

MaySky Classical Night

*The City of West Hollywood
and its Russian Advisory Board
present...*



Gorgeous Saturday evening filled with beautiful music by Rachmaninov, Chopin, Piazzolla, and Brahms performed by world-renowned Russian stars of classical music scene:

Evgeny Tonkha (cello),
Alex Slobodianik (piano),
Dmitri Olevsky (violin),
Maksim Velichkin (cello),
Angelika & Anton Smirnov (piano),
and Lilit Mardiyan (guitar).

West Hollywood City Council Chambers,
625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood.

Validated parking is available for the adjacent five-story
West Hollywood Park structure, entrance off of N. San Vicente Blvd.

Free Entrance.

May 12, 2018 Doors: 4 p.m.

RSVP: Required, please call 323-848-6501 to be added to RSVP list
Seating is limited, admission is by RSVP list only!



MaySky Classical Night – Performers:
(05.12.2018)

1. Evgeny Tonkha (Cello) – Евгений Тонха (Виолончель)

“Evgeny Tonkha is one today’s most talented Russian cellists.” – Daniil Shafran
“He beholds an incredible sound. There isn’t anything that he doesn’t understand or can’t do.” – Sofia Gubaidulina, composer

Considered among most talented Russian cellists, Evgeny performs to international audiences since the age of 10, touring in Germany, France, England, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, and the USA.

Evgeny was born into a musical family and studied at the Gnessin Music School (class of his father Professor Vladimir Tonkha.)

After graduating from the Russian Academy of Music, Evgeny was invited by Professor David Geringas to post-graduate studies at the Hanns Eisler Academy of Music in Berlin. Since 2006, Evgeny has been collaborating with the Berliner Philharmoniker Orchestra. Under the baton of maestros Simon Rattle, Zubin Mehta, Claudio Abbado, Seiji Ozawa, Mariss Jansons and Daniel Barenboim, he regularly performs with the Berliner Philharmonie, Berlin’s Konzerthaus, Gewandhaus in Leipzig, the Hamburg Philharmonie and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra in Munich.

Among his achievements are the 1st Prize and the Golden Medal at the 12th International Cello Competition in the Czech Republic, the Special Jury Prize at the 13th International Tchaikovsky Competition, and prizes for the best performance of contemporary music.

He regularly performs at the Berliner Philharmonie, Berlin’s Konzerthaus, Gewandhaus in Leipzig, the Hamburg Philharmonie and at the Hall of Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra in Munich.

Evgeny is a resident participant of Russian and international festivals, such as “The Moscow Autumn”, the Sakharov Arts Festival in Nizhny Novgorod, “Homecoming” in Moscow, the Sofia Gubaidullina Festival, the Pablo Casals Festival in Colmar, France, the Chopin Festival in London, Santander Festival in Spain, the Rodion Shchedrin Festival in Berlin, the Beauvais Cello Festival in France and the festival, dedicated to the 125th Anniversary of the Berliner Philharmoniker. His name is registered in “The Golden Book of Russia’s Talents”.

He collaborates with a number of contemporary composers, such as Sofia Gubaidulina, Mikhail Bronner, Victor Suslin, Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, Artyom Vasiliev, Elena Langer, Anna Drubich.

The orchestra performances include the Berlin Konzerthaus Orchestra, Neue Philharmonie in Hamburg, Berliner Camerata, the Symphony Orchestras of Nizhny Novgorod, Toliatti and Ryazan and the Moscow Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra. Since 2013 Evgeny lives in Los Angeles. In 2014 he won the first place “The best music Performance”.

Presently Evgeny Tonkha is a musical director of MiMoDa studio.

His great technique, emotional sensibility and performing charisma are always appreciated by the audience.

2. Sacha Slobodyanik (Piano) – Александр Слободяник (Фортепиано)

Sacha Slobodyanik began performing after moving to New York City at the age of fifteen; having won YCA International Auditions he soon established himself as one of the leading young classical musicians. Throughout his career his engagements have included appearances at the Carnegie Hall, the Great Performers Series at New York's Lincoln Center, Royal Festival Hall and the Barbican Center in London, Royal Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Kennedy Center in Washington and the Suntory Hall in Tokyo. He has recorded for the EMI Classics label, BBC Radio, WDR Television Germany and NHK of Japan.

3. Dimitry Olevsky (Violin) – Дмитрий Олевский (Скрипка)

Violinist Dimitry Olevsky graduated with a Doctorate of Musical Arts from UC Santa Barbara under the tutelage of the renowned violinist Yuval Yaron. During his doctoral studies, he was the first violinist of the Young Artists Quartet in Residence, as well as the concertmaster of the UCSB Symphony, with which he performed as the concerto competition winner. Dimitry earned his Master of Music degree from the prestigious Manhattan School of Music in New York under the guidance of Grigory Kalinovsky. Dimitry completed his Bachelor studies with Professor Emeritus-Linda Rose at California State University, Long Beach, during which he was a concerto competition winner, a scholarship winner, and the concertmaster of the University Symphony Orchestra.

