

# International Community Engagement Program 2009 Mongolia TOUR REPORT

3 March 2010

MUSIC SHARING

The Fourth International Community Engagement Program (ICEP) took place between 18 and 28 December 2009 in Mongolia (following rehearsals in Japan between 14 and 17 December 2009).

### Concept:

The International Community Engagement Program has several goals:

- to offer children, especially those in difficult circumstances, the opportunity to experience the beauty and the treasure of music;

- to give the participating young musicians an opportunity to broaden their horizons, especially with regard to community engagement;

- to promote international exchange, not only between Japan and the target country but also between the home countries of the participating artists and the target country;

- to inspire cultural understanding and establish friendships with the goal of creating a more peaceful world.

ICEP sent a string quartet to Vietnam in 2006, Cambodia in 2007 and Indonesia in 2008. In December 2009, an ICEP quartet visited Mongolia, where it gave performances at schools, hospitals, and other institutions.

The quartet consisted of Midori and three young musicians selected through auditions.

### Participating Artists:

Midori Goto, Violin Sini Simonen, Violin Jinsun Hong, Viola Peter Myers, Cello \*Please see their bios on pages 22&23

Mongolian Students who participated in the ICEP in Ulan Bator on 25 December:

G. Tamer, Violin (Age:16) Kh. Sanchir, Violin (Age:15) O. Dulbold, Viola (Age:15) Z. Nomin, Cello (Age: 16)



Photo: T.Oda

### The ICEP 2009 Mongolia was presented by Music Sharing

With the cooperation of: Embassy of Japan in Mongolia Sponsored by: Kikkoman, Kao, INPEX, MOECO, ANA, Hayashibara Foundation Subsidized by: Japan Foundation, Asian Cultural Council Special support from: Embassy of the United States of America in Mongolia With support from: Mongolian State Philharmonic

## Schedule

Date	Time	Venues
12/14		Arrival in Japan
12/15~12/17		Rehearsal
12/18		Arrival in Ulan Bator, Mongolia
12/19	9:00	Rehearsal
	11:00	Lecture 1: Flower Hotel
	14:00	Lecture2: Art Council of Mongolia
12/20	9:30	Visit concert 1: Orphanage
	11:30	Visit concert 2: Mongeni Complex School
	13:00	Visit Mongolian cultural sites (National Museum of Mongolia and others)
12/21	11:00	Visit concert 3: Golomt Complex School
	14:00	Visit concert 4: NGO "We are The Children of Sun"
12/22	10:00	Visit concert 5: No.116 School for the Blind
	14:00	Visit concert 6: No.25 Nursing Care School for Children with Disabilities
	18:00	Concert: Japanese Ambassador's Official Residence in Mongolia
12/23	9:30	Visit concert 7: No.84 School
	11:30	Visit concert 8: No.97 School
	15:00	Visit concert 9: National Rehabilitation Center
	18:00	Welcome Reception & Concert: U.S. Ambassador's Official Residence in Mongolia
12/24	9:30	Visit concert 10: Maternal & Child Health Research Center, Mongolia
	11:30	Visit Music and Dance College of Mongolia, Coach student quartet
	17:00	Concert: Music and Dance College of Mongolia
12/25	9:30	Visit concert 11: Special Kindergarten No.10 for Children with Spastic Palsy
	11:30	Visit concert 12: No. 23 School
	15:00	Visit concert 13: Education Center
12/26	10:00	Cultural exchanges: Matouqin (Morin Khuur) Traditional Music Ensemble
	18:00	Concert : The Mongolian State Philharmonic
12/27	11:00	Visit concert 14: Seto Gemji Complex School $\rightarrow$ Cancelled due to bad weather
	p.m.	Visit Mongolian cultural sites
12/28		Leaving Ulan Bator for Tokyo

Accommodation: 12/14 -17 Facilities of Hayashibara Foundation (Yokohama, Japan) 12/18-27 Flower Hotel (Ulan Bator, Mongolia)

### Activities in Mongolia

### Visit Concert 1 National Orphanage (Ulan Bator, Bayangol District)

This orphanage was founded 32 years ago. It accommodates 260 children from two years old to 18. Every child is a member of a performance group such as wind-instrument music, dancing or traditional music and all the children enjoy music. Most of the participants were elementary school children. They looked cheerful and energetic.

There are many homeless orphans called manhole children in Mongolia. Homeless orphans sleep inside manholes in winter as the temperature drops to minus 30 degrees Celsius in Mongolia.



