UND Chamber Orchestra
Alejandro Drago, conductor

8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022
Josephine Campbell Recital Hall
**Program**

**Concerto grosso Op. 2 No. 4**  
Francesco Geminiani (1687 – 1762)

I. Andante  
II. Allegro  
III. Andante  
IV. Allegro  

Aleksandre Khatiskatsi, Nicholas Sholy, *violins*  
Cassandra Fincher, *viola*  
Itzel Orellana Sierra, *cello*

**String Symphony No. 3 in E minor MWV N 3**  
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809 – 1847)

I. Allegro di molto  
II. Andante  
III. Allegro

**String Symphony No. 2 in D major, MWV N 2**  
Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809 – 1847)

I. Allegro  
II. Andante  
III. Allegro vivace

**Intermission**

**Élégie (Elegy), Op. 24 – transcription for viola and strings**  
Gabriel Fauré (1845 – 1924)

Cassandra Fincher, *viola*

**Suite for Strings (1926)**  
Leoš Janáček (1854 – 1928)

I. Moderato  
II. Adagio  
III. Andante con moto  
IV. Presto  
V. Adagio  
VI. Andante
Dr. Alejandro Drago, conductor

First Violins
Ana Galdavadze, Concertmaster
Noah Holden
Aleksandre Khatiskatsi
Victor Spaeth
Grant Anderson
Odele Rajpathy

Second Violins
Iva Pecotic, Principal
Nicholas Sholy
Olivia Rajpathy
Taryn Trueblood
Zoe-Clementine Berthe

Violas
Cassandra Fincher, Principal
Sibi Manian
Erik Wheeler
Paul Boese*

Cello
Itzel Orellana Sierra, Principal
Isabel Moga
Danielle Bach
Adleigh Handeland
Alexandra Lieb
Daniel Taylor

Double Basses
Ketina Francois, Principal
Brian Galdun
Grace Klee

*guest musician
Alejandro Drago

Hailed by music critics as “a superb musician” with the “classical virtuosity of a Heifetz or Perlman,” the “suave café style of Florian Zabach” and the “jazzy insouciance of Stephane Grappelli,” Alejandro Drago has “crisscrossed the line between concerto virtuoso and jazz soloist.” His versatile musicianship has allowed him to be successful with many diverse styles and genres. His discography in France, USA and Argentina includes string quartets, concertos, avant-garde tangos for the EMI International label and works for solo violin CD distributed internationally by Naxos Music Library Japan and CD Tradition.

As a soloist, Alejandro has performed in the Great Hall at the Moscow Conservatory, the Saint Petersburg Philharmonic Hall (with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra), Teatro Colón de Buenos Aires, The Kennedy Center and the Kolarac Zal of Belgrade. He has toured extensively in Russia, the United States, China, Austria, Switzerland, Lithuania, Taiwan, Belarus, France, Brazil, ex-Yugoslavia (Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina), Romania, Portugal, Mexico, Colombia, Panama, Paraguay, Ecuador and Haiti.

As a conductor, Alejandro began his training with the CCBA Chamber Orchestra in Buenos Aires. In 1991 he assisted in the preparation of Handel’s Messiah with the Chamber Orchestra of the Argentine-American Cultural Institute. Alejandro’s recognized expertise in the field of string studies has led him to coach regularly a number of youth and professional ensembles, including Guayaquil Symphony Orchestra in Ecuador and the MERCOSUR Youth Symphony Orchestra. He has been a guest conductor with the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, Tandil Chamber Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of the Argentine Library of Congress and the MERCOSUR Academic Camerata. From 2005 to 2008 he was the Assistant Conductor of the Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra and Chief Conductor of the Southern Mississippi Chamber Orchestra. Since 2008, he has appeared on a number of occasions as a guest conductor with the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra.

In July 2008, Alejandro joined the faculty at the University of North Dakota Department of Music as the Professor of Violin and Viola and Director of the UND Chamber Orchestra.

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