OPUS MUSICALE
A Voyage from the Panama Canal to the Southern Caribbean
Aboard the Five-Star Le Boréal
April 6 – 14, 2016

With Special Musical Performances by
WU HAN, PAUL HUANG,
RICHARD O’NEILL & NICHOLAS CANELLAKIS

SPECIAL AIRFARE SAVINGS
See Inside
Dear Alumnae and Friends,

Imagine a glorious spring voyage that combines some of the loveliest destinations in the southern Caribbean with private performances of exquisite classical music in historic locations ashore. That is what we have created in this distinctive musical odyssey. Last year I had the pleasure of sailing on a small ship voyage, accompanied by musicians from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. The intimacy of the concerts, combined with the nearly breathtaking talent of the performing artists, was a transforming experience.

With the trip described in these pages, we are pleased to invite Smith Alumnae to partake in an equally delightful and transporting travel experience. Distinguished musicians from Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, including co-artistic director and pianist Wu Han, will regale Smith Alumnae and fellow travelers with brilliantly-curated concerts held aboard ship and at historical locations ashore. Additionally, Alan Fletcher, composer and President and CEO