



PARK UNIVERSITY
INTERNATIONAL
CENTER FOR MUSIC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Park University's International Center for Music
Continues Celebration of 20th Anniversary**
Spring 2023 Semester Offerings Will Leave Audiences Wanting More

KANSAS CITY, MO (December 12, 2022) — Park University's International Center for Music (Park ICM), under the direction of founder, Van Cliburn Gold Medalist **Stanislav Ioudenitch**, started its Twentieth Anniversary Season with a bang with five concerts that included Park ICM's Cliburn finalist, Ilya Shmukler (before he makes his Carnegie Hall debut tomorrow, Dec 13th), world-renowned violinist Shmuel Ashkenasi, and packed houses of enthusiastic classical music lovers. Continuing their season in January, Park ICM will gain momentum clear through the last note with international piano sensation Behzod Abduraimov at the Folly Theater on May 11th.

Park ICM has an incredible track record for a conservatory only 20 years old. Just this fall, since their 20th season began, the Center has had three current students make the finals of major international music competitions.* That's a ratio not seen in any other conservatories. The Park ICM methodology of taking magnificent young instrumentalists, already identified as superior performers, and molding them into international virtuosos is based upon the European master/apprentice relationship. This rare combination of time, talent, attention, location, and commitment has made Park ICM triumphant in a scant 20 years, demanding the attention of the international music community. The spring semester of the 20th Anniversary Season will continue to celebrate this remarkable accomplishment.

"I wanted to create the experience which I lived through. I remember my musical education from the beginning. I wanted to recreate that," said Ioudenitch. "We give whatever is needed to develop a great talent. That is unique. We are here to help. And every single person tries to do their best to help our precious talents."

Thanks to the generosity of Park University and Park ICM's donors, Park ICM concert tickets

continue to be inexpensive or free. “We’re an educational institution,” said **Lisa Hickok**, Park ICM Executive Director, “which means it is our top priority to give our students the best possible performance opportunities whether in an orchestra, solo or in chamber groups. Furthermore, it is our mission to remove as many barriers as possible so that our audiences can be reflective of all those who are interested. Music must be shared so that everyone, no matter their ability to pay, may experience world-class classical music right here in Kansas City. And thanks to our very generous donors, we’re able to provide unbelievable performances at extremely accessible prices.”

I. Spring Concerts Held at the 1900 Building
1900 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Mission Woods, KS 66205
Tickets \$30 Adults. \$10 Students with I.D.

“With the 1900 Building’s two fabulous concert halls and the celebrated 1900 Restaurant right on site, our audiences can have an exquisite evening with fine food and wines, and the best of classical music,” said Hickok.

Stanislav Loudenitch has garnered notable successes in music competitions including the gold medal at the XI Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2001. The Van Cliburn Competition launched a career that has taken Loudenitch around the world for appearances with major orchestras in many of the world’s important musical venues. In addition to concert performances, Loudenitch has held a lifelong passion for teaching. He is the founder of the International Center for Music at Park University (Kansas City) where he is Artistic Director and master teacher of piano. In addition, he is the director of the Young Artists Music Academy (Kansas City) and vice-president of the Piano Academy at Lake Como, Italy. Loudenitch is continually invited to teach masterclasses around the world.

<https://icm.park.edu/faculty/stanislav-loudenitch/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ag0bTwldnJI>

a. Park ICM String Studios
January 19, 2023, 7:30 p.m. | 1900 Building

Park ICM’s concert season will then continue with an award-winning roster of string musicians in the studios of violinist **Ben Sayevich**, cellist **Daniel Veis** and violist **Peter Chun**. It will feature the talents of students Diyorbek Nortojev, cello, Alice Palese, violin, Victor Diaz, viola, Ilkhom Mukhiddinov, violin, and the abundant talents of the Park String Quartet including David Horak, violin, Mumin Turgunov, violin, Christian Dos Santos, viola, and James Farquhar, cello.