Date Venue Total Audience	<ul> <li>20 December 9:30~10:50</li> <li>National Orphanage, Room for multipurpose uses</li> <li>About 40</li> </ul>
Program	<ul> <li>ICEP quartet members introduce themselves</li> <li>A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1st movt.</li> <li>Instruments experience session</li> <li>B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia</li> <li>D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2<sup>nd</sup> movt.</li> <li>K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana</li> <li>F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>W.A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>***</li> <li>Welcome performance by children (Matouqin/Mongolian traditional instrument, traditional dance)</li> <li>Q&amp;A</li> </ul>





### Visit Concert 2 Mongeni Complex School (Ulan Bator, Bayangol District)

A "Complex School" is a school that integrates the elementary, junior high and high school. This school celebrates its  $20^{\text{th}}$  anniversary in 2010. It holds about 1,500 students.

The school has offered a Japanese class since its founding. The students choose three of five languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean and Russian) to study. As part of many exchange programs students have been sent to high schools and universities in Japan.



: 20 December 11:30~12:40	
: Mongeni Complex School, Hall	
: About 200	
: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves	
A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.	
Instruments experience session	
D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.	
B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia	
F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt.	
K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana	
W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 4th movt.	
Welcome performances by students (violin solo, dance, Matouqin trio and Acrobats) Q&A	

After the concert, the quartet visited the traditional house of a student called "Ger". Over a traditional light meal, they asked the family about their life and about the Mongolian system of education.





### Visit Concert 3 Golomt Complex School (Ulan Bator, Nariha District)

Founded in 1937, Golomt Complex School has produced some presidents and other famous alumni. Students study English from the fifth grade to the eleventh. Music is a compulsory subject for the second grade to the ninth.

Golomt Complex School is located in a suburban district of Ulan Bator. It takes about two hours to reach the school by car from the city center.



Date	: 21 December 11:00~12:10
Venue	: Golomt Complex School, Hall
Total Audience	: About 400
Program	: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.
	Instruments experience session
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia
	F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, $1^{st}$ movt.
	K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana
	W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", $4^{th}$ movt.
	***
	Q&A
	Welcome performance by a male student (vocal solo)
	School introduction by a student



### Visit Concert 4 NGO "We are the Children of Sun" (Ulan Bator, Baganuur District)

Baganuur district is another suburban district, like Nariha. It takes about two hours by car from the city center to reach the institution. Baganuur district is one hour's drive from Nariha district. There have previously been few cultural events for children in the suburbs.

The local NGO, "We are the Children of Sun", invited orphans and children with disabilities in Baganuur district to the concert.



Baganuur district Culture center

Date	: 21 December 15:00~16:00
Venue	: Baganuur district, Culture Center
Total Audience	: About 300
Program	: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt.
	Instruments experience session
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia
	F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt.
	K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana
	W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1 <sup>st</sup> movt.
	***
	Welcome performances by children (vocal solo, Yoochin/Mongolian traditional
	instrument, and dance)
	Q&A





### Visit Concert 5 No.116 School for the Blind (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District)

There are 85 students from six years old to 24.

Two alumni who studied in Russia teach music in this school.

The ICEP quartet changed the order of the program, moving the Instruments experience session from after the first piece to midway through the program. This helped to maintain the children's attention spans and worked so well that the revised program order was used in all the subsequent Visit Concerts.



Date Venue Total Audience	<ul> <li>22 December 10:00~11:30</li> <li>No.116 School for the Blind, Gymnasium</li> <li>About 100</li> </ul>
Program	<ul> <li>ICEP quartet members introduce themselves <ul> <li>A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2<sup>nd</sup> movt.</li> <li>B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marciaInstruments experience session</li> </ul> </li> <li>K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana <ul> <li>F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Welcome performance by students (chorus) <ul> <li>Q&amp;A</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



### Visit Concert 6 No.25 Nursing Care School (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District)

This is a school for children with disabilities. There are 200 students from six years old to 18 with cerebral paralysis or physical disabilities.



Date Venue Total Audience	<ul> <li>22 December 14:00~15:15</li> <li>No.25 Nursing Care School, Gymnasium</li> <li>About 200</li> </ul>
Program	<ul> <li>ICEP quartet members introduce themselves <ul> <li>A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 2<sup>nd</sup> movt.</li> <li>D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2<sup>nd</sup> movt.</li> <li>B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia</li> <li>Instruments experience session</li> <li>K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana</li> <li>F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 4<sup>th</sup> movt.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Welcome performance by students (group singing and traditional dance)</li> <li>Q&amp;A</li> </ul>





### Concert Japanese Ambassador's Official Residence at Mongolia (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District)

Date	: 22 December 18:00~20:00
Venue	: Japanese Ambassador's Official Residence in Mongolia
Total Audience	: About 40

Program

A.Dvořák / String Quartet Movement F Major B. 120
A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 3<sup>rd</sup> movt.
W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> movts.
K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana

The quartet was invited to dinner after the concert.



