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Carter Brey & Christopher O’Riley

Office of Arts + Cultural Programming

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I wrote Due per Due for cellist Carter Brey after having the privilege of his recording and premiering my Music for Piano Trio: The March of Folly, and I was equally thrilled when I learned that the pianist Christopher O’Riley would join him in performing it.

The first of the two movements, Elegia: To an Old Musician, has a personal aspect to it. As a young child of six years, I played a piano piece entitled “Prelude. To a Young Musician” by my father, Norman. I always found it very moving, and although that prelude was not written for me, I borrowed the idea of the title when I wrote an elegy for him after he recently passed away quietly at age 95.

Due per Due was equally thrilled when I learned that the pianist Christopher O’Riley was appointed principal cellist, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Silverman’s American Brass Quintet and organist for the American Brass Quintet and organist for the American Brass Quintet and organist for the American Brass Quintet and organist for the American Brass Quintet. He started piano at age five, began composing at age six, and at seven won a scholarship to The Juilliard School Pre-College Division, where he would study with composer Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. He finished his formal training at Juilliard, earning BM, MM, and DMA degrees in composition as a student of Vincent Persichitti, Roger Sessions, and David Diamond.

Dello Joio has composed orchestral, chamber, vocal, operatic, and solo works, and his music has been heard in the US, Europe, Taiwan, and Korea. He has received three awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters as well as a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, two Meet the Composer grants, the American Music Center’s CAP award, and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, Aaron Copland Recording Foundation, and Theodore Presser Foundation. He was named Composer of the Year by the Classical Recording Foundation in 2007.

In March 2007, Bridge Records released an acclaimed CD including his Sonata for Piano and Two Concert Etudes performed by Garrick Ohlsson and The March of Folly performed by Ani Kavafian, violin, Carter Brey, cello, and Jeremy Denk, piano. Dello Joio’s Blue and Gold Music was premiered by the American Brass Quintet and organist Colin Fowler; it was later recorded for the double CD ABQ at 50: State of the Art, released in October 2010 by Summit Records, as well as for Bridge Records’ next volume of Dello Joio’s music.

His most recent work, Due per Due for cello and piano, a commission from the Barlow Endowment, was written for Carter Brey and Christopher O’Riley and premiered in December 2010 at the Kravis Center in Florida. The Orchestra Philharmonique de Radio France and the Boston Symphony Orchestra have co-commissioned Dello Joio to write a piano concerto for Garrick Ohlsson, for premiere in Paris on March 5, 2011, and in Boston in November 2011. Dello Joio’s music is published by Theodore Presser Co. and G. Schirmer. He resides in New York.

### About the Artists

**Carter Brey, cello**
Carter Brey was appointed principal cellist, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels chair, of the New York Philharmonic in 1996. He made his official subscription debut with the orchestra in May 1997, performing Tchaikovsky’s Rococo Variations under the direction of Kurt Masur, and has since performed as soloist each season. Since his 1982 New York and Kennedy Center debuts, Brey has been regularly hailed by audiences and critics for his virtuosity, flawless technique, and complete musicianship. He rose to international attention in 1981 as a prizewinner in the Rostropovich International Cello Competition. He also won the Gregor Piatigorsky Memorial Prize, Avery Fisher Career Grant, Young Concert Artists’ Michaels Award, and other honors and was the first musician to receive the Arts Council of America’s Performing Arts Prize.

Brey has appeared as soloist with virtually all the major orchestras in the United States, and performed under the batons of prominent conductors including Claudio Abbado, Semyon Bychkov, Sergiu Comissiona, and Christoph von Dohnányi. His chamber music career is equally distinguished; he has made regular appearances with the Tokyo and Emerson String Quartets as well as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and at festivals such as Spoleto (both in the United States and Italy) and the Santa Fe and La Jolla Chamber Music festivals. He presents an ongoing series of duo recitals with pianist Christopher O’Riley; together they have recorded Le Grand Tango: Music of Latin America, a disc of compositions from South America and Mexico released on Helicon Records. On another CD he collaborated with pianist Pamela Frank and violist Paul Neubauer in Aaron Jay Kernis’s Still Movement with Hymn (on Decca’s Argo label). He recorded all of Chopin’s works for cello and piano with pianist Garrick Ohlsson (on Arbasque).

Brey was educated at the Peabody Institute, where he studied with Laurence Lesser and Stephen Kates, and at Yale University, where he studied with Aldo Parisot. He was a Wardwell Fellow and a Houppt Scholar. Brey’s violoncello is a rare J. B. Guadagnini made in Milan in 1754.

Brey is represented by Sciolino Artist Management.

**Christopher O’Riley, piano**
Pianist Christopher O’Riley has redefined the possibilities of classical music, from his sublime interpretations of the standard canon to his groundbreaking transcriptions of pop compositions by Radiohead, Elliott Smith, and Nick Drake. His singularly broad repertoire includes music of the English Renaissance and French Baroque, works by today’s leading composers, and such nonclassical forms as the tango.

O’Riley has performed his transcriptions at major jazz festivals in Istanbul, San Francisco, Italy, and the UK. He made his Australian debut at the Sydney Festival in the program “Shostakovich meets Radiohead” (and with Pablo Zieglar) “Los Tangueros,” followed by solo concerts in Adelaide and Brisbane.

O’Riley toured ten US cities in 2004 with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Orchestra, playing works by Bach, Mozart, and Liszt. His orchestral appearances have also included the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Minnesota Orchestra, and the orchestras of Atlanta, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh. He has worked with such illustrious conductors as Marin Alsop, Hans Graf, Neeme Jarvi, Yoel Levi, Andrew Litton, Bobby McFerrin, Leonard Slatkin, John Williams, Hugh Wolff, and David Zinman.

His many recordings include music ranging from Beethoven, Busoni, Ravel, Scriabin, Sessions, and Stravinsky to John Adams, Todd Brief, Richard Danielpour, Robert Helps, Aaron Jay Kernis, and PD.Q. Bach. As a collaborative recording artist he has worked with such distinguished musicians as cellist Carter Brey and flutist Sir James Galway.

O’Riley is equally at home in traditional classical music venues, university settings, clubs, and on the radio. Host of National Public Radio’s top-rated program From the Top, he works and performs with the next generation of brilliant young musicians.

Early in his career O’Riley was honored with awards from the Leed’s, Van Cliburn, Busoni, and Montreal competitions as well as an Avery Fisher Career Grant. He is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, where he studied with pianist Russell Sherman. In 2010 O’Riley was named Distinguished Visiting Artist at the Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, where he will in residence three weeks annually for three years. He makes his home in Cleveland, Ohio.

O’Riley is represented by California Artists Management.
Carter Brey, cello
Christopher O’Riley, piano

PROGRAM

Sonata in G minor for viola da gamba and keyboard, BWV 1029
J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Vivace
Adagio
Allegro

Regional Premiere!
Due per Due
Justin Dello Joio (b. 1955)

Elegia: To an Old Musician
Moto Perpetua

~~ Intermission ~~

Sonata in A minor, op. 36,
for cello and piano
Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)

Allegro agitato
Andante molto tranquillo
Allegro – Allegro molto

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes, including one 15-minute intermission.

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Carter Brey, cello
Christopher O’Riley, piano

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Montclair State University

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