This concert is made possible in part through the generous support of Judith Rosenberg Hoffberger '54 and the Henry and Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Foundation.

A special "Thank You" to the President's Office for the reception.

The next concert in the Spring Concert Series: Music at Bennington will present A Solo Guitar Concert by John Arnold, on Friday, March 21, 1997, 8 p.m., Deane Carriage Barn.

MUSIC AT BENNINGTON PRESENTS...

VIVIAN FINE
THE FLICKER for solo flute
and MADRIGALI SPIRITUALI for trumpet and string quartet

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG
STRING QUARTET NO. 2 with Soprano

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1997
8:00 P.M.
DEANE CARRIAGE BARN
WELCOME: Marianne Finckel

The Flicker for Solo Flute (1973)  
Vivian Fine  
(b.1913)

Alison Hale, flute

Madrigali Spirituali (1989)  
Vivian Fine

for Trumpet and String Quartet

Hibernal String Quartet
Rolf Schulte, Andrea Schultz, violins
Masako Yanagita, viola - Michael Finckel, cello
Ron Anderson, trumpet

A brief introduction to Schoenberg’s work will be presented by: Stephen Siegel, composer-in-residence

String Quartet No. 2  
Arnold Schoenberg
with Soprano Op. 10, F#minor (1907)  
(1874-1951)

1) Mässis
2) Sehr rasch
3) Langsam  
(Litanei Stefan George)
4) Sehr langsamer  
(Enstrüktion Stefan George)

Ida Faiella, soprano  
Hibernal String Quartet
Rolf Schulte, Andrea Schultz, violins
Masako Yanagita, viola - Michael Finckel, cello

About the Composer...

Vivian Fine, b.1913 in Chicago, Illinois is an American composer and pianist. She became a scholarship piano student at the Chicago Musical College when only five years old. Later she studied the piano with Alexander Scriabin's pupil Djane Lavoie-Herz and harmony and composition with Ruth Crawford and Adolf Weidig. After moving to New York in 1931 she began to perform professionally. Later she studied the piano with Abby Whiteside and composition with Roger Sessions.

Fine's early compositions are in a stern dissonant, mostly contrapuntal idiom which later turned markedly milder, almost diatonic (The Race of Life and Concertante for piano and orchestra). Soon, however, she returned to her dissonant style, although now less forbidding and with a wider expressive range, including a delightful sense of humour, as is evident in A Guide to the Life Expectancy of a Rose, an operatic setting of an article from the gardening page of a newspaper. Works such as Paeon and Missa brevis employ free, multilinear textures.

For several years Fine was a composer and accompanist for modern dance groups led by Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman and Hanya Holm. In addition to composing she has taught at New York University (1945-8), the Juilliard School (1948), and Bennington College, Vermont (1964-88). She was one of the founders of the ACA, serving as its vice-president from 1961 to 1965. She was also music director of the Rothschild Foundation (1953-60). Her honours include the Dollard Award (1966), a Ford Foundation grant (1970), an award from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters (1979), a Guggenheim Fellowship (1980), and grants from the Martha Baird Rockefeller and Alice B. Ditson foundations (1981). Among her many commissioned works are the ballet Alcestis (Martha Graham), Drama for Orchestra (San Francisco Symphony Orchestra), and the Piano Trio (Mincourt Trio). Her recorded works include a suite form Alcestis, Concertante for piano and orchestra, Missa brevis, Momenti, Paeon, Brass Quartet, and Sinfonia and Fugato, all on the CRI label.
I feel the air from another planet.
Through the darkness pale the visions
That smiled upon me just before.
And trees and roads I knew and loved
Dim in memory, and you shining,
Beloved shadow - caller of my grief -
Are now extinguished in lower depths
So that, after the warring passions, you are
to behold with pious shivers.
I lose myself in sound, circling, weaving
with bottomless gratitude and unnamed praise
submitting without desire to the big breath of being.
I am overcome by impetuous wailing
In ecstasy of sanctification where fervent cries
by praying women prone in dust implore:
Then I see fragrant vapors lifting
in a vast, clear and sunlit expanse
That stretches among the farthest mountain peaks
The ground beneath my feet, white and soft like whey, shakes, gently.
I climb across frightful gorges.
I feel how beyond the last clouds
I swim in a sea of crystal glowing—
I am but a spark of the holy fire
(I am) But a droning of the holy voice.

Translations by: Rolf Schulte
Chamber Music (Continued)

Fantasy (vc, pf) 1962
Dreamscape (3 fl, vc, pf, perc) 1964
Concertino (pf and perc. ensemble) 1965
Chamber Concerto (solo vc, ob, vn, va, vc, db, pf) 1966
Quintet (Str. trio, tpt, harp) 1967
Missa Brevis (4 celli, mezzo-soprano soundtrack) 1972
1866 Meeting for Equal Rights (singers, 3 conductors) 1976
Brass Quartet (2 tpt, hn, b trbn) 1978
Lieder (va, pf) 1979
For a bust of Erik Satie (sop, contralto, narrator, fl, hn, trt, vc, db, trbn) 1979
Nightingales - motet (fl, ob, vn, 2 va, db) 1979
Music for Flute, Oboe and Violoncello 1980
Pianoforte trio 1980
Quintet (ob, cl, vn, vc, pf) 1985
Quartet for Brass (2 trt, hn, b. trbn) 1985
Emily's Images (fl, pf) 1987
Ma's in Orbit - the 30's revisited (pf, vn, vc, perc.) 1987
Victorian Songs (high vce, cl, fl, vn, va, vc) 1988
Madrigali Spirituali (trt, str. qt.) 1989

Solo Instrument

Solo for Oboe 1929
4 Polyphonic Pianoforte Pieces 1931-2
Music for Study (pf) 1938-41
5 Preludes (pf) 1939-41
Suite in E flat (pf) 1940
Rhapsody on a Russian Folk Song (pf) 1944
Chaconne (pf) 1947
Solo #2 for Oboe 1949
Melos (vc or db) 1964
Song of Persephone (vla) 1964
Movement for Solo Flute 1973
The Flicker (fl) (arr. for pf. rt-hand) 1973
Discourse of Goatherds (trbn) 1989
Momenti (pf)
Pizzicato Fanfare (vc) 1986
Toccatas and Arias for Harpsichord 1990

Choral
Paen for narrator/singer (womens chorus and brass ensemble) 1969
"My Sledge and Hammer Ly Reclined" (chorus, brass, perc, strings)

TEXTS
by Stefan George for the third and fourth movements of Schoenberg's String Quartet No. 2, with soprano, op. 10 F# minor

PISANY

Dark is the sadness that envelops me.
(Once) again, Lord, I enter into thy house
Long was the journey, feeble are the limbs,
Hollow are the vessels, full only the pain.
Thirsting tongue longs for (the) wine.
Hard was the fight, numb is my arm.
Grant thou a rest to faltering feet,
Feed the hungry, break thy bread!
Faint is my breath, calling out for dream.
Hollow are the hands, feverish my mouth.
Lend thy coolness, quench the fires,
Extinguish all hope. Send forth thy light!
Embers still glow openly in the heart,
In innermost depths still wakes a scream.
Kill all the longing, close the wound!
Take from me the loving, give me thy bliss!