



PARK UNIVERSITY
INTERNATIONAL
CENTER FOR MUSIC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Park ICM Presents Violinist Shmuel Ashkenasi

Join Park ICM for an unforgettable evening featuring one of the world's premier violin soloists

KANSAS CITY, MO (February 9, 2024) — The International Center for Music at Park University (Park ICM) is thrilled to announce an extraordinary concert featuring world-renowned violinist Shmuel Ashkenasi on Friday, March 22, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. The performance will take place at the beautiful 1900 Building located at 1900 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Mission Woods, KS.

Shmuel Ashkenasi began his musical journey at the Musical Academy of Tel Aviv, delivering his first public performance at the tender age of eight. After intensive studies with legendary teacher Ilona Feher, he further refined his craft under the mentorship of Efrem Zimbalist at the Curtis Institute of Music in the United States. Ashkenasi's accolades include triumphs at the Merriweather Post Competition, a finalist placement in Belgium's Queen Elisabeth competition, and securing the second prize in the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. In 1969, he formed the famed Vermeer Quartet and remained its first violinist throughout the quartet's 39-year career, gaining a reputation as one of the world's outstanding chamber musicians. He has been hailed as a "Genuine talent...profoundly gifted" (the Vienna Express), and as having "an ease of technique and musical expression that only long experience with the composer can provide." (The Shiny Sheet, Michael O'Connor).

Mr. Ashkenasi has toured the former Soviet Union twice and concertized extensively in Europe, Israel, the Far East, and the United States; and he has collaborated with Rudolf Serkin, Thomas Hampson, Murray Perahia, Peter Serkin, and Menahem Pressler. He has performed as soloist with many leading orchestras, including those of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, Berlin, London, Moscow, and Tokyo. Presently holding the esteemed position of Professor of Violin at the Curtis Institute of Music, Ashkenasi is not only a virtuoso performer but

also an esteemed teacher, bringing a wealth of experience to his artistry.

The concert program, a rich tapestry of musical treasures, will showcase Mr. Ashkenasi's unparalleled mastery through a carefully curated repertoire, promising a unique and unforgettable evening. Program highlights include Violin Sonata in A major, BWV 1015 by J.S. Bach, Sonata No. 1 in A major, Op. 13 by Gabriel Fauré, and other captivating works.

Photos and Digital Assets

Visit <https://icm.Park.edu/events-performances/> for more information about Park ICM's 2023-2024 performance season. High-res photos can be found at [Park ICM 23-24 Season dropbox](#). Additional press questions can be directed to Ellen McDonald at 816-213-4355 or ellen@mershonandmcdonald.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Ticket information and Student Discounts

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.

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.

Social Media

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

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 in 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 in its 21st 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 for 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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