



*The Paramount Chamber Players are the Tri-Cities' premier chamber music ensemble dedicated to promoting artistic excellence, sharing chamber music with local audiences, and ensuring that chamber music is a vital part of life in our communities.*

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## THE PARAMOUNT CHAMBER PLAYERS

Chamber Music for the Mountain Empire

*with returning guest artists,*

**Maria Brotherston, string bass  
and Sarah Kapps, cello**

*presenting*

# Beethoven and His Contemporaries

*To play a wrong note is insignificant; to play without passion is inexcusable. —Ludwig van Beethoven*

Beethoven (1770-1827) pushed the boundaries of his musical generation demanding extremes not only in music but also in life. The Paramount Chamber Players explore the influence that this greatest of composers had on his contemporaries. We compare and contrast his Piano Trio in C minor op. 1, no. 3 (1795) to three works composed by friends of Beethoven who revered and acknowledged his lofty position: Kuhlau's Grand Trio (1831), Hummel's Piano Quintet (1802), and Rossini's Duet for Cello and String Bass (1792)

Appearing in this program: Craig W. Combs, piano;  
Rebecca Paluzzi, flute; George Figueroa, violin; Luis Casal, viola;  
Cherylonda Fitzgerald, cello; and, guest artists,  
Maria Brotherston, string bass, and Sarah Kapps, cello.

**Thursday, October 22 • 7:30 p.m.**  
**Mathes Recital Hall, ETSU, Johnson City, TN**  
\$15 adults / \$10 seniors / students free

**Friday, October 23 • 7:30 p.m.**  
**First Presbyterian Church, Kingsport, TN**  
Suggested Donation: \$15 adults / \$12 seniors / students free

**Saturday, October 24 • 7:30 p.m.**  
**The Paramount Center for the Arts, Bristol, TN**  
Tickets: \$15 adults / \$12 seniors / students free

**Sunday, October 25 • 3:00 p.m.**  
**Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church, Abingdon, VA**  
*The Spencer-Miller Memorial Concert Series*  
Tickets: \$10 adults / students free

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## Chamber Music News of the Mountain Empire

### TPCP Musicians' Professional Highlights:

**Luis Casal** was presented with the *Remarkable Citizens of Panama 2015* award by Panama's National Commission Pro Civic Values and Morals.

**Craig Combs** accepted the Birthplace of Country Music Museum's invitation to produce a tribute concert for Tennessee Ernie Ford.

**Mark Owen Davis** performed on Montreat College's *Friends of Music Professional Concert Series* and the role of Javert in *Les Miserables* with the Newport Theatre Guild.

**Vicki Fey** served with husband Steve as conference director of the Montreat Conferences on Worship and Music sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

**George Figueroa** taught and performed at the Pacific Crest Music Festival in Pacific Crest, California.

**Cherylonda Fitzgerald** planned and co-directed the 3rd Annual East Tennessee Cello Day, a one-day festival of master classes and performances for students, teachers, and professionals.

**Eugene Jones** along with wife Melody developed plans for TPCP's educational division.

**Catherine McGlasson** developed and presented *Body Mechanics for Musicians* and completed her massage therapy continuing education course on *Unlocking the Breath*.

**Rebecca Paluzzi** presented *Suzuki Philosophy and Pedagogy* at the National Flute Association Convention in Washington DC; directed the 32nd East Tennessee Suzuki Flute Institute; and performed in recital with ETSU Guest Artist, Laurel Maurer.

**Kimberly Ray** was appointed violin faculty at the Suzuki Talent Education of Appalachia in Kingsport.

**2015 TPCP Award Winner**—We are proud to announce that violinist Cameron Lugo, student of Dr. Thomas Joiner, received the eighth Paramount Chamber Players Award. Cameron was selected by a panel of judges at the scholarship auditions for The Bristol Music Club and will perform in our April 2016 concert. Many thanks to The Bristol Music Club and congratulations to Cameron! TPCPs collaboration with The Bristol Music Club is in its ninth year. All eight past winners can be viewed on our website, [www.paramountplayers.com](http://www.paramountplayers.com).

