

What is “Art of the Recital?”

Concept

Electrifying classical duo performances by award-winning concert musicians Joshua Peckins, violin, and Eliko Akahori, piano.

Drawing on a traditional classical repertoire studied in Vienna and performed in recitals internationally (on tour in Japan, Europe, and North America), Peckins engages modern audiences by speaking from the stage, inviting them into a richer and more personal experience of hearing the performance, and with innovative programming.

Above all, invigorating audiences with passionate, world-class performances of the most powerful and moving violin/piano recital repertoire is the goal of every performance.

Programming

From the most passionate and expressive sonatas, to dazzlingly virtuosic showpieces, to intimate and lyrical salon pieces written for simple pleasure – these programs present a wide range of experiences for listeners. Programs are centered around a theme. This may be to pair fantastic - but provocative - music with beloved masterpieces:

Example 1: *Spring and Fire* (performed in Belmont and Topsfield, 2018)

Music by Schnittke (along with stories and explanations) paired with the “spring” of Beethoven’s Spring Sonata and the “fire” of Sarasate’s Zigeunerweisen and unaccompanied Ysaye.

To share a moving and intimate side of the recital experience:

Example 3: *Old World Recital* (performed in Cambridge and Boxford, 2017)

Following a first half of Prokofiev, Mozart and Bach, Peckins presented a large selection of salon pieces, encores, and romances, with history and anecdotes about the famous recitalists from the “Golden Age” of violin playing.

Or to take audiences on a specific emotional journey:

Example 2: *Passion!* (performed in Cambridge and Boxford, 2017)

Strauss’s epic Eb Major Sonata, along with other musical examples of heartbreak and passion, such as Tartini’s Dione Abbandonata and Arvo Pärt’s Fratres.