

The Force of Music: a salute to GILEE



Israel Chamber Orchestra

On October 27, the Israel Chamber Orchestra takes to the stage of the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts under the baton of Maestro Nizan Leibovich to perform a benefit concert, "The Force of Music: a salute to GILEE."

The Georgia-International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE) provides peer-to-peer training for law enforcement command staff through exchanges between the U.S. and Israel. Dr. Robbie Friedmann is GILEE founder and director.

The program includes Sergei Prokofiev, Classical Symphony; Dimitri Shostakovich, Concerto for Violoncello No. 1, featuring cellist Amit Peled; Joseph Bardanashvili, Elegy for Strings (Psalm 22), U.S. premiere; and Ludwig van Beethoven, Symphony No. 8.

Founded in 1965, the Israel Chamber Orchestra is the premier chamber music orchestra in Israel and has performed in Europe, South America, and the United States. The orchestra attained international

recognition in 1968 when Philippe Entremont served as its principal conductor.

Since September 2001, the renowned Noam Sheriff, whose works are regularly performed throughout the world, has conducted the orchestra. In 2003, Mr. Sheriff won the prestigious Emet prize, the highest award given in Israel for excellence in science and culture.

Numerous soloists, conductors, choirs, and other artists have performed with the orchestra, among them Mstislav Rostropovich, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Isaac Stern, Itzhak Perlman, Pinchas Zukerman, Shlomo Mintz, Yefim Bronfman, Luciano Berio, Krzysztof Penderecki, Christoph Eschenbach, Nicholas Kraemer, Yoel Levi, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Paul Tortelier, Heinrich Schiff, Heinz Holliger, Sergiu Comissiona, the Netherlands Chamber Choir, Stuttgart Chamber Choir, Ensemble Vocal de Lausanne, Gulbenkian Choir, The Brigham Young University Choir, and

many others.

Nizan Leibovich was born in Tel Aviv. In 1996-97, he was resident conductor of the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble and adjunct professor of composition at Duquesne University. From 1997-1999, he served as assistant conductor in the Italian opera houses of Genoa and Rome. In September 1999, he was invited to conduct the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra in the final concert of the Israeli Music Festival held in Jerusalem and has since been called upon regularly to conduct in this festival. From 2001-2003, he was the festival's artistic director and music director of the Pittsburgh Philharmonia.

Currently he is associate conductor of the Israel Contemporary Players, music director of the New York-based opera company Vertical Player Repertory, and the Zohar Chamber Singers of Pittsburgh.

The evening's soloist, cellist Amit Peled, was born and raised on Kibbutz Yizreel in Israel. After winning the first

prize at the 1998 François Shapira competition, the most prestigious award for classical music in Israel, he embarked on an international career.

Mr. Peled has been a featured guest artist in some of the world's major concert halls, including Wigmore Hall and St. Martin in the Fields, London; Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall, New York; Salle Gaveau, Paris; National Auditorium in Barcelona; Konzerthaus Berlin; and Tel Aviv's Man Auditorium. He has collaborated with most of Israel's orchestras, the European Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jerusalem Symphony, Orquestra Simfònica de Barcelona i Nacional de Catalunya, Philharmonie der Nationen, London Soloists, Academia Ars Musica, Hartford Symphony, and many more.

For more information and to order tickets, visit www.theforceofmusic.com.