### Visit Concert 7 No.84 School (Ulan Bator, Bayanzurkh District)

There are 2,500 students from six years old to 18. This school focuses on the study of Japanese and on music education. The participants were chosen from students of the fifth, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh grades.



Date	: 23 December 9:30~10:40
Venue	: No.84 School, Hall
Total Audience	: About 250

Program	: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt.
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia
	Instruments experience session
	K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana
	F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt.
	W.A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 4 <sup>th</sup> movt.
	***
	Welcome performance by students (Song, Matouqin ensemble, traditional dance)
	Q&A



#### Visit Concert 8 No.97 School (Ulan Bator, Bayanzurkh District)

There are 2,225 students from six years old to 18. The school focuses on language education.

The social worker in this school has deep knowledge of community engagement activities regarding education, and worked hard to support MUSIC SHARING's visit. The teachers, who selected the students to attend the ICEP activities, as there was not space for all to attend, specifically chose the least affluent students who would not otherwise have an opportunity to attend a cultural event.



Date	: 23 December $11:30 \sim 12:40$
Venue	: No.97 School Gymnasium
Total Audience	: About 200
Program	: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, $1^{st}$ movt.
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia
	Instruments experience session
	K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana
	F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1st movt.
	W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 4 <sup>th</sup> movt.
	***
	Welcome performance by students (Matouqin, acrobats and others)
	Q&A





### Visit Concert 9 National Rehabilitation Center (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District)

The center produces prosthetic limbs, gives technical guidance and provides information to people with disabilities. There are about 120 students from 16 years old to 24. They learn technology such as making prosthetic limbs, cooking and computer, depending on the level of their disabilities.



wooden mold for shoes Photo:

Photo: Kyoko Matsunoki

Date Venue Total Audience	<ul> <li>23 December 15:00~16:30</li> <li>No.116 School for the Blind, Gymnasium</li> <li>About 60</li> </ul>
Program	<ul> <li>ICEP quartet members introduce themselves <ul> <li>A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2<sup>nd</sup> movt.</li> <li>B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia</li> <li>Instruments experience session</li> <li>K.Yamada (Arr. Peter Myers) / Karatachi no Hana</li> <li>F.J. Haydn / String Quartet in C Major, Op. 3, No. 2, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 4<sup>th</sup> movt.</li> <li>***</li> </ul> </li> <li>Welcome performance by students (Yoochin, folk dance and others)</li> <li>Q&amp;A</li> </ul>





Photo: T.Oda

## Welcome Reception & Concert U.S. Ambassador's Official Residence in Mongolia

(Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar Dist.)

Date	: 23 December 17:00~20:30
Venue	: The American Ambassador's Official Residence in Mongolia
Total Audience	: About 30

Program

: A.Dvořák String Quartet Movement F Major B. 120 A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major

The quartet was invited to reception after the concert.



### Visit Concert 10 Maternal & Child Health Research Center, Mongolia (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District)

In this center, there are children suffering from leukemia, congenital cardiac disease, physical disabilities and infectious diseases. There are about 200 children, from infants to 18 year olds. The concerts were held in the hallway and in a doctor's office.



Date Venue	<ul> <li>: 24 December 9:45~11:00</li> <li>: Three places in the hospital</li> </ul>
Total Audience	: About 110
Program	<ul> <li>ICEP quartet members introduce themselves</li> <li>A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1<sup>st</sup> movt.</li> <li>B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia</li> <li>Explanation of instruments</li> <li>W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 4<sup>th</sup> movt.</li> <li>***</li> <li>Q&amp;A</li> </ul>



#### Music and Dance College of Mongolia (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District) Concert

The college accommodates 580 students from elementary to high school age and 270 university students. The students from rural areas live in a dormitory.

From elementary to high school, students study both ordinary subjects and major subjects of music and dance.

The students majoring in strings and piano start to take lessons from the first grade. The students majoring in wind instruments, traditional instruments or dance start to take the specialized instruction from the sixth grade.

There are a lot of students who understand/speak Russian since about 30 students go to study to Russia every year.



