Progressive conservatory continues expanding its roster of world-class, versatile artist teachers

Longy names Horszowski Trio an Ensemble-in-Residence, adds cellist Nicholas Tzavaras to faculty in 2016-17

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Longy School of Music of Bard College is excited to announce that beginning in the fall of 2016, the world-renowned Horszowski Trio will be an Ensemble-in-Residence and cellist Nicholas Tzavaras will be joining the faculty roster at the conservatory’s Cambridge campus.

As an Ensemble-in-Residence, the Horszowski Trio will curate concerts in Longy’s Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, perform with Longy’s Sistema Side by Side and Conservatory Orchestras, and present chamber masterclasses, seminars, and chamber coachings, among other activities. Comprised of Grammy-nominated violinist Jesse Mills, pianist Rieko Aizawa, and cellist Raman Ramakrishnan, the Trio is already well known around Longy’s campus and to Boston audiences, as Mills and Aizawa have been members of Longy’s faculty since 2012 and Ramakrishnan has performed with them in Longy’s Edward M. Pickman Hall multiple times over the past few years.

Longy President Karen Zorn cites the Trio’s performance acumen and versatility as to why she is excited for them to take on this expanded role at Longy. “Just after Jesse and Rieko joined our faculty, we had the Horszowski Trio perform at our gala, and it was fabulous,” said President Zorn. “At the Bard Summer Music Festival in 2014, they played the Schubert Trio and it brought down the house. It was one of the most extraordinary performances I had ever heard—just outrageously great. But this is not just a group of three excellent musicians who can play the classics; they also bring diverse skills as improvisers and curators across multiple genres.”

Renowned performer and educator Nicholas Tzavaras will join an expanding roster of dynamic, highly accomplished teaching artists.

In addition to his impressive performance credits as a long-standing member of the Shanghai Quartet, Tzavaras serves as chair of the Strings department at Montclair State University in New Jersey, which has seen enrollment increase two-fold under his watch. “Nick has proven success as a teacher and is a stellar performer who tours internationally with the Shanghai Quartet,” said Wayman Chin, dean of the conservatory at Longy. “He is an engaging, energetic, lively individual who will be a great role model to all of our students.”

About The Horszowski Trio

Hailed by The New Yorker as “destined for great things” when they played together for the first time, Jesse Mills, Raman Ramakrishnan, and Rieko Aizawa immediately felt the spark of a unique connection. Many years of close friendship had created a deep trust between the players, which in turn led to exhilarating expressive freedom. In 2011 they formed the Horszowski Trio.

Two-time Grammy-nominated violinist Jesse Mills first performed with cellist Raman Ramakrishnan, founding member of the Daedalus Quartet, winners of the 2001 Banff International String Quartet Competition, at the Kinhaven Music School over 20 years ago, when they were children. In New York City, they met pianist Rieko Aizawa, who, upon being discovered by the late violinist and conductor Alexander Schneider, had made her U.S. concerto debuts at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall. Their musical bonds were strengthened at various schools and festivals around the world, including the Juilliard School and the Marlboro Festival.
Aizawa was the last pupil of the legendary pianist, Mieczysław Horszowski (1892-1993), at the Curtis Institute. The Trio takes inspiration from Horszowski’s musicianship, integrity, and humanity. Like Horszowski, the Trio presents repertoire spanning the traditional and the contemporary. In addition, they seek to perform works from the trove of composers with whom Horszowski had personal contact, such as Ravel, Saint-Saëns, Fauré, Martinu, Villa-Lobos, and Granados. The Trio’s debut recording, an album of works by Fauré, Saint-Saëns, and d’Indy—in memory of Mieczysław Horszowski—was released by Bridge Records in 2014.

About Nicholas Tzavaras
A native of Spanish Harlem in New York City, cellist Nicholas Tzavaras has quickly become a much sought after chamber musician, soloist and educator across four continents. Reviews in The New York Times have called his playing “richly singing” and “beautifully nuanced.” Since 2000, Tzavaras has been the cellist of the internationally renowned Shanghai Quartet, playing more than 1500 concerts throughout the world.

Tzavaras has recorded more than 20 albums for the Naxos, Delos, Bis, Centaur, Camerata, and New Albion labels. Recent engagements have included the Santa Fe, La Jolla and Taos festivals, the Casals festival in Prades France and Puerto Rico, the Melbourne Music Festival in Australia, the Beethoven Easter Festival in Poland, and the Marlboro Festival. Since 2009, he has held the esteemed title of guest principal cellist of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to his role at Longy, Tzavaras is also the coordinator of the string department and artist-in-residence at the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey, a position he has held since 2002. He is a guest professor at the Shanghai and Central Conservatories in China and holds degrees from the New England Conservatory and the State University of New York at Stonybrook, working exclusively with Laurence Lesser and Timothy Eddy. He can be seen in the Academy Award nominated documentary “Small Wonders,” the motion picture “Music of the Heart” starring Meryl Streep and with the Shanghai Quartet in Woody Allen’s “Melinda Melinda.”

About Longy School of Music of Bard College
Longy School of Music of Bard College serves approximately 250 graduate and undergraduate students at its conservatory in Cambridge, MA and Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) campus in Los Angeles, CA. Founded as Longy School of Music in 1915 by renowned oboist Georges Longy, Longy is a conservatory with a social imperative, providing for all students a distinguished faculty that promotes profound musical understanding and technical mastery, encourages growth of imagination, and fosters inquiry about the role of music and the musician in society. Longy’s mission is to prepare musicians to make a difference in the world.

###

Press Inquiries
Interviews, Press Passes & High Resolution Images
Dayla Arabella Santurri
781.479.6951
Dayla@DaylaArabella.com

Longy School of Music of Bard College
Eliahu Sussman
Associate Director of Marketing & Communications
617.831.1791
esussman@longy.edu

Longy School of Music of Bard College
Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
longy.edu
Facebook  |  Twitter