

Concert with Elia Cmiral

September 23, 2012

Born in Czechoslovakia, Elia Cmiral attended the Prague Music Conservatory, where he studied composition and double bass. Elia's first scoring opportunity came with his father's production of *CYRANO DE BERGERAC*. From this experience he discovered his passion for writing for the stage.

By the early 80's, Cmiral had moved to Sweden. Throughout his time there, he wrote scores for several European films, TV, and three ballets. In 1989, he moved to the United States to attend USC's Scoring for Motion Pictures and Television program. Soon after graduating from USC, Cmiral scored his first American feature, *APARTMENT ZERO*, starring Colin Firth. His musical style combines contemporary electronics with modern orchestra, joining cutting edge technology and production with evocative and haunting melodic themes.

Elia scored the first season of Don Johnson's TV series *NASH BRIDGES*. In 1998, Elia scored his first studio feature, John Frankenheimer's suspense thriller *RONIN*, which earned him the Movieline Young Hollywood Award for Best Soundtrack of 1998.

To date, Elia has written nearly forty scores for independent films, TV and major studios including *STIGMATA*, *WRONG TURN*, *JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE NIGHT* and the *PULSE* trilogy. Cmiral's scores for *THE DEATHS OF IAN STONE*, produced by Stan Winston and Brian Gilbert, and *TOOTH AND NAIL*, were featured in the 2008 After Dark Horrorfest. His score for *SPLINTER*, a cutting-edge horror film directed by Toby Wilkins, received the Best Score award at the *Screamfest'08* film festival in Los Angeles.

Elia then worked with Czech director Juraj Herz on a score for the German-produced film *HABERMANN*, a WWII drama based on a true story, which won the top prize at the 7th "Jewish Eye" Film Festival in Ashkelon, Israel.

Elia also composed part of "A Symphony of Hope," a collaboration of several Hollywood composers, which is to benefit victims of the Haiti earthquake disaster.

Recently, Elia wrote a large orchestral score for the film *ATLAS SHRUGGED PART 1*, based on the Ayn Rand novel, the score for writer/director W. Peter Iliff's *RITES OF PASSAGE*, and *PIRANHA 3DD*, produced by Weinstein Company and Dimension Films.

Currently Elia writes and produce a suite from his scores for piano trio as well as sketches for a Czech film *COLETTE*, a historical drama from WWII set in death camp Osvetim.



Elia Cmiral

A Czech composer Elia Cmiral, presents a Concert Suite from his Hollywood's scores including music from film Ronin, Apartment Zero, Habermann & Atlas Shrugged 1

Musicians Bios



Robert Edward Thies



Mark Robertson



Vanessa Freebairn-Smith

A pianist of “unerring, warm-toned refinement, revealing judicious glimmers of power,” **Robert Edward Thies** is an artist renowned for his consummate musicianship and poetic temperament. He first captured worldwide attention in 1995 when he won the Gold Medal at the Second International Prokofiev Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia. With this victory, Thies became the only American pianist to win a Russian piano competition since Van Cliburn's triumph in Moscow in 1958. Thies enjoys a diverse career as an orchestral soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. He has already performed 40 different concerti with orchestras such as the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, the Auckland Philharmonia, the Mexico City Philharmonic, the Louisville Orchestra, and the Naples Philharmonic.

A dedicated chamber musician, Thies is highly sought after as a recital partner and collaborator in both instrumental and vocal chamber music. Recently he founded the Thies Consort, a unique ensemble which presents thematic programs of varying instrumentation and color.

Vanessa Freebairn-Smith, cellist, a native of Los Angeles and founding member of the LA-based Sonus Quartet, enjoys a diverse career both onstage and in the studio. As well as recording and performing as a cellist in a wide range of musical genres, she has written and arranged for such bands as The Red Hot Chili Peppers and served as multi-instrumentalist for artists like Sinéad O'Connor. Vanessa's early training took place at the Colburn School of Performing Arts in Los Angeles, and she later received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Cello Performance from the University of California Los Angeles in 2003.

With Sonus Quartet, she took part in the Juilliard Quartet Seminar and held a residency at the Banff Center in Canada. These days she regularly records for producers like David Foster and Danger Mouse, and enjoys an ongoing collaboration with film composer Clint Mansell. She has also worked closely with such artists like Trent Reznor, Sarah McLachlan, and has played on numerous scores for film and television both as a soloist, and orchestral player. Her touring experience includes featured work with Josh Groban, Sia, and Gnarls Barkley.

Mark Robertson, violinist, was raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana by musical parents and started studying violin and piano at the age of five. After attending the Pre-College division at CCM in Cincinnati, Mark received his Bachelor's Degree from Boston University, and his Master's Degree from the Juilliard School. He also attended the Aspen Music Festival for ten seasons, where he was concertmaster of the Concert and Philharmonia Orchestras under the batons of conductors James Conlon, Murry Sidlin, and Peter Jaffe.

Upon graduating from Juilliard, has been a regular member in the Hollywood studio recording industry, playing on over 500 films and many cd recordings. Recently, Mark was concertmaster for the films *Horrible Bosses*, *Hop*, *Contagion*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Imogene*, *Spinning Plates*, and *Premium Rush*. In Southern California, Mark has been guest concertmaster of the New West Symphony, the Pasadena Pops Orchestra, the Riverside Philharmonic, and the West LA Symphony. His principal teachers were Dorothy DeLay, Kurt Sassmanshaus, Piotr Milewski, Roman Totenberg, and Martin Chalifour.