great Russian piano artist has appeared with several orchestras as well as in chamber music and solo recitals. Among those appearances were orchestral performances with the Filharmonia Pomorska in Bydgoszcz, Poland; and in Katowice, Poland with the Polish National Radio Symphony (Pawel Kotla, conducting.) In recital she appeared in Neuilly, France playing Beethoven, Ravel, and Liszt. She performed at the Musee de la Vie Romantique in Paris playing Mussorgsky and Liszt. And, in St. Malo, France she played one of the Mozart Piano Concertos. That is but a small sampling of the events in which she has played over the past year.

Last evening Valentina was the special guest soloist of the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra at their gala opening night of the season. She very graciously agreed to be a part of our chamber music program this evening when the pianist previously scheduled to appear became unable to do so..

Additional Esteemed Artists

Also appearing on tonight's program: Robert Hart Baker, oboe; Rebecca Hill, clarinet; Nancy Mayo, piano; Valentina Takova, cello; and Barbra Duvall Baker, flute.

In addition to playing the oboe, Dr. Robert Hart Baker has been very kind to assist in the development of the program, the selection of the repertoire, and to serve as the master of ceremonies. Maestro Baker is the Conductor of St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra and the Belleville, Illinois Symphony.

The Arnold Tourism Commission has been very kind in underwriting tonight's event. Members of the Tourism Commission include: Mark Hood, Wes Griffith, Gary Allen and Susan Goss. Phil Amato is the Arnold City Council representative on the Tourism board. Much recognition needs to be given to the outstanding people at St. John's Lutheran Church for the kind use of their lovely church for tonight's concert.

The Committee on the Creative Arts of the Arnold Area operates under the auspices of the Arnold Food Pantry and has planned this event, selected the performers, and advertised the program. Terri Ferguson is the Executive Director of the Arnold Food Pantry. Members of the Creative Arts Committee include: Vernon Sullivan, Chairperson; Bobby Schroeder, Richard Simpson, Robert Gruenewald, Kevin Kneff, Tom Dixon, Rev. Roger Horn, Chet Chapman, Burnell Hackman, Jennifer Daut, Wes Griffith, Ruth Ann Newman, Phil Amato, Art Kasey, Terri Ferguson and Charles Hudson. Persons who may have an interest in being a part of the Creative Arts Committee are encouraged to drop a note so indicating your interest in the basket at the end of the concert.