Mark Steinberg, violin
Serena Canin, violin
Misha Amory, viola
Nina Maria Lee, 'cello

THE
BRENTANO
STRING QUARTET

Quartet-in-Residence • Princeton University

The Inaugural Edward T. Cone ’39 Memorial Concert
October 18, 2005
Tuesday evening at 8:00 p.m.
Richardson Auditorium in Alexander Hall
Ed Cone loved going to concerts. In fact, he made many of our concerts possible, both as a musician and as a benefactor. What better way could there be to continue to honor his memory as the years go by?

In order to reflect Ed’s pervasive presence in the Music Department, we are going to rotate the annual Cone Memorial Concert among our various departmental performing groups.

It is extremely fitting that the inaugural concert feature the Brentano String Quartet which played so beautifully at Ed’s memorial service last fall. Moreover, The Edward T. Cone Foundation has been a primary contributor to the Ensemble-in-Residence program at Princeton.

—Scott Burnham, chair
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Edward Toner Cone
... was born in Greensboro, North Carolina, on May 4, 1917. He studied composition at Princeton University with Roger Sessions, obtaining his B.A. in 1939 and his M.F.A. in 1942. He subsequently held a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship at Princeton, and joined the faculty in 1947, retiring in 1985. From 1979 until 1983 he also held the position of Andrew D. White Professor-at-Large at Cornell University. Among his awards are a Guggenheim Fellowship, an Old Dominion Fellowship at Princeton, and an ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award. Prof. Cone was awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, from Princeton University in June, 2004.

In addition to his work as a composer, Mr. Cone was an influential analyst and critic, authoring three books: Musical Form and Musical Performance (1968), The Composer’s Voice (1974), and Music: A View from Delft (1989). His articles appeared in such journals as Musical Quarterly, Perspectives of New Music, 19th Century Music, and the Journal of the American Musicalological Society.

Edward T. Cone was the composer of numerous musical works, including a symphony, and music for piano, voice, chorus, orchestra, and chamber ensembles. Mr. Cone died in Princeton on October 23, 2004.
The Brentano String Quartet

The Brentano String Quartet was appointed Quartet-in-Residence at Princeton University in September, 1999. Made possible by a generous gift from an anonymous alumnus, the residency includes free public performances (of which this evening's is the thirteenth); teaching and coaching chamber music in the Program in Musical Performance; working with undergraduate, graduate student, and faculty composers; and participating in courses taught by members of the faculty.

Since its founding in 1992, the Brentano String Quartet has been recognized by critics and audiences alike for its technical brilliance, musical insight, and stylistic elegance. The Quartet is named after Antonie Brentano, whom many scholars believe to have been Beethoven's mysterious "Immortal Beloved," and to whom he wrote his famous confession of love.

Within a year's time, the Brentano Quartet claimed the distinction of being named to three major awards: the first Cleveland Quartet Award, the 1995 Naumburg Chamber Music Award, and the Tenth Annual Martin E. Segal Award. For its first appearance in Great Britain at the Wigmore Hall, the Brentano was awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for the most outstanding chamber music début of 1997. The Brentano was the first Quartet-in-Residence at New York University, and was chosen by The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center to participate in the inaugural season of Chamber Music Society Two, a program designed for outstanding emerging artists on the verge of international careers in chamber music.

Appearances in the major musical centers of North America include New York's Alice Tully Hall, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pittsburgh's Frick Museum, at the La Jolla Chamber Music Society, the Chamber Music Society of Detroit, the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto, and at venues in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston, New Orleans, Kansas City, and Boston.

The Brentano's summer festival appearances have included the Festival DeDivonne in France, the Bath Festival, Chamber Music Northwest, the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival, Chautauqua, Caramoor International Music Festival, and Interlochen's Advanced String Quartet Institute.