**Bless Your Pea Pickin' Heart**—The Paramount Chamber Players will be a blessin' and a pickin' in this unique collaboration with the Birthplace of Country Music Museum. In this tribute concert, the TPCP will present the music of Tennessee Ernie Ford—hymns, folk

songs, patriotic songs, and toe-tapping jigs—to tell the story of Bristol’s most famous native son. Guest ensemble, *Jeff Little Trio*, will join us to add their special blend of music to the program. We have commissioned Ann Holler for a new instrumental composition using the hymns that Ford made famous. Also added to the mix for a bit of spice is an original narration, video, dance, a choir and a new version of *16 Tons*, Ford’s most famous recording. Ya’ll come down now, hear?

**A Question of Light**—February 2016 will be a big month of music for TPCP. In addition to our Tennessee Ernie Ford tribute concert and our regular series concert, Mark Owen Davis and Craig Combs will present a concert featuring Schumann’s great masterwork song cycle, *Dichterliebe (Poet’s Love)*. Please mark your calendar for February 27 for this very special opportunity to hear this work in its original 20 song version. Don’t miss this unusual opportunity to hear such great music presented so close to home.

**Johnson City Concert Series**—We are delighted to announce that for the first time, TPCP is presenting its entire concert series in Johnson City in conjunction with the music department of East Tennessee State University. This collaboration marks the first year we have performed our concert series in all four local communities: Bristol, Kingsport, Johnson City and Abingdon.

**Website Update**—Please take a moment to explore our website at [www.paramountplayers.com](http://www.paramountplayers.com). We’ve added new reviews and recordings as well as updated this season’s date and venue information, our repertoire list, biographies and added new articles.

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## Program Notes: Extended notes in the concert program

### *Piano Trio in C Minor op. 1, no. 3* by Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827)

Beethoven decided to publish the three piano trios of his Op. 1 despite Haydn’s advice to withhold from publication the 3rd trio in C minor. Haydn felt that audiences would dislike it for its complexity making it difficult to understand. Beethoven, who liked the third trio the best, thought Haydn was jealous. In fact, Haydn was predicting exactly what Beethoven would be hearing from critics for the rest of his life. But in this particular case and in contrast to Haydn’s advice, the trios were a hit with the buying public.

### *Grand Trio op. 119* by Friedrich Kuhlau (1786-1832)

**Kuhlau**, who was nicknamed the Beethoven of the flute during his lifetime, studied composition and published works for flute in Hamburg but fled to Copenhagen in 1810, with the invasion of

Napoleon. In a visit to Vienna, he met and befriended Beethoven. The *Grand Trio, opus 119*, is a well-constructed piece. One of his last works (written in 1831), it was originally for two flutes but Kuhlau, himself, arranged the second flute part for cello giving a greater role to the cello than normal in trio music of this period. Kuhlau’s experience in opera composition is evident in the song-like quality of the melodies and the coloratura-like technique given to all of the instruments.

### *Piano Quintet in E Flat op. 87* by Johann Nepomuk Hummel

Johann Hummel’s *Piano Quintet, op. 87*, was composed around 1802 when he was 24 years old. Scored for violin, viola, cello, double bass, and piano, it is thought to be the inspiration for Schubert’s famous “Trout” Quintet. Hummel utilizes the standard classical four movement structure—allegro, minuet, adagio, allegro. Since Hummel chose the same key for each movement, he chose to shift to new keys within the individual movements to provide striking oscillations in mood. The piano displays passages of technical virtuosity and contrasting melodic passages.

### *Duetto in D Major, Allegro* by Giacchino Rossini (1792-1868) <http://earsense.org/>

By his mid-thirties, Rossini was an internationally famous opera composer commanding enormous sums for musical services. By the age of 37, he essentially retired from composing though he continued to lead a lavish and notorious life well into his seventies. His is known mostly for his operas but he nonetheless composed a small cache of chamber works. The Rossini *Duetto for cello and bass* was commissioned by amateur cellist Sir David Salomons for a soirée featuring a duet with the famous bass virtuoso Domenico Dragonetti (who once performed a sonata with Beethoven at the piano).

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## 2015-16 Concert Season Dates

October 22-25, 2015 • February 13, 2016  
February 18-21, 2016 • February 27, 2016  
April 14-17, 2016

**For further details go to:** [www.paramountplayers.com](http://www.paramountplayers.com)  
<https://soundcloud.com/paramount-chamber-players>  
<https://www.facebook.com/paramountchamberplayers>

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**Pianissimo** Up to \$99

Make your check payable to: **The Paramount Chamber Players**

**Donations are tax deductible.**

Mail this form and check to: **The Paramount Chamber Players,  
141 Douglas Lane, Bristol, TN 37620**