Photo: T.Oda

Date	: 24 December 11:30~20:30
Venue	: Music and Dance College of Mongolia, Hall and others
Total Audience	: About 200
Program	: Tour the school
	Welcome performance of Matouqin
	School introduction by Principal
	Welcome performance by the students
	Piano solo
	Violin solo
	Baritone solo
	Matouqin quartet
	Traditional dance
	Ensemble of traditional instruments
	Master Class
	ICEP quartet gave a master class to a quartet selected from the students of the Music
	and Dance College of Mongolia.
	Participating Students:
	Violin <sup>:</sup> G. Tamir, Kh. Sanchir
	Viola: O. Dulbold
	Cello: Z. Nomin
	They played:
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110
	Joint practice (ICEP quartet & student quartet) for the Visit Concerts
	planned for the following day:
	B. Britten / Simple Symphony, 4 <sup>th</sup> movt.

### Joint Concert

< ICEP quartet >

A. Dvořák / String Quartet Movement F Major B. 120

A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major,  $1^{st}$  movt.

W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1st & 4th movt. < Student quartet >

D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110,  $2^{\rm nd}$  movt. <String Ensemble>

performance by students majoring in string music



Photo: T.Oda

### Visit Concert 11 Special Kindergarten No.10 for Children with Spastic Palsy (Ulan Bator)

This institution started as a kindergarten but now accepts primary and secondary students as well. Most, but not all, of the children have disabilities.

The ICEP quartet was accompanied all day by the student quartet from the Music and Dance College. They performed at the concert and played with the ICEP quartet. This was their first outreach activity.



Photo: T.Oda

Date	: 25 December 9:30~10:30
Venue	: Special Kindergarten No.10 for Children with Spastic Palsy, Playroom
Total Audience	: About 50
Program	: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves
	W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1 <sup>st</sup> movt. (ICEP quartet)
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1 <sup>st</sup> movt. (ICEP quartet)
	Instruments experience session
	Student quartet introduce themselves
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.(Student quartet)
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia (ICEP quartet)
	B. Britten / Simple Symphony, 4 <sup>th</sup> movt.(ICEP quartet & Student quartet) ***
	Welcome performance by a child (song)





### Visit Concert 12 No.23 School (Ulan Bator)

This school focuses on language study. Many students have lived in foreign countries and some have parents of western nationality.



Date	: 25 December 11:30~12:30
Venue	No.23 School, Hall
Total Audience	: About 130
Program	: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves
	W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", $1^{st}$ movt.
	(ICEP quartet)
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, $1^{st}$ movt. (ICEP quartet)
	Instruments experience session
	Student quartet members introduce themselves
	D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2 <sup>nd</sup> movt.(Student quartet)
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia (ICEP quartet)
	B. Britten / Simple Symphony, 4 <sup>th</sup> movt. (ICEP quartet & student quartet)
	***
	School introduction by a student
	Welcome performances by students (matouqin)
	Q & A





### Visit Concert 13 Education Center (Ulan Bator, Bayangol District)

This institution was established to educate children who have dropped out of school for some reason, such as economic problems in their family or troubles with their friends and teachers. The building is so small that it does not appear to be a school. The students are learning together without regard to their grade.



Date	: 25 December 15:00~16:00
Venue	: Education Center
Total Audience	: About 40
Program	<ul> <li>: ICEP quartet members introduce themselves</li> <li>W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1<sup>st</sup> movt. (ICEP quartet)</li> <li>A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major, 1<sup>st</sup> movt. (ICEP quartet)</li> <li>Instruments experience session</li> <li>Student quartet members introduce themselves</li> <li>D. Shostakovich / String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, 2<sup>nd</sup> movt. (Student quartet)</li> <li>B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia (ICEP quartet)</li> <li>B. Britten / Simple Symphony, 4<sup>th</sup> movt. (ICEP quartet &amp; Student quartet)</li> <li>***</li> <li>School introduction by a student</li> <li>Q&amp;A</li> <li>Welcome performance by the students (traditional dance, hoomii - throat singing tradition and others)</li> </ul>





### Concert The Mongolian State Philharmonic (Ulan Bator, Sukhbaatar District)

The Mongolian State Philharmonic consists of a symphony orchestra and a matouqin orchestra, the Morin Khuur Traditional Music Ensemble, which has 50 musicians. At the time of cultural exchange between the ICEP quartet and Morin Khuur Traditional Music Ensemble, the ICEP quartet was given explanations of and coaching in the matouqin by professional players.