Mark Steinberg, violin is an active chamber musician and recitalist. He has been heard in chamber music festivals in Germany, Austria, and France, and has participated for four summers in the Marboro Music Festival, with which he has toured extensively. He has also appeared with the El Paso Festival, on the BargeMusic series in New York, at Chamber Music Northwest, with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and in trio and duo concerts with pianist Mitsuko Uchida, with whom he has performed a complete Mozart sonata cycle. Mark Steinberg has appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Kansas City Camerata, and the Philadelphia Concerto Soloists. He was the recipient of the 1992 Lotos Foundation Award, which included a recital in Weil Hall, and was selected to give a 1993 recital in the Metropolitan Museum's "Introductions" series. Mr. Steinberg holds degrees from Indiana University and The Juilliard School; he has studied with Louise Behrend, Josef Gingold, and Robert Mann. He taught for six years on the chamber music faculty of Juilliard's Pre-College division, has taught at Princeton University, and is currently a member of the violin faculty of New York University.

Serena Canin, viola, was born into a family of professional musicians in New York City. An accomplished chamber musician, Ms. Canin was twice invited to the Marlboro Music Festival, and has toured the United States with Music-from-Marlboro, the Brandenburg Ensemble, and Goliard Concerts. In New York, Serena Canin performs regularly with the Orchestra of St. Luke's and the Sea Cliff Chamber Players. She has made frequent appearances on the Continuum Series at Alice Tully Hall, the Summergarden Series at the Museum of Modern Art, at the Garden City Chamber Music Society, and at Chamber Music Quad Cities in Davenport, Iowa. Ms. Canin has taught at Princeton University, New York University, and taught chamber music at The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. She holds degrees from Swarthmore College and The Juilliard School; her teachers have included Burton Kaplan and Robert Mann. She lives in Manhattan with her husband, pianist Thomas Sauer.

Misha Amory, viola, won the 1991 Naumburg Viola Award and has since gone on to a diverse career as soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. He has performed with orchestras in the United States and Europe, and has been presented in recital at New York's Alice Tully Hall, on the Los Angeles Ambassador series, Philadelphia's Mozart on the Square Festival, the Seattle Chamber Music Festival, the Vancouver Festival, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and the Boston Chamber Music Society. He released a recording of Hindemith sonatas on the Musical Heritage Society label in 1993. Misha Amory holds degrees from Yale University and The Juilliard School. His principal teachers were Heidi Castleman, Caroline Levine, and Samuel Rhodes. Himself a dedicated teacher, Mr. Amory serves on the faculties of Juilliard and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, in addition to his teaching and coaching activities at Princeton.

Nina Maria Lee, violoncello, is an active chamber musician who has collaborated with such artists as Felix Galimir, Jaime Laredo, David Soyer, Nobuko Imai, Isidore Cohen, Mitsuko Uchida, and Andras Schiff. She has performed at the Marlboro and Tanglewood Festivals, and toured with Music-from-Marlboro and participated in the El Paso International Chamber Music Festival. As a strong advocate of education, she has also appeared on programs to introduce music to children as part of a project at the Kaplan Space at Carnegie Hall. Ms. Lee began studying the 'cello at the age of twelve in St. Louis. At sixteen, she was accepted at The Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied 'cello with David Soyer and chamber music with Karen Turtle and Felix Galimir. In 1992, Ms. Lee attended Boston University as a biology major, where she studied 'cello with Michael Reynolds. She has been awarded top prizes in such competitions as the St. Louis Symphony Young Artists Competition and the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts Talent Search. She is the recipient of bachelor's and master's degrees in music from The Juilliard School, where her teacher was Joel Krosnick.
It opens (Très modéré) with a quiet review of what has gone before. The material of the second-movement scherzo returns in the 'cello: it is briefly developed in the form as a fugato (another ironic gesture towards academicism?). Then, the tempo quickens, and Debussy creates another theme from the motto, this time nervous and discordant. In the central section, a final lyrical transformation of the “motto” soars above the nervous accompaniment of the lower instruments. The movement and work conclude with further elaborations of the “motto.”

— © 2005 Nathan A. Randall

Latecomers will not be admitted during the performance of a work.

The use of sound recording or photographic equipment at Richardson Auditorium is expressly prohibited.