Blurb for the program:

Ekstasis is celebrating Rachmaninoff's 150's birth year with the grand cello and piano sonata, op. 19. Rachmaninoff is known for his piano concerti, and in this master work, we hear orchestral writing on a smaller scale, displaying multiple emotions from quiet desperation to a great revelation of love and joy. We will also the sonata by Croatian late-Romantic composer, Dora Pejačević. This stirring and epic piece, one of her last works before her untimely death, may become a standard in our literature. Great female Czech composer, Vítězslava Kaprálová died at aged 25 (even younger than Pejačević). She left us a remarkable short piece, *Ritournelle*, full of scampering mischief. We will begin the program with a wonderful early work by Prokofiev. His *Ballade* reveals intensely dark and mysterious characters, surrounding the moment of hope and elation in the middle of the work.

Sergei Prokofiev *Ballade* in C minor, op. 15 (12 mins)

Allegro

Dora PejačevićSonata in E minor, op. 35

  I. Allegro moderato (8 mins)

  II. Scherzo. Allegro (7 mins)

III. Adagio sostenuto (7 mins)

IV. Allegro comodo (7 mins)

Intermission

Vítězslava Kaprálová *Ritournelle*, op. 25 (4 mins)

Sergei Rachmaninoff Sonata in G minor, op. 19

I. Lento: Allegro moderato (9 mins)

II. Allegro scherzando (6 mins)

  III. Andante (5 mins)

IV. Allegro mosso (8 mins)