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ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET BIDS FAREWELL TO SECOND VIOLINIST SCOTT ST. JOHN ON JANUARY 12 AT BING CONCERT HALL

**Program of works by Dvorák's and Martinu also welcomes guest artists Jonathan Vinocour, viola;
and Robert Huw Morgan, harmonium**

Stanford, CA, December 10, 2013—Stanford University's Grammy-nominated resident ensemble, the **St. Lawrence String Quartet**, continues its annual Sunday series with Stanford Live on **January 12 at 2:30 p.m.** in Bing Concert Hall. The performance is notable for two milestones: it kicks off the group's 25th year and also marks the farewell appearance by departing second violinist **Scott St. John**, who cedes his chair to fellow Canadian **Mark Fewer** in January.

"Working with the SLSQ for the past seven years has been a fantastic experience," wrote St. John. "Every member of SLSQ is an inspired colleague and also a friend, and one could not ask for a more supportive environment at Stanford, or a more thrilling concert dynamic within the ensemble. While the decision to leave has been difficult, recently my own family obligations have become more important, and I look forward to being a full-time father when my family is settled in Canada."

St. John's last SLSQ concert will be an all-Bohemian program featuring Dvorák's Bagatelles, op. 47 (with Stanford organist **Robert Huw Morgan** on the harmonium), and String Quintet in E flat, op. 97, with guest violist **Jonathan Vinocour** of the San Francisco Symphony. Rounding out the concert is Martinu's String Quartet No. 5.

Incoming violinist Mark Fewer is already well acquainted with the SLSQ, having substituted for two members during their brief paternity leaves. He will re-locate from Montreal's McGill University, where he been associate professor of violin since 2007.

Later this season, the SLSQ returns to Stanford Live twice more: first in a special free Good Friday concert, featuring Haydn's *Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross* (**April 18**), then with soprano Jessica Rivera (**April 27**). Stanford Live's Sundays with the St. Lawrence series is presented in partnership with Music at Stanford and is supported by Paul and Iris Brest.

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The **St. Lawrence String Quartet** (SLSQ) has established itself among the world-class chamber ensembles of its generation. Since winning both the Banff International String Quartet Competition and Young Concert Artists International Auditions in 1992, the quartet has delighted audiences with its spontaneous, passionate, and dynamic performances. Highlights of the 2013–14 season include visits to Vancouver, Princeton, Portland, Toronto, Philadelphia, Ann Arbor, Palm Beach, and Washington, D.C. The quartet also will premiere a new work by George Tsontakis in Carmel, California. They will perform *Absolute Jest* with the Toronto Symphony and on a European tour with the San Francisco Symphony. During the summer season, the SLSQ is proud to continue its long association with Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, South Carolina.

Since 1998, the SLSQ has held the position of ensemble-in-residence at Stanford University. This residency includes working with music students as well as extensive collaborations with other faculty and departments using music to explore myriad topics. Recent collaborations have involved the School of Medicine, the School of Education, and the Law School.

Violist Lesley Robertson is a founding member of the group and hails from Edmonton, Alberta. **Cellist Christopher Costanza** is from Utica, New York, and joined the quartet in 2003. **Violinists Geoff Nuttall and Scott St. John** both grew up in London, Ontario; Mr. Nuttall is a founding member, and Mr. St. John joined in 2006.

TICKETS

The performance is **currently at capacity**. A limited number of tickets may be released before the performance, to be sold on a first come, first served basis. To be notified if tickets become available, sign up on the Stanford Live website at <http://live.stanford.edu>.

VENUE INFORMATION

Bing Concert Hall is located on the Stanford University campus at 327 Lasuen Street on the corner of Lasuen and Campus Dr. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 PM and on weekends at all times, and may be found in the Galvez Lot across Campus Drive from Bing Concert Hall. Maps and directions are available at <http://live.stanford.edu/Venues/parkingmapsdirections.php>.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVE

Stanford Live is multi-disciplinary performing arts on the campus of Stanford University. The organization is committed to sharing, celebrating, and advancing the art of live music, dance, theater and opera. It unites celebrated and emerging artists with the Stanford campus and greater Bay Area communities in a broad range of

experiences to engage the senses and emotions, stimulate minds, and enrich lives. Stanford Live values artistic vitality, learning, and an inclusive community.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

What: **St. Lawrence String Quartet:**
with Jonathan Vinocour, *viola*, and Robert Huw Morgan, *harmonium*

Program: Antonín Dvorák: Bagatelles, op. 47, B.79 (1878)
Bohuslav Martinu: String Quartet No. 5 (1938)
Antonín Dvorák: String Quintet in E flat, op. 97, B.180 (1893) ('American')

When: Sunday, January 12, 2014 at 2:30 p.m.

Where: Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University

Tickets: The performance is **currently at capacity**. To be notified if tickets become available, sign up on the Stanford Live website at <http://live.stanford.edu>.

Description: Stanford's Grammy-nominated resident ensemble, the St. Lawrence String Quartet, kicks off its 25th year with a performance featuring guest violist Jonathan Vinocour, principal viola with the San Francisco Symphony, and Stanford organist Robert Huw Morgan.

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