Dimitry performs with the top orchestras of Los Angeles, and has collaborated with conductors such as: Kurt Masur, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Michael Tilson Thomas, Kent Nagano, Pinchas Zukerman, John Williams and James Conlon. His extensive performance touring include: Russia, Egypt, Arab Emirates, Jordan, Amman, Spain, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Poland, Italy, England, Wales, Scotland, Austria, Czech Republic and France.

Currently, Dimitry maintains a full-time teaching schedule including holding a violin faculty position with the Beverly Hills International Music Festival. His students have earned numerous prestigious accolades, such as title positions in the: Colburn Chamber and Los Angeles Youth Orchestras, Idyllwild Music Festival Interlochen Music Festival. They have had the privilege in performing at the Walt Disney Concert Hall and tour in Prague, Vienna, and Italy.

Dr. Olevsky published a dissertation in the field of sports psychology titled “The Study of Success in Music: Applying Methods Developed by Sports Psychology towards Achieving Peak Performance”.

Dimitry plays on an 1889 Riccardo Antoniazzi violin.

4. Maksim Velichkin (cello) – Максим Величкин (Виолончель)

Maksim Velichkin is an accomplished cellist, pianist, and harpsichordist who has been active as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestra artist. He has worked with James Levine, Kurt Masur, Charles Dutoit, Yuri Temirkanov, Wolfgang Sawallish, Herbert Blomstedt, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Gabor Takacs-Nagy, Sarah Chang, Masaaki Suzuki, Maxim Vengerov, Yuri Bashmet, Andras Schiff, Bobby McFerrin, Joshua Bell, Martha Argerich, Gabriela Montero, Renaud Capuçon, Lynn Harrell, Misha Maisky, Frans Helmerson as well as many others. Moreover, as an improviser and interpreter of contemporary and popular music Maksim's performance and recording career includes credits with noted artists Stevie Wonder, Chick Corea, Billy Childs, Burt Bacharach, Bobby McFerrin, Dwight Drenth, Bitter:Sweet, Chris Botti, Bob James, Josh Groban, Red Elvises, Bernadette Peters, Natalie Cole, Alan Silvestri, Richard Thompson and many others.

5. & 6. Angelika & Anton Smirnoff will perform as duo, but here are their individual biographies:

5. Angelika Fuchs (Piano) – Анжелика Фукс (Фортепиано)

"Ms. Fuchs, an insightful musician, showed elegant phrasing throughout and expressive poise in the F sharp minor Adagio." (Vivien Schweitzer, New York Times)

"A young pianist with everything it takes to make a major artist: fire, virtuosity, musicality and temperament. I foresee great things for this young lady in the future." (Janina Fialkowska, concert pianist)

"Angelika Fuchs is a formidable pianist with a most winning combination of fire and grace. She has the special ability to appeal both to a large audience and to more sophisticated connoisseurs." (Jeffrey Swann)

Pianist Angelika Fuchs is beloved by audiences and critics alike for her consummate musicianship and the daring passion of her performances.

In her native Ukraine, Angelika's talent was recognized by an array of prizes and performances. She appeared with chamber and symphony orchestras in Kiev, Donetsk and Uzhgorod and received top honors in all the competitions in which she has taken part: Kyiv-Vorsel (First Prize, two years in a row), the Zakarpatija Festival of Uzhgorod (Grand Prix), and the Donetsk Competition in honor of Sergei Prokofiev's 110th birthday (Second Prize). During her studies at Budapest's Franz Liszt Academy, Angelika gave numerous solo recitals across Hungary and won First Prize at the 2008 Yamaha Competition in Budapest.

In 2008, Angelika Fuchs became the recipient of the Third Prize at the prestigious International Franz Liszt Piano Competition in Utrecht, Holland. As a soloist, highlights of the 2009-10 season included extensive concert tours through the Netherlands and

China. That same year, at the invitation of Russia's renowned Musical Olympus Festival, she had her debut appearance with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic. She performed at the Fazioli Concert Hall in Sacile, Italy, and gave a concert tour of Quito, Ecuador, which included a solo recital at Casa de la Musica, a performance and an interview for Quito Radio as well as a master class at Quito's Franz Liszt Conservatory. Angelika also performed in South Korea, Monaco, Germany, Ukraine, USA, Canada, Russia, Australia and Hungary. She has taken part in many Music Festivals including the International Keyboard Institute and Festival at Mannes in NYC, the Weimar Liszt Festival, the Utrecht Liszt Festival and many others.

