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# Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection

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Saturday, February 4th, 2006, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

- Vladimir Ptushkin (b.1949). Concerto Buffo (1996), 13:50. Grigori Kuperman, violin, Vladimir Ptushkin, piano, National Philharmonic of Ukraine, Nikolai Diadura. Live performance
- Ptushkin. Cello Concerto No. 2 (1985), 20:13. Igor Gavrysh, cello, National Philharmonic of Ukraine, Igor Palkin. Live performance
- Interview with [Gavriel Heine](#), Chief Conductor, Kharkov Symphony Orchestra

Vladimir Ptushkin is an award-winning composer in his native Ukraine, is well known throughout Europe, and is beginning to be heard in the United States. He is also a sought-after pianist, and was the Music Director and pianist for the Russian Dramatic Theater “Pushkin” in Kharkov for 30 years. He studied piano and composition at the Kharkov State Conservatory (renamed University of the Arts), and is now Professor of Composition there.

The two works today show two sides of Ptushkin’s composing, the light and the tragic. In three continuous movements, the *Concerto Buffo*, highlights the contrasts between the solo violin and piano. He weaves elements of jazz and French *chanson* throughout the concerto, as individual wind and string groups have their say. It’s gorgeously written, as is the *Cello Concerto No. 2*, dedicated to the soloist here, Igor Gavrysh. This is a concerto in the grand style, lyric and keeping mostly to one theme for its one movement. We hear crying motifs that come out of the Slavic tradition in this big, neo-romantic work for large orchestra. Its tragedy is beautifully transformed at the end with the voices of celesta and harp.

Gavriel Heine is in his third season as Chief Conductor of the Kharkov Symphony Orchestra, Ukraine, and Music Director of the Kharkov Chamber Orchestra. Born in New Jersey, he was the first American to receive a combined B.Mus. and M.Mus. from the Moscow Conservatory, where he majored in cello. Since 2001, when he first guest-conducted the KSO, Heine has enthralled audiences and critics alike with his expressive and highly charged performances. He studied conducting at the St. Petersburg State Conservatory under Ilya Musin, noted teacher of Yuri Temirkanov, Valery Gergiev, and Semyon Bychkov. Heine also has a master’s in Instrumental Conducting from Indiana University. He has guest-conducted in North America, Europe, and Asia, and is fluent in Russian.

Heine has overhauled the KSO’s repertoire, conducting numerous local premieres, including the music of Ptushkin, and has revived works long unheard in Kharkov. He recently spent a month and a half touring Spain with both the KSO and the Kharkov Chamber Orchestra, where they played multiple programs to sold-out audiences.

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Hosted by [Kile Smith](#), Curator of the Fleisher Collection, and [Jack Moore](#), Program Director of WRTI. In *Discoveries from the Fleisher Collection* we uncover the unknown, rediscover the little-known, and take a fresh look at some of the remarkable treasures housed in the Fleisher Collection of Orchestral Music in the [Free Library of Philadelphia](#). The Fleisher Collection is the largest lending library of orchestral performance material in the world. For recording details, please go to our [web page](#). For a detailed list of all our shows, please visit our [archives](#).