

The Trustees of the Westport Library
are pleased to present the twenty-second

BOOKED *for the evening*[™]

Honoring Itzhak Perlman

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TRIBUTES AND PERFORMANCES HONORING ITZHAK PERLMAN

American String Quartet

Peter Winograd, violin Daniel Avshalomov, viola
Laurie Carney, violin Wolfram Koessel, cello

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

String Quartet in F Major (1903)
IV. Finale: Vif et agité

Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)

Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81 (1887)
I. Allegro, ma non tanto
Rohan De Silva, pianist

A TALK WITH ITZHAK PERLMAN

With Andrew C. Wilk, *Executive Producer*

WESTPORT LIBRARY AWARD

Presented by Bill Harmer, *Executive Director*

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HONORING ITZHAK PERLMAN



Itzhak Perlman rose to fame on the Ed Sullivan show, where he performed as a child prodigy at just 13 years old. Perlman has performed with every major orchestra and at venerable concert halls around the globe. Perlman was granted a Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama in 2015, the nation's highest civilian honor, a Kennedy Center Honor in 2003, a National Medal of Arts by President Clinton in 2000 and a Medal of Liberty by President Reagan in 1986.

A major presence in the performing arts on television, Perlman has received four Emmy Awards, including one for the PBS documentary *Fiddling for the Future*, a film about The Perlman Music Program. Founded in 1993, The Perlman Music Program offers unparalleled musical training to young string players through intensive summer programs and mentoring.

Perlman has entertained and enlightened millions of television viewers on popular shows including *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *Sesame Street*, *The Frugal Gourmet*, *The Tonight Show* and multiple Grammy Awards telecasts.

Having garnered 16 Grammy Awards over the years with his best-selling recordings, Perlman was honored in 2008 with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award for excellence in the recording arts.

Born in Israel in 1945, Perlman completed his initial training at the Academy of Music in Tel Aviv. Following his studies at The Juilliard School, Perlman won the prestigious Leventritt Competition in 1964, which led to a burgeoning worldwide career.

Numerous publications and institutions have paid tribute to Itzhak Perlman for the unique place he occupies in the artistic and humanitarian fabric of our times. He was awarded an honorary doctorate and a centennial medal on the occasion of Juilliard's 100th commencement ceremony in May 2005.



Rohan De Silva Born in Sri Lanka, Rohan De Silva studied at the Royal Academy of Music and at The Juilliard School. He has collaborated with many of the world's top violinists in recitals, including Pinchas Zukerman, Joshua Bell, Gil Shaham and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg. A highly sought after collaborative pianist and chamber musician, De Silva has

collaborated for over twenty years with Itzhak Perlman as his recital pianist, performing at the world's most important venues. Mr. De Silva has performed numerous times at the White House for Presidents Obama and Bush, including at a state dinner for Her Majesty, the Queen of England.

Mr. De Silva has been on the Chamber Music Faculty at The Juilliard School since 1991. He has also taught at The Perlman Music Program and at The Heifetz Institute.

Mr. De Silva has recorded for Deutsche Grammophon, Universal, CBS/SONY Classical, Collins Classics in London, RCA Victor and Chandos. He has been sought out by a younger generation of players, including flutist Lisa Friend, with whom he released an album of works by Fauré and Debussy in 2019. Mr. De Silva also has extensive radio and television credits.

BOOKED for the evening is the Westport Library's annual fundraising event. On this occasion, the Library honors an individual whose work reflects the purpose of the Library — to nurture the love of learning and to enhance our understanding of the world. Previous award winners are Tom Brokaw, E.L. Doctorow, Calvin Trillin, Wendy Wasserstein, Pete Hamill, Martin Scorsese, Arthur Mitchell, Doris Kearns Goodwin, David Halberstam, Oscar Hijuelos, Adam Gopnik, Will Shortz, Patti Smith, Barry Levinson, Jon Meacham, Nile Rodgers, Lynsey Addario, Ron Chernow, Alan Alda, Justin Paul and Frederic Chiu.

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HONORING ITZHAK PERLMAN



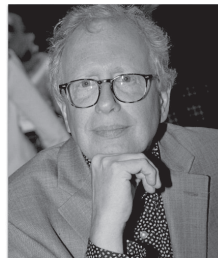
American String Quartet

Recognized as one of the world's finest quartets, the American String Quartet has spent forty-seven years honing the luxurious sound for which it is internationally famous. Formed when its original members were students at The Juilliard School, the Quartet has performed in all fifty states and the world's most important concert halls. The

group's presentations of the complete quartets of Beethoven, Schubert, Schoenberg, Bartók, and Mozart have won widespread critical acclaim and their MusicMasters Complete Mozart String Quartets, performed on a matched quartet set of instruments by Stradivarius, are widely considered to have set the standard for this repertoire.

The Quartet's diverse activities as champions of new music and its tremendously imaginative collaborations with creative artists in other fields cement its reputation as one of the most adventurous and fearless string quartets performing today, as comfortable with the groundbreaking as with the traditional. The Quartet also performed for numerous international radio and television broadcasts, including a recent recording for the BBC; toured Asia, Mexico, South America and Israel, and performed with the New York City Ballet, the Montreal Symphony and the Philadelphia Symphony.

The Quartet's extensive discography can be heard on the Albany, CRI, MusicMasters, Musical Heritage Society, Nonesuch and RCA labels. Most recently, the group released "Schubert's Echo," which pairs Schubert's monumental last quartet with works bearing its influence by Alban Berg and Anton Webern. Resident quartet at the Aspen Music Festival since 1974 and at the Manhattan School of Music in New York since 1984, the Quartet has also served as resident quartet at the Taos School of Music, the Peabody Conservatory, and the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. *The Quartet: Peter Winograd, violin; Daniel Avshalomov, viola; Laurie Carney, violin; Wolfram Koessel, cello.*



Library Trustee, **Andrew C. Wilk** is the Executive Producer of tonight's BOOKED *for the evening*.

Mr. Wilk is a five-time Emmy Award winning television, film, music and media producer and director. He also is a critically acclaimed playwright and symphony conductor. While Executive

Producer of *Live From Lincoln Center*, Wilk created over 50 PBS specials. His first PBS episode featured tonight's honoree, Itzhak Perlman. Wilk produced shows with the New York Philharmonic, Lincoln Center Theater, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and others. In the course of his work, Wilk produced and directed shows that included luminaries such as Renée Fleming, Joshua Bell, Nathan Lane and Yo-Yo Ma.

Prior to his role at Lincoln Center, Mr. Wilk was the Chief Creative Officer of Sony Music Entertainment, in charge of visual content for all 22 Sony label groups.

Mr. Wilk was a founder of the National Geographic Channel, where he spent over a decade, including as the Executive Vice President of Programming and Production. Currently, he is in pre-production for a new national PBS series from the Westport Country Playhouse.

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