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LA Philharmonic Violinist to Perform at Shpachenko & Friends Concert

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Los Angeles Philharmonic violinist Vijay Gupta will perform on campus Jan. 25 as part of the Shpachenko & Friends music festival.

A Los Angeles Philharmonic violinist and a Grammy Award-nominated pianist will unite under one roof to kick off the music department's 2016 winter season of events.

Nadia Shpachenko, pianist and Cal Poly Pomona professor, welcomes violinist Vijay Gupta on **Jan. 25** as a guest artist for this Chamber Music Festival event.

The first half of the concert will be dedicated to Johannes Brahms and will feature his Lyrical Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 2, as well as contemporary composer Missy Mazzoli's imaginative solo piano piece "Bolts of Loving Thunder," which was inspired by Brahms. During the second half of the performance, Shpachenko and Gupta will perform Antonin Dvořák's Piano Quintet No. 2, featuring artists from the LA Philharmonic and Street Symphony.


"The pieces are exciting, powerful, hopeful, exuberant and virtuosic," says Shpachenko of the selected compositions.

Gupta, who joined the LA Philharmonic at 19, made his solo debut in Tel Aviv with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra at 11 years old. He went on to earn his master's in music from Yale University and makes frequent


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appearances in the LA Philharmonic's Chamber Music and Green Umbrella series, as well as participating in many of the orchestra's education outreach initiatives.

Gupta is a well-known advocate of using music to promote mental health, especially in ostracized communities, which led him to create the Street Symphony. Street Symphony is a non-profit organization that brings professional musicians together to play classical music for underserved members of the Los Angeles community. They organize free private concerts in homeless shelters and LA County jail facilities to raise awareness of the plight of the incarcerated and homeless.

Violinist Jin-Shan Dai, violist Ben Ullery, and cellist Dahae Kim are members of both the LA Philharmonic and Street Symphony and will be performing Dvořák's Piano Quintet with Gupta and Shpachenko.

The concert is at 8 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall. Tickets can be purchased at the box office from noon to 1 p.m. or one hour before the event, or online at www.csupomona.tix.com.

Gupta will also present a free master class prior to the concert from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall.

Gupta's performance is one of many concerts planned for the winter season. The full schedule of events is available online. All concerts will be held in the Music Recital Hall at 8 p.m., with tickets at \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students, faculty and staff, unless otherwise noted.

Other notable winter quarter events include:

- Jan. 29 – "Friday Night Live 2016" Music Faculty and Staff Jamboree with performances by Janine Riveire, Jessie Vallejo, Susan Ali, Dave Kopplin, Kim Guenette, Janet Noll, Will Wright-Hooks, Teresa Kelly, Dave Cahueque, Peter Yates and more.
- Feb. 17 – Honors Invitational Concert, directed by Susan Ali (free)
- Feb. 22 – Kathleen Supové and Nadia Shpachenko Piano Duo
- Feb. 26 – Guitarist Mark Grgic in concert (4 p.m.)
- March 3 – Cal Poly Pomona Philharmonic Orchestra "Music of the Movies," directed by Janine Riveire.
- March 9 – The U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors and Cal Poly Pomona Jazz Band (free)

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About the Author



PolyCentric Editor

PolyCentric is Cal Poly Pomona's communications hub. The online publication features breaking news, announcements, events and more. PolyCentric is also the online face of the Office of Public Affairs, the university's central communications office.