Date	: 26 December 15:00~16:00
Venue	: The Mongolian State Philharmonic Hall
Total Audience	: About 250
Program	Cultural exchange with Morin Khuur Traditional Music Ensemble
	< Morin Khuur Traditional Music Ensemble >
	Percussion ensemble
	Matouqin ensemble and long song
	Hoomii
	Matouqin quartet
	Ensemble
	<icep quartet=""></icep>
	B. Britten / String Quartet Alla marcia
	W. A. Mozart / String Quartet No. 19 in C Major, K.465 "Dissonance", 1st & 4th
	movts.
	Mongolian traditional instruments experience session (matouqin and others)
	Concert
	Address by Mr. Takuo Kidokoro, Ambassador of Japan in Mongolia
	<icep quartet=""></icep>
	A. Borodin / String Quartet No. 2 in D Major
	<the mongolian="" philharmonic="" state=""></the>
	F. Mendelssohn / "Fingal's Cave", Overture in B Minor, Op.26
	W.A. Mozart / The Marriage of Figaro, and others





Photo: T.Oda

### Overview of ICEP 2009 Mongolia

With its visit to Mongolia in 2009, the ICEP quartet visited the northern part of Asia for the first time. 2009 marked the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Exchange of Notes for promotion of cultural exchange between Japan and Mongolia.

It was really meaningful for the ICEP quartet to observe the life of children who live in the different environment from Southeast Asia and to have a musical exchange with them.

Because of the weather conditions in Mongolia in December, we decided to focus our activities on Ulan Bator. In the center of Ulan Bator, there were many tall buildings and apartments. We didn't see children begging in Ulan Bator; however, we saw many uncovered manholes. "Manhole Children" and "Manhole Adults" have become a serious problem in Mongolia.

### Profile

### Midori, Violin



Photo: Timothy Greenfield-Sanders

Since her debut at the age of 11 with the New York Philharmonic over 27 years ago, the violinist Midori has established a record of achievement that sets her apart as a master musician, an innovator, and a champion of the developmental potential of children. Named a Messenger of Peace by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2007, she has created a new model for young artists who seek to balance the joys and demands of a performing career at the highest level with a hands-on investment in the power of music to change lives.

In 1992 Midori founded Midori & Friends, a non-profit organization in New York, which brings music education programs to thousands of underprivileged children each year. Two other organizations, Music Sharing (based in Japan), and Partners in Performance (based in the US),

also bring music into the lives of people who might not otherwise have involvement with the arts. Midori's commitment to community collaboration and outreach extends beyond these foundations to her work with young violinists in master classes all over the world, to her Orchestra Residencies Program, and to her positions as Jascha Heifetz Chair and Chair of the Strings Department at USC's Thornton School of Music.

For more information about Midori, visit <u>www.GoToMidori.com</u>.

### Sini Simonen, violin



Photo: Stu Eira

The Finnish violinist Sini Simonen currently studies at the Sibelius Academy and the Hannover Music Academy with Lara Lev. Ms. Simonen won 1st prize in the Cremona International Solo Violin Competition and 2nd prize in the Carl Flesch International Violin Competition in 2008. She also reached the final round of the prestigious International Jean Sibelius Violin Competition in 2005.

Ms. Simonen has played recitals in various European countries and has appeared as a soloist with major Nordic symphony orchestras such as the Finnish Radio Orchestra and the Helsinki Philharmonic. Ms. Simonen plays a Giovanni Battista Guadagnini instrument owned by the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

#### Jinsun Hong, Viola



Photo: Byungho Lee

#### Peter Myers, cello



Photo: Robert George

Jinsun Hong, from Seoul, entered The Curtis Institute of Music in 2007 and studies with Misha Amory.

Ms. Hong performed as a soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine in 2001 and Ola Viola Sound in Korea in 2002. She has also performed with the Seoul Arts High School Symphony Orchestra (principal viola) at the New York Youth Orchestra Festival at Carnegie Hall in 2004. She has attended the Taos Music festival, Beijing and Busan international music festivals. Ms. Hong has won many awards and honors, including LISMA International Music competition. As the young artist of the KUMHO cultural music foundation, she will have a recital in next year in Korea.

Cellist Peter Myers is pursuing his Master's degree with Ralph Kirshbaum at the University of Southern California, and received his Bachelor's degree at the Colburn Conservatory under the tutelage of Ronald Leonard.

Mr. Myers has participated in the Marlboro Music Festival, and has performed with such musicians as Richard Goode, Arnold Steinhardt, and Michael Tree. He is the cellist of the Saguaro Piano Trio, which won Second Prize in the 2008 Osaka International Chamber Music Competition. Mr. Myers is also a composer; he was recently commissioned by violist Kim Kashkashian to write a work for viola and percussion.



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