On the program are:

- i. Robert Schumann's Adagio and Allegro Op. 70
- ii. Niccolò Paganini's Cantabile Op. 17
- iii. William Walton's Viola Concerto
- iv. Pyotr Tchaikovsky's Souvenir d'un lieu cher, Op. 42
- v. Henry Wieniawski's Scherzo-Tarantelle, Op. 16
- vi. Felix Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 2, Op. 13

<https://icm.park.edu/icm-string-studio-in-recital/>

<https://icm.park.edu/faculty/>

b. Ben Sayevich, Violin & Lolita Lisovskaya- Sayevich, Piano
Feb. 9, 2023, 7:30 p.m. | 1900 Building

Violinist Ben Sayevich has established himself as one of the most distinguished violinists of his generation. Sayevich also maintains a vigorous schedule as chamber musician. He is a founding member of the Park Trio, established at Park University and is violinist of the London-based Rosamunde Piano Trio. Sayevich established the string program of Park ICM in 2006. He is joined in concert by his wife, Park ICM Director of Collaborative Piano, **Lolita Lisovskaya-Sayevich**.

The highlight of the evening will be the famed Sergey Prokofiev *Sonata No. 1 in F minor* and other works.

<https://icm.park.edu/husband-and-wife-duo-ben-sayevich-and-lolita-lisovskaya-sayevich-to-be-presented-at-the-1900-building/>

<https://icm.park.edu/faculty/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5s4Y6qKCgFg>

c. Claudio Martinez-Mehner, Piano
Feb. 24, 2023, 7:30 p.m. | 1900 Building

Born in Germany in 1970, **Claudio Martinez Mehner** began his music studies at an early age at the Real Conservatorio Superior de Madrid. He studied not only piano but violin, viola, and harpsichord. Later he continued his studies at the "Tchaikovsky- Conservatory" in Moscow, at the "Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofia" in Madrid with Prof. Dmitri Bashkirov, and afterwards at the Hochschule für Musik" in Germany (Master of Performance), the "Fondazione per il Pianoforte" in Como, Italy; and the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland (Artist Diploma). He won first prize at four international music

competitions and has performed as a soloist with major orchestras all over the world. This will be his first appearance in Kansas City.

Mehner's program will include:

- i. C.P.E. Bach: **Keyboard Sonata in G minor, H 47**
- ii. J. Brahms: **7 Fantasies, op. 116**
- iii. Albeniz: **Book 1 from "Suite Iberia" (Evocación, El Puerto, El Corpus Christi en Sevilla)**
- iv. C. Debussy: **7 Preludes**

<https://icm.park.edu/icm-presents-performance-master-class-with-pianist-claudio-martinez-mehner/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cc2FmQ5IMtA>

II. Spring Concerts At Graham Tyler Memorial Chapel/Park University, 8500 NW River Park Dr., Parkville, MO 64152 Tickets are FREE with reservation.

"For a completely different experience than the 1900 Building, visit charming Parkville for one of our three free spring orchestra concerts. Underwritten by Park University, our orchestra concerts are perfect for a date night or bringing the whole family. You can grab everything from pizza to Italian to French food right in quaint Parkville, and then attend our concert at no charge on campus, overlooking the mighty Missouri River," said Hickok.

"We began the guest conductor program just last year to give our student musicians real-world orchestral experience. Under the direction of guest maestros Pavlovsky, Jackson and Hankewich, it will be a terrific spring season of orchestra concerts," said Park ICM Orchestra Director **Dr. Steven McDonald**. "We had a packed house for our first annual holiday concert just last week. We're very excited to continue bringing our wonderful students' artistry to the community, and in such an affordable way, thanks to the generosity of Park University who underwrites our orchestra concerts."

a. Valentines with Park ICM Orchestra, Suzanna Pavlovsky, Conductor Feb. 17, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Park ICM's Valentine's Concert has become a community favorite. Produced in collaboration with the Main Street Parkville Association and

conducted by **Suzanna Pavlovsky**, founder, and Artistic Director of Ensemble Eclectica and founder and Artistic Director of the Palmetto Chamber Orchestra. Repertoire includes:

- i. Rossini's *String Sonata No. 6 in D Major*
- ii. Korngold's *Three Pieces, Op. 11*
- iii. Vivaldi's *La Follia, Op. 1/12*
- iv. Marquez's *Danzon No. 2*
- v. Giraud's *Under Paris Skies*
- vi. Piazzolla's *Libertango*
- vii. Arakelian's *Tarantella Napolitana*

