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--photography available--

**PROTÉGÉ OF ITZHAK PERLMAN, VIOLINIST DAVID LISKER, PRESENTS SPECIAL
CONCERT CELEBRATING THE LIVES AND MUSIC OF COMPOSERS FROM THE
HOLOCAUST**

The event titled “Echoes of Hope” will feature an inspiring program including classical works by 9 different composers performed by world renowned artists.

Acclaimed violinist, David Lisker, a Juilliard graduate and former student of legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman, is presenting an unforgettable event celebrating the lives and music of 9 Jewish composers directly affected by the Holocaust, 8 of whom perished in the concentration camps. David, along with 6 world renowned musicians, will perform a wide array of works by these inspiring individuals who, if had been allowed to realize their potentials, may have changed the entire course of music in the 20th century.

The evening’s program, performed by violinists David Lisker & Regi Papa, violist Katarzyna Bryla, cellist Michael Katz, soprano Leila Bowie, and pianist Renana Gutman, will feature the Piano Trio by **Mieczyslaw Weinberg**, selections from string quartets by **Erwin Schulhoff**, songs by **Ilse Weber**, **Pavel Haas**, and **Carlo Taube**, movements from string trios by **Hans Krasa** and **Gideon Klein**, the first movement of Piano Sonata no. 7 by **Viktor Ullmann**, the only surviving composition by **Robert Dauber**, as well as beloved works by Joseph Achron and Ernest Bloch.

David Lisker, recipient of the prestigious 2014 JUF Tikkun Fellowship Grant, has been described as an “exquisite virtuoso violinist” (*Chicago Sun-Times*) whose “playing possesses a deeply profound musical instinct” (*The Classical Network*) and a “cultivated artistic taste” (*Kulturas Diena, Latvia*). Since arriving in the United States from Russia in 1990, David has gone on to perform all over the world including New York’s Carnegie Hall, Israel’s Mann Auditorium, China’s Shanghai Theater, Ecuador’s Casa de la Musica, and Ottawa’s National Arts Centre. He has performed on the PBS television broadcast of “Live from Lincoln Center”, was featured on Bob Sherman’s “Young Artist Showcase” on WQXR in New York, and was the only violinist ever to appear on David Dubal’s “Piano Matters” on WWFM Radio.

Hailed as “an exciting young violinist with brilliant technique and an excellent sense of style” (*The Strad Magazine*), violinist **Regi Papa** has dazzled audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. In his native Greece, Regi has been heard in such prestigious venues as the Athens Concert Hall, the Pallas Hall, the Parnassos Hall, and the Athenaeum Hall. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2006, performing the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the New York Senior Concert Orchestra under the baton of David Gilbert, and has also appeared as featured soloist with the New York Symphonic Arts Ensemble and the Manhattan School of Music Philharmonia. Regi is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and the Juilliard School in New York, and currently pursuing his Doctorate at Stony Brook University as a student of Soovin Kim and Phil Setzer.

Praised for her virtuosity and versatility, violinist/violist **Katarzyna Bryla** was born into a family of musicians and has gone on to earn more than two dozen prizes and awards in the United States, France and her native Poland. Katarzyna appears regularly as a member of the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra,

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's in New York and, most recently, as Principal Second Violinist of the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra. Studying under full scholarship, Katarzyna Bryla has received three post graduate degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University after having earned her Bachelor and Master Degrees in her native Poznan, Poland.

Described by the press as “outstanding” and “warm-toned,” Israeli cellist **Michael Katz** has appeared as a soloist and chamber musician in concerts throughout North America, Europe and Israel in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, The Kennedy Center, Jordan Hall, Peter Jay Sharp Theatre, Merkin Hall, Philips Hall in Eindhoven Netherlands, Monaco Theatre Hall, and the Jerusalem Music Center. Winner of all three categories at the 2011 Aviv Competition, Michael has also won first prizes at the Juilliard Concerto Competition, the Turjeman Competition, and as the cellist of the The Lysander Piano Trio, won the 2012 Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition. Michael received his Bachelor Degree from the New England Conservatory where he studied with Laurence Lesser and his Master Degree from the Juilliard School where he studied with Joel Krosnick.

Praised by the New York Sun for playing “with great vigor and aplomb” and for the “true poetry in her phrasing”, **Renana Gutman** has performed across three continents as an orchestral soloist, recitalist, and collaborative artist. She won top prize at the Los Angeles Liszt Competition, performed in the renowned International Keyboard Festival in New York City, and was 1 of just 4 pianists to be selected by legendary pianist, Leon Fleisher, to participate in his Beethoven Piano Sonata Workshop in Carnegie Hall, where she performed “Hammerklavier” and the “Appassionata Sonata” to critical acclaim. Renana has soloed with the Jerusalem Symphony, Haifa Symphony, Belgian “I Fiamminghi”, and Mannes College Orchestra, has performed at the Stresa Music Festival (Italy), Ravinia Rising Stars and Dame Myra Hess Concert Series (Chicago), and has been heard in such prestigious venues as St. Petersburg's Philharmonia Hall (Russia), Carnegie's Weill Hall, Rockefeller University (New York), Jordan Hall (Boston), Herbst Theatre (St. Francisco), and the Washington National Gallery. Renana earned her Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees at the Mannes College of Music in New York as a student of Richard Goode, and is currently faculty at the 92nd Street Y Music School and Bard College's Precollege Division.

American Soprano, **Leila Bowie**, is quickly gathering acclaim for her “rich and warm soprano” vocal ability (*Times Argus Vermont*) intertwined with her “crisp diction and expressive passion” (*Musical America Worldwide*). One of Chicago's emerging artists, Leila is the recipient of the 2011 Lynne Harvey Music Scholarship from the Musicians Club of Women, was selected as a Young Artist with the Chicago Opera Theater, and most recently made her Orchestra Hall debut as a soloist in “Beyond the Score: Strauss' Ein Heldenleben” with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Leila earned both her Master of Music Degree in Vocal Performance and Professional Diploma in Opera from the Chicago College of Performing Arts.

This event is made possible by the **Lisker Music Foundation**, a passionate nonprofit organization that strives to support musicians through its acclaimed concert series, scholarships, and outreach programs.

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