

# Carr-Petrova Duo

Molly Carr, viola | Anna Petrova, piano



"Artistic, clear, and enlightened..."



"The most ravishing sound..."

www.carrpetrovaduo.com

#### DUO BIOGRAPHY

Described as "ravishing" (**Strad**), "enlightened" (**BBC**), "explosive" (**Virginia Gazette**), and "irresistibly elegant" (**Diario de Leon**), violist Molly Carr and pianist Anna Petrova are rapidly compiling a remarkable list of accolades in recognition of their fiery musical expression, refined artistry, and relentless entrepreneurial dedication to social initiatives. Both acclaimed international soloists, as individuals they have won top prizes in several international competitions, and have been featured in such world-renowned venues as Carnegie Hall, the Concertgebouw, and Lincoln Center. They have participated in festivals such as the Marlboro Music Festival, Ravinia, MozartFest, Music@Menlo, and the Perlman Music Program, and their performances have been broadcast on CNN, PBS, NPR's "Performance Today," WQXR, and ABC's "Good Morning America."

Carr and Petrova began playing together during their years at the Juilliard School and the Manhattan School of Music, and have since performed together across Europe, the Middle East and North America, in venues ranging from Lincoln Center to soup kitchens in New Orleans and schools in Gaza. Recent season highlights include a Carnegie Hall debut - praised by the Classical Post as "categorically astonishing in its beauty, ensemble, artistry, quality of sound, and almost uncanny ability to draw into the music" - as well as recitals at the Smithsonian Museum, Jerusalem Music Center, Malaga's Sociedad Filarmonica Chamber Music Series, and Sala Clemente in Valencia. Their future engagements include a tour of China, performances and masterclasses in Spain, Israel, Italy and the US.

Their **debut album "Novel Voices"** was released on Melos Records in October 2019 to critical acclaim. Spain's Classical Music Magazine "Ritmo" immediately chose it as one of their "Top 10 CDs of the Month," while Fanfare Magazine reviewed the album as "magical" and a "recording to have and hold dear, [...] one of the most successful viola and piano recitals - technically perfect and musically involving." Codalario Magazine gave the album its seal of "Superior Quality," listing the album as its **top album of 2020** and stating, "It would be hard to debut better than this."

In August 2018, the Duo launched an interdisciplinary project called the *Novel Voices Refugee Aid Project* (winner of Music Academy of the West's Alumni Enterprise Award) - a venture designed to give voice and visibility to refugee communities while raising awareness and support for both local and international refugee-aid organizations. The project brought classical music performances and music workshops to refugee camps and aid-programs around the globe, commissioned a new work by composer Fernando Arroyo Lascurain, and will be the feature of an upcoming documentary by film-makers Victoria Stevens and Skyler Knutzen. In support of this project, and in celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, the Duo was **honored at the United Nations** and invited to perform and present the Novel Voices Refugee Aid Project in October of 2018. The outgrowth of Novel Voices is now being developed under the non-profit *Project: Music Heals Us* (PMHU), for which the duo serves as an Ambassador Ensemble. In this next phase, called the Novel Voices: Distance Learning program, the duo will work with PMHU to return virtually to the places and people previously visited, to offer weekly digital music lessons, masterclasses, and teacher-training workshops to young refugee musicians as well as music organizations with limited access and resources around the globe.

The Duo's connection with PMHU early in the pandemic was also instrumental in helping to launch a PMHU program of virtual bedside concerts that continues today, performing for hospitalized COVID patients across the US. Their concerts in Spring of 2020 were featured by news outlets around the world, including the **New York Times, CNN, Forbes,** and **BBC World News**.

Collectively, the Duo holds faculty positions at the Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Bard College Conservatory, the University of Louisville, and Musical Arts Madrid. They are represented by DBA Artist Management (North America) and Iberkonzert Artistic Management (Europe).

CONTACT info@carrpetrovaduo.com www.CarrPetrovaDuo.com AUDIO/VIDEO SAMPLES YouTube Playlist "TOP ALBUM OF 2020" & "SEAL OF SUPERIOR QUALITY" - CODALARIO MAGAZINE, SPAIN





Debut Album released on Melos Records October 4, 2019



"TOP 10 RECOMMENDED ALBUMS OF THE MONTH" - RITMO MAGAZINE, SPAIN

# ALBUM REVIEWS

"This is one of the most successful recitals for viola and piano to have ever come my way!"

"Powerful, technically perfect and musically involving [...] of huge integrity and expertise."

- Colin Clarke, FANFARE MAGAZINE

"This is a recording to have and to hold dear."

- Jerry Dubins, FANFARE MAGAZINE

"The [Carr-Petrova Duo] are joined as one, mind, spirit, and soul. Each is an acclaimed, award-winning artist in her own right [...] but when they come together as a duo [...] they weave a very special magic spell... making music which transcends the surfaces of beauty of tone, touch, and technique..."

- Jerry Dubins, FANFARE MAGAZINE

"The music was superbly chosen and performed with technical brilliance and complete emotional engagement. [...] one of the most compelling viola-piano recitals I have ever encountered."

"This is a singularly lovely and engaging disc."

- Henry Fogel, FANFARE MAGAZINE

"A superior interpretation [...] of Rebecca Clarke's Viola Sonata which could be known as the best interpretation of this sonata to date - especially for the deep sound of Molly Carr and the extreme sensitivity of Anna Petrova."

- Gonzalo Pérez Chamorro, RITMO MAGAZINE

"Nuanced...Moving...Outstanding" - David Olds, WHOLENOTE.COM - EDITOR'S CORNER

"...the album reveals an unusual degree of intimacy and unity of opinion between the two artists, whose musical revelations seem to fit naturally, as if emanating from the same know-how, a degree of communication that is very difficult to find in any ensemble and that in this recording is perceived from the first chord."

