



החוג למוסיקה

## ELARIS DUO

**LARISA ELISHA, VIOLIN**

**STEVEN ELISHA, CELLO**

Duo No. 1 in G major, K 423

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-91)

Allegro  
Adagio  
Rondo. Allegro

Sonata for Violin and Cello

Maurice Ravel  
(1875-1937)

IV. Vif, avec entrain

Duo for Violin and Cello (1925)

Erwin Schulhoff  
(1894-1942)

I. Zingaresca: Allegro giocoso

Duo for Violin and Cello, Op. 7

Zoltán Kodály  
(1882-1967)

I. Allegro Serioso, non troppo, Cominciando un poco largamente  
II. Adagio  
III. Maestoso e largamente ma non troppo lento – Presto

## ELARIS DUO

Larisa and Steven Elisha are each internationally acclaimed soloists, chamber musicians and clinicians. Together they are the **Elaris Duo**, whose performances and artistry have delighted audiences worldwide. The Elisha's have gained national and international renown through performances that include the Bergen International Festival, Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy, National Taiwan University of the Arts, Summit Music Festival, Sunflower Music Festival, as well as solo appearances with Washington Square Music Festival Orchestra, Hastings Symphony, Topeka Symphony, Gulf Coast Symphony, Lawrence Chamber Orchestra, Sunflower Music Festival Chamber Orchestra and National Taiwan Arts Orchestra. They have also appeared in numerous live radio broadcasts. As clinicians, Larisa and Steven Elisha have been featured at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, College Music Society Conference, Georgia Music Educators Association Conference, National Orchestra Festival and American String Teachers Association National Conferences. While members of the Kansas Arts Commission's *Arts on Tour* roster, they were chosen as representatives for the Kansas – As Big as You Think campaign. The duo has received many awards, including the 2008 Kansas Governor's Arts Award, the Kansas Federation of Music Club's Musicians of the Year Award, a Chamber Music America Residency Grant, an honorary Life-Time Membership to Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI). The Elaris Duo's MRS Classics re-release, *DUO VIRTUOSO*, received critical acclaim from the Atlanta Audio Society, American Record Guide, Malcolm Tattersall's "Music & Vision," Turok's Choice and BBC Music. The Elisha's are recipients of the prestigious 2018 Global Music Award, in "Duo and New Release Categories" for their recent MSR Classics CD, *DUO VIRTUOSO II – Works for Violin and Cello* by Honegger, Ravel and Schulhoff.

**Larisa Elisha:** Russian-American violinist, Larisa Elisha, is an internationally acclaimed soloist, chamber musician and pedagogue, having performed and taught extensively throughout Russia, Poland, Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Denmark, Switzerland, Holland, Norway, Taiwan, Lithuania and the United States. Dr. Elisha was the Concertmaster of the Witold Lutoslawski State Philharmonic, Principal Violinist of the Leopoldinum Chamber Orchestra and Artistic Director and First Violinist of the Wratislavia String Quartet. She was Professor of Violin, Chamber Music and Pedagogy at the K. Lipinski Academy of Music in Wroclaw, Poland. Dr. Elisha has performed recitals at prestigious European chamber music festivals that include International Festival Wratislavia Cantans and Contemporary Music

Festival Musica Polonica Nova in Wroclaw, Poland, Draeseke's Festival in Germany, Gioventi Musicale d'Italia in Bergamo, Wieniawski Festival in Poland and the Mozart Festival in Copenhagen, Denmark. She has performed at the Concertgebouw, Warsaw National Philharmonic and Karajan Hall of the Berlin Philharmonie, and has made numerous CD, radio and television recordings. Her solo performances of the Shostakovich Violin concerto with the Wroclaw and Koszalin Symphony Orchestras as well as solo recitals in Krakow and at the Wieniawski Festival in Szczawno Zdroj (Poland) drew critical acclaim. Dr. Elisha was Violin Artist-in-Residence at Washburn University and Concertmaster of the Topeka Symphony Orchestra. As Concertmaster of the Wichita Grand Opera, she performed featured solos with Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Joyce DiDonato. Dr. Elisha is heard regularly in solo and chamber music performances, including Summit, Sunflower and other national and international music festivals. As a master teacher, Dr. Elisha maintains a very successful studio. She is the author of *Advanced Scale Studies for Violin* and *Advanced Scale Studies for Viola*. As a performer-clinician, she frequently presents performances, lectures and Master Classes at national and international music festivals, conferences and universities, including the Summit Music Festival, Charleston International Music School Summer Festival, Washington Square Music Festivals, Lithuania Music and Theatre Academy, National Taiwan University of the Arts, American String Teachers Association, Georgia Music Educators Association and College Music Society. Dr. Elisha belongs to numerous professional and honors organizations and has been the recipient of many awards, including the 2008 Kansas Governor's Arts Award, the Kansas Federation of Music Club's Musicians of the Year Award, a Chamber Music America Residency Grant, Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award and an honorary Life-Time Membership to Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI). Continuing the tradition of Russian violinist David Oistrakh, she holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Lunacharsky State Conservatory of Belarus in Minsk, where she was a student and Teaching Assistant of Professor Olga Parkhomienko, one of Oistrakh's noted protégés. Larisa Elisha earned her Doctorate degree at the K. Lipinski Academy of Music in Wroclaw. Dr. Elisha is currently Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of Upper Strings Studies at Georgia Southern University.

**Steven Elisha:** Internationally acclaimed cellist, Steven Elisha, has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Europe, Norway, China, Taiwan, Brazil, Israel and the United States. He first attracted attention at the age of fifteen when he gave solo performances with the Albany and Schenectady (New York) Symphonies. Elisha's New York debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and premiere performance of *Cry of the Dove* (a cello concerto written by his sister, Adrienne Elisha) received critical acclaim. As an honorary member and returned guest of the Beijing Cello Society, he has extensively toured mainland China, performing recitals and teaching master classes at the Shanghai, Canton, Xian, Jinan and Beijing conservatories. Featured solo appearances have included the Beijing Central Philharmonic and Symphonies of Beijing, Xian, Jinan, and Canton, Toledo Symphony, Connecticut Chamber Orchestra, Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Topeka Symphony, Gulf Coast Symphony and the Grand Rapids Symphony. Formerly, Director of String Studies at Washburn University, Principal Cellist of the Topeka Symphony, and Conductor of the Topeka Symphony Youth Orchestra, Elisha was also the Artistic Director/ Conductor of the Lawrence Chamber Orchestra. Dr. Elisha regularly gives master classes, workshops and residencies throughout the United States, including his fun-loving and innovative "Mr. Cello Stories" program for audiences of all ages. Elisha frequently presents workshops, teaches and performs at national and international festivals, conferences and summer music programs, including the Summit Music Festival, Sunflower Music Festival, Washington Square Music Festival, Charleston International Music School, Omaha Conservatory Summer Institute, College Music Society and American String Teachers National Conference. Elisha is co-founder and cellist of the Elaris Duo, with violinist Larisa Elisha. As a recording artist, Elisha is heard on a Grammy-nominated Musical Heritage Society recording of New England piano trios, *Yale Cellos of Aldo Parisot on Delos* and *Duo Virtuoso* on MSR-Classics. Just released at MSR-Classics, *DUO VIRTUOSO II – Works for Violin and Cello* by Honegger, Ravel and Schulhoff, has received high praise in reviews appearing in *Fanfare Magazine*, *Gramophone American Record Guide* and other leading music publications. Elisha was featured recently in the 2017 September/October issue of *Fanfare Magazine*, and winner of the Global Music Awards in the "Duo and New Release Category" for *DUO VIRTUOSO II*.