



**Newcomers Concert Notes**  
**Remarkable Russians**  
**November 16 at 7:30 pm**

**Rachel Barton Pine, violin (Guest Artist)**

A leading interpreter of great classic and contemporary works, our renowned soloist combines an innate gift for emotional communication with a scholarly fascination for historical research. She performs on the “ex-Bazzini, ex-Soldat” Joseph Guarnerius del Gesu violin (Cremona, 1742).

*“I love the fact that I get to play...on a violin that Brahms knew. When you think about it, Brahms frequently played chamber music with Marie Soldat, which means that this violin actually got to ‘jam’ with Brahms!”*

**Aram Khachaturian - Violin Concerto in D minor and *Masquerade Suite***

Born in Georgia (USSR) in 1903 to a poor Armenian family, he was fascinated by the folk music he heard around him. He had no formal music training until he was 18, when he studied cello at the Gnesin Institute. When writing his Violin Concerto in 1940, Khachaturian said he “worked without effort... Themes came to me in such abundance that I had a hard time putting them in order.”

***Masquerade Suite***

Written in 1941 as incidental music for a production of the play *Masquerade* at the Vakhtangov Theatre in Moscow, this turned out to be the last production staged by the theatre before Germany invaded the USSR, and the production run was cut short.

**Vasily Kalinnikov - Symphony No. 1 in G minor**

Born in Russia in 1866, he started seminary studies as a teenager before discovering his love for music while conducting the seminary choir. “Anyone who likes Tchaikovsky - *anyone*,” conductor David Robertson told NPR, “is going to adore [the First Symphony by Vasily Kalinnikov].”