

**THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER
DAVID FINCKEL AND WU HAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS
PRESENTS**

WINTER FESTIVAL: BEETHOVEN CYCLES

**CELLIST DAVID FINCKEL & PIANIST WU HAN
PERFORM THE COMPLETE BEETHOVEN CELLO SONATAS**

"These are performances that catch the excitement of Beethoven without eschewing tenderness; virtuosic but unfailingly musical in their conception and execution. Both musicians play flawlessly but these are not mechanical performances: they pulse with the variety of emotion that makes Beethoven one of the greatest and most popular of composers." *Audiophile*

**JANUARY 31, 5PM
ALICE TULLY HALL**

PLUS: FREE MASTER CLASS JANUARY 30



The Chamber Music Society presents the 2010 *Winter Festival: Beethoven Cycles*, January 31 through February 23. The festival presentations include performances of the complete cycles of violin sonatas, string quartets, and on Sunday, January 31 at 5pm in Alice Tully Hall, CMS Artistic Directors cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han's acclaimed interpretations of the cello sonatas. This recital marks Finckel and Wu Han's first solo turn since their Lincoln Center debut as a duo in 2006. The day prior, they will also offer a free day-long master class in the Rose Studio.

The five Beethoven cello sonatas are works close to the hearts of Finckel and Wu Han, and milestones of the cello literature. Although the cello had gradually come to be regarded as a solo as well as an accompanying instrument during the eighteenth century, neither Mozart nor Haydn had composed a cello sonata. Beethoven was the first major composer to write works with equally important roles for the cello and piano. The cello sonata cycle is also the shortest comprehensive Beethoven cycle that one can perform, covering the composer's career from his early period to his compositions late in life. The first two sonatas represent two sides of Beethoven's early style, one light, and the other dark and stormy. "There is incredible innovation in these scores," says Finckel. "He wrote the Sonata No. 3 in 1808, and it has much the same spirit and heroic sound as his

Piano Concerto No. 5, 'The Emperor.' And the two late sonatas are very experimental in form and timbre. In two and a half hours you can travel the same journey as with the 16 quartets."

The next event in the *Winter Festival: Beethoven Cycles* takes place February 5 in Alice Tully Hall. The Brentano String Quartet leads off six concerts featuring six younger generation quartets in the complete string quartet cycle.

LISTING INFORMATION:

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center at Alice Tully Hall

The Beethoven Cello Sonatas with cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han

Sunday, January 31, 5pm

Tickets: \$74, \$65, \$32 available at the box office; by calling 212.875.5788; on-line

www.ChamberMusicSociety.org

Related event: Master class with David Finckel and Wu Han, Saturday, January 30, 11am-1pm & 2pm-4pm, Rose Studio (165 W. 65th St., 10th Fl.). Free but reservations are required and available by calling 212.875.5788, or on-line www.ChamberMusicSociety.org

WINTER FESTIVAL: BEETHOVEN CYCLES

THE COMPLETE CELLO SONATAS WITH DAVID FINCKEL AND WU HAN

Sonata in F major for Cello and Piano, Op. 5, No. 1

Sonata in G minor for Cello and Piano, Op. 5, No. 2

Sonata in A major for Cello and Piano, Op. 69

Sonata in C major for Cello and Piano, Op. 102, No. 1

Sonata in D major for Cello and Piano, Op. 102, No. 2