Angelika Fuchs received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Budapest's Franz Liszt Academy under the tutelage of Professors Attila Némethy, Sándor Falvay and Balázs Szokolay. She continued her education at the Oberlin Conservatory (Ohio, USA) and earned her Professional Studies Diploma at the Manhattan School of Music (New York, USA) where she was a student of Solomon Mikowsky. In 2012, she won the Koch Competition at the Manhattan School of Music and performed with conductor Philippe Entremont.

In 2012 Ms. Fuchs moved to Quito, Ecuador where she was teaching as a guest professor at the Franz Liszt Conservatory of Music. While there, she gave numerous concerts in South America with orchestras and as a soloist as well as continuously working as an accompanist to various musicians.

In 2014 Ms. Fuchs went back to Ukraine, where she founded the "Visual Music" project. The idea behind this project was the possibility of connecting classical piano with other arts. To name a few of these collaborations: Photography and piano (in collaboration with Ilva Haust), Painting and piano - "Magic of Art", as well as sand painting and piano - "Sound of the Sand" (in collaboration with Yulia Mironova and Natalia Tarnay). Under the "Visual Music" project, two silent movies were also created and directed by Ms. Fuchs who accompanied them with the music of Schubert's Serenade and Chopin's Ballade No. 1 in G minor.

While Ms. Fuchs was creating and leading these projects, she nevertheless continued to perform both as a soloist and an accompanist, as well as teaching piano privately and in schools.

Recently, Ms. Fuchs moved to Los Angeles, United States, where she continues to give concerts, teach and work on her future projects.

6. Anton Smirnov (Piano) – Антон Смирнов (Фортепиано)

Pianist Anton Smirnoff, piano faculty of the Heifetz International Music Institute and a Heifetz On Tour artist.

Anton Smirnoff began his piano studies at age of seven in Novosibirsk, Russia. After graduating from Novosibirsk State Conservatory with a Bachelor's Degree, Anton came to the United States in 2006 to further his education, graduating from the Oberlin Conservatory with an Artist Diploma in 2010, and then a [Professional Studies](#) Certificate at The Colburn School in Los Angeles, CA. As a [student](#), he was honored by the Russian government with several special talent [scholarships](#). He has made more than 1,000 public performances world-wide at venues that include Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Avery Fischer Hall, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Anton is a prizewinner at many international piano competitions including the Moscow International Competition for Young Musicians, International Russian Music Piano Competition in San-Jose, CA, Oberlin Concerto Competition, Corpus Christi International Concerto Competition, Louisiana International Piano Competition, the NTD International Piano Competition in New York, and others. He has performed as a soloist with various orchestras including the Novosibirsk Philharmonic Orchestra, Tomsk Philharmonic Orchestra, San Jose Symphony and the Oberlin Orchestra. Anton performed Martinu's "La Revue de Quisine" with members of Quatuor Ebene in Zipper Hall at The Colburn School of [Music](#). In 2013 he collaborated with renowned double bassist Edgar Meyer, performing the "Trout" Quintet by Schubert and "Trout Variations" in Los Angeles.

Anton has participated in many international music festivals including "International [Program](#) New Names" in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Vladimir Spivakov Festival, Irkutsk Jazz International Festival, Cassalmaggiore International Music Festival in Italy, Banff Master [Classes in](#) Canada, and most recently, Sarasota International Festival. Anton is a member of the collaborative faculty at The Heifetz International Music Institute in Virginia. He participates in the "Heifetz on Tour" music series, touring with the finest young string players in the country. He has also performed in the master classes given by John Perry, Arie Vardi, Robert Levin, Hung Kuan Chen, S. Dorensky, M. Boguslavsky, M. Delli Ponti, Boris Berman, Menahem Pressler and many others.

Mr. Smirnoff received his M.M. Degree from Yale University in 2015, and currently resides in Los Angeles.

7. Lilit Mardiyani (Guitar) – Лилит Мардяян (Гитара)

Lilit Mardiyani took her first guitar lessons at the age of 8 under direction of Armen Gevorgyan (H.

Danielyan School of Arts). Then she has continued her studies in Yerevan State Conservatory (class of Hakob Djagatspanian) and USC Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, California (William Kanengiser's class), where she also had lessons with Pepe Romero.

She has graduated from Yale School of Music (Benjamin Verdery's class) with Master of Music degree in 2015.

She had a success at the following competitions:

-1st Prize in 7th International Youth Classical Guitar Competition in Sinaia (Romania).

-2nd Prize in Stafford Classical Guitar Recital Competition (England).

-Semifinalist in GFA 25th International Solo Guitar Competition (Los Angeles, California).

-1st place in Armenian Allied Arts Association Competition, Senior division

-2nd place in ASTA (American String Teachers' Association) California Competition

She has performed in the festivals and concert series in Russia, Armenia, Greece, Germany, United States. Collaborated with Orchestra of State Hermitage, conductors Karen Durgaryan and Federico Mondelci.