<https://icm.park.edu/park-icm-orchestra-valentines-week-concert-with-guest-conductor-suzanna-pavlovsky/>
<https://suzannapavlovsky.com/>

**b. Spring With Park ICM Orchestra, Laura Jackson, Conductor
March 31, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

Park ICM's concert season will continue with the annual Park ICM Spring Concert. Conducted by **Laura Jackson**, Music Director, and Conductor of the Reno Philharmonic Association. Repertoire to include:

- i. C.P.E. Bach's *Symphony in G Major, H. 648*
- ii. Osvaldo Golijov's *Last Round*
- iii. Josef Suk's *Serenade*

<https://icm.park.edu/park-icm-orchestra-concert-with-guest-conductor-laura-jackson/>
<http://www.laurajackson.net/>
<https://youtu.be/kxT2h7z7e88>

**c. Park ICM Orchestra's Season Finale, Timothy Hankewich, Conductor
April 28, 2023, 7:30 p.m.**

Park ICM's orchestra season will conclude with Kansas City favorite, Maestro **Timothy Hankewich**, Conductor of Orchestra Iowa and former Associate Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony. Repertoire to include:

- i. Honegger's *Pastorale d'ete*
- ii. Saint-Saens's *Piano Concerto No. 2*
- iii. Faure's *Masques et Bergamasques, Op. 112*

- iv. Milhaud's Le Boeuf Sur Le Toit

<https://icm.park.edu/icm-orchestra-concludes-spring-season-with-guest-conductor-timothy-hankewich/>
<https://www.hankewich.net/>

III. **Park ICM Concerts at the Kauffman Center and the Folly Theater Single Tickets no higher than \$50. Starting at \$20.**

"Our two highlight performances of the year are held in Kansas City's most exquisite performing spaces . . . the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and the newly renovated Folly Theater," said Hickok. "You won't want to miss a moment of this celebratory season!"

a. **Stanislav & Friends 2023 (Park ICM's Official 20th Anniversary Celebration)**

March 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m. | Helzberg Hall in The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, 1601 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64108

For the fourth year, Park University's signature event will be presented at the Kauffman Center and will feature Park ICM's biggest stars including Kenny Broberg, Behzod Abduraimov, Ben Sayevich, Daniel Veis, Maria Ioudenitch, many other star Park ICM students, and of course the event's namesake, pianist Stanislav Ioudenitch. The evening will conclude with the popular Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Op. 23*, with Stanislav Ioudenitch on piano. One of the most popular of Tchaikovsky's compositions and among the best known of all piano concerti, it will serve as the grand finale of Park ICM's official 20th Anniversary Celebration.

For event information:

- i. Patron tickets (which include food and drink before and after the concert & Benefactor Party Feb 21) are available at <https://icm.park.edu/events-performances/stanislav-and-friends-2023/purchase-sponsorships-and-tickets/>
- ii. Single Tickets went on sale December 1st at https://tickets.kauffmancenter.org/20410?queueitoken=e_waitingroom3~q_09260e45-4499-4710-a04e-4e67c91c1a86~ts_1670627667~ce_true~rt_safetynet~h_e2fbbbee26e2b810586565d6f30995782ee3903219257f0f6bf25866234f81a8

- iii. Or call 816-994-7222 for single tickets.
- iv. Questions will be answered by calling 816-584-6484.

b. **Behzod Abduraimov, Piano**

May 11, 2023, 7:30 p.m. | The Folly Theater, 300 W. 12th St., Kansas City, MO 64105

As a striking finale to Park ICM's 20th Anniversary Season, **Behzod Abduraimov** will return to the Folly Theater, the site of the first recital he performed in Kansas City in 2008. Described by *The New York Times* as the "master of all he surveys" and with *The Washington Post* noting to "keep your ear on this one," Abduraimov's captivating performances continue to receive international praise. Following his debut success at Carnegie Hall in 2015, recent seasons have seen Abduraimov work with leading orchestras worldwide. An award-winning recording artist, he released his first concerto disc in 2014 on Decca Classics which features Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No.3 and Tchaikovsky's Concerto No.1 with the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della Rai under Juraj Valčuha. His debut recital CD won both the Choc de Classica and the Diapason Découverte. Born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, in 1990, Abduraimov began to play the piano at the age of five as a pupil of Tamara Popovich at Uspensky State Central Lyceum in Tashkent. He is a graduate of Park University's International Center for Music where he studied with Stanislav Ioudenitch, and now serves as the ICM's artist-in-residence.

