

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Dr. Alejandro Drago, conductor

OCTOBER 3, 2025 | 7:30 PM
JOSEPHINE CAMPBELL RECITAL HALL



PROGRAM

First Part

Selections from ***Miniatures for String Quartet***

Sulkhan Tsintsadze (1925 – 1991)

1. Lale - ლალე
2. Suliko - სულიკო
3. Sachidao - საჭიდაო
4. Song - სიმღერა
5. Joke - ხუმრობა
6. Shepherd's song - მწყემსური
7. Spring - წინწყარო
8. The nagging wife - ცოლი გამიდიდგულდა
9. Rural dance - სოფლური საცეკვაო
10. Firefly - ციციანათელა
11. Chonguri - ჩონგური
12. Kviria - კვირია
13. Sisatura - სისატურა
14. Khasanbegura - ხასანბეგურა

Second Part

Serenade for Strings in C major, Op. 48

Piotr Ilich Tchaikovsky (1840 – 1893)

- I. *Pezzo in forma di sonatina*. Andante non troppo—Allegro moderato
- II. *Valse*. Moderato. Tempo di Valse
- II. *Elegia*. Larghetto elegiaco
- IV. *Finale (Tema russo)*. Andante—Allegro con spirito

PERSONNEL

University of North Dakota Chamber Orchestra

Dr. Alejandro Drago, *conductor*

First Violin

Morales Sears, Lisa Sofía (Concertmaster)
Dandan, Salah (Assistant Concertmaster)
Baumgardner, Ross
Mojica, Zoefia
Hogberg, Ryah

Second Violin

Fuller, Mason (Principal)
McLeod, Kaden (Assistant Principal)
Johnson, Drew
Rhyner, Benjamin
Dendy, Alivia

Viola

Papashvili, Ana (Principal)
Fercho, Ben (Assistant Principal)
Wermager, Josh
Freiberg, Seija
Hemmer, Meghan-Makana

Cellos

Peterson, Garrett (Co-principal)
Cordova, Andrea (Co-principal)
Tzab Pool, Ana Leticia (Co-Assistant Principal)
Chukwu, Victor (Co-Assistant Principal)
Tyson, Madelyn
Xia, Nanqing
Bjorland, Jaydin
Johnson, Aidan
Steiner, Owen

Double Bass

Parton, Elizabeth (Principal)
Peske, Ben (Assistant Principal)
Hayes, Kalli





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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