"Carr, undoubtedly one of the most interesting interpreters of the instrument today... exhibits both her sensitive and virtuosic side, and is reciprocated with the same interpretative mastery by Anna Petrova, a formidable pianist..."

"It is difficult to debut better than this."

- CODALARIO MAGAZINE, Spain

"Beautiful, heartfelt playing!"

- Vincent Trauth, WILL RADIO

"Great recording!"

- CLASSICAL WUOT - AFTERNOON CONCERTS

#### CARR-PETROVA DUO PRESS

"They're wonderful!"

- CLASSICAL WUOL

"Excellent duo. A favorite of my listeners [...] Beautiful recording" - KKUP - JEWELS AND BINOCULARS

"I found the performance to be categorically astonishing in its beauty, ensemble, artistry, quality of sound, and almost uncanny ability to draw one into the music."

"...Deeply moving and musical... Every nuance, every shadow, every explosive climax was perfectly together, balanced at all times, and impeccably musical."

- THE CLASSICAL POST (REVIEW FROM CARNEGIE HALL DEBUT, OCTOBER 28, 2019)

"The Carr-Petrova Duo's performance of Op. 13 Sonata for Viola and Piano by Lowell Liebermann [...] was indescribable. Carr and Petrova brought their astonishing musicianship and power to the forefront, and never let go."

"If you ever have occasion to hear the Carr-Petrova Duo perform, anywhere, anytime, do not pass up the opportunity, or you may, in fact, be deprived of it – this debut recital was to a packed hall."

- THE CLASSICAL POST (REVIEW FROM CARNEGIE HALL DEBUT, OCTOBER 28, 2019)

"One of the most exciting ensembles I have encountered...intelligence, passion and precision, communicating the music with an immediacy and virtuosity that is irresistible..."

- Lowell Liebermann

"A Unique Experience.... The musical, expressive and human quality of these performers come with an intensity, integrity and warmth very rarely encountered."

- Rafael García Martínez, RENDIMIENTO MUSICAL

"Amazing performances that express much more than 'sound."" - Martha Katz (CLEVELAND QUARTET)

"Unparalleled combination [...] strength, dexterity and sentiment all come shining through."

- STAGE AND CINEMA

### **INTERVIEWS**

<u>New York Times – These Are the Bedside Concerts Comforting Virus Patients</u>

CNN - Musicians perform virtual concerts for Covid-19 patients

Israeli National Television - The Healing Power of Music

Chamber Music Magazine

**Bulgarian National Television** 

ClassicalWCRB Out of the Box

<u>Classical Post: Carr-Petrova Duo Artist Favorites, Classical Post: Artist City Guide –</u> <u>Carr-Petrova Duo, Classical Post: Artist Routines – Carr-Petrova Duo</u>

Sandi Klein Show

WGTE Interview

<u>The Friyay Fuel</u>

# OTHER FEATURES

<u>BBC World News – Classical Music for Hospitalized Patients with Project: Music</u> <u>Heals Us</u>

<u>Broadwayworld – GatherNYC Continues its Sunday Morning Concerts with the</u> <u>Carr-Petrova Duo</u>

<u>21CMedia - Music Academy of the West Announces Winners of Inaugural Alumni</u> <u>Enterprise Awards</u>

<u>Musical America – Carr-Petrova Duo Wrap up Interdisciplinary Undertaking,</u> <u>Novel Voices Refugee Aid Project, with 50 Days of Reflective Posts</u>

Performing Arts Monterey - Weekly Magazine

Las Bandas de Música, Valencia, Spain – The Melos record label kicks off with the Carr-Petrova Duo album 'Novel Voices'

## INDIVIDUAL BIOS

#### Molly Carr, viola

Violist **Molly Carr** enjoys a diverse musical career as recitalist, chamber musician, educator, and artistic director. Hailed as "one of the most interesting interpreters of the viola today" (Codalario Spain) and praised for her "intoxicating" (New York Times) and "ravishing" (STRAD) performances, she has been the recipient of numerous international awards, including the Primrose International Viola Competition, Chamber Music America, ProMusicis Foundation, and



the Davidson Institute, and was honored in 2018 at the United Nations for her work with refugees around the globe through the *Novel Voices Refugee Aid Project*. Her performances have taken her across North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia and been featured in the *New York Times, Forbes*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, as well as on PBS, CNN, NPR, and BBC World News. Molly is the Founding Director of the award-winning organization *Project: Music Heals Us*, a non-profit which brings free chamber music performances and interactive programming to marginalized populations with limited ability to access the Arts themselves. She serves on the faculties of the Manhattan School of Music, Bard College Conservatory, The Juilliard School's Precollege Division, and Musical Arts Madrid. <u>www.Molly-Carr.com</u>

#### Anna Petrova, piano

Bulgarian pianist, **Anna Petrova**, praised for her "hallmark performances" of "excellent technical mastery and powerful control of timbre." [*Levante*, Spain], serves on the Piano Faculty at University of Louisville and performs extensively as a soloist and chamber musician. She is a top prize winner of numerous international competitions, including the First Prize winner of the Jose Roca International Competition, Spain and a semi- finalist of the Queen



Elizabeth Piano Competition. Recent highlights include her New York debut with conductor Philippe Entremont, a recording of Stravinsky's *Les Noces* with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra and conductor JoAnn Falletta (NAXOS, 2016), and chamber music residencies in festivals across North America and Europe. Currently, she is working on a two-CD set of the complete piano sonatas of Russian composer, pianist and pedagogue, Samuil Feinberg for NAXOS. Petrova holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Manhattan School of Music. <u>wwwAnna-Petrova.com</u>