Program to include Maurice Ravel's "*Gaspard de la Nuit*" and other works.
Program subject to change.

<https://icm.park.edu/park-icm-pianist-behzod-abduraimov-in-solo-recital/>

<http://59productions.co.uk/project/behzod-abduraimov/>

<https://www.harrisonparrott.com/artists/behzod-abduraimov>

Photos and Digital Assets

Visit <https://icm.Park.edu/events-performances/> for more information about Park ICM's 2022-2023 performance season. High-res photos can be found at [Park ICM 22-23 Season dropbox](#). Broll and digital content can be found at [Park ICM 22-23 Season Broll YouTube](#). Additional press

questions can be directed to Ellen McDonald at 816-213-4355 or ellen@mershonandmcdonald.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Ticket information and Student Discounts

1. **1900 Building:** Student tickets are available for \$10 (with valid ID, one ticket per ID). General admission tickets are \$30. All tickets may be purchased in advance at <https://1900bldg.com/> or at the door prior to the performances based on availability. The Box Office opens 30 minutes prior to all performances.
2. **Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts:** Tickets at the Kauffman Center are available at https://tickets.kauffmancenter.org/20410?queueittoken=e_waitingroom3~q_717fb461-af3b-4324-b411-8f04b50d96bd~ts_1670628907~ce_true~rt_safetynet~h_395fefa1bae1b4977e7ea12fd38c5b21c241fc166d3939c66697a647d3ff6258 as of December 1, 2022.
3. **The Folly Theater:** Tickets on sale. <https://follytheater.org/event/park-university-presents-pianist-behzod-abduraimov/>
4. **Graham Tyler Memorial Chapel:** All tickets are free with reservation. Email Gus Fernandez at GFernandezAgreda@Park.edu to secure your seats.

Additional information on performances and any available discounts can be found at <https://icm.park.edu/>

Parking

Parking at the 1900 Building is free and readily available. Parking is also available at the Folly Theater for \$10 just to the east of the theater. Parking at the Kauffman Center is \$10 and available at www.KauffmanCenter.org, or Valet Park is also available for purchase at the Kauffman Center website. Parking on campus at Park University is free and freely available. Handicapped parking should be arranged in advance by calling Gus Fernandez at 816-584-6448.

Social Media

Receive updates by joining Park ICM Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ICMPark/>, [@ICMPark on Instagram](#) and following [@ICM_Park](#) on Twitter.

ABOUT PARK INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR MUSIC – Park ICM was established (ICM.Park.Edu) at Park University in 2003. This All-Steinway School trains and educates the next generation of accomplished musicians in a focused and creative atmosphere with an international faculty of renowned excellence. Park ICM offers degree, certificate, and diploma programs at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Our courses of study are focused on the areas of performance in violin, viola, cello, and piano. At the core of all ICM programs is one-on-one studio instruction providing vital interactions between the student and master faculty, now entering its 20th season. This extremely exclusive music academy selects just over 30 students each year to study in the historic European apprenticeship tradition. Each student receives individual studio instruction twice weekly. Park’s amazing campus provides focused and uninterrupted practice time 24-hours daily in a serene and extremely supportive environment. The international faculty’s incredible network of acquaintances throughout the world provides master classes

with renowned guest artists in each performance degree. The European tradition demands public concerts as part of student training that creates performances alongside faculty in sublime intimate concerts throughout Kansas City. Ultimately, the Park ICM master faculty mentors inspiring apprentice musicians and trains them in music and performance. The master faculty also coaches musicianship and career development so that the students will become award-winning musicians, traveling the world, and entertaining the most discerning music lovers across all continents.

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**Please direct all media inquiries to Ellen McDonald
816-213-4355 or ellen@mershonandmcdonald.com.**

***See awards/press at <https://icm.park.edu/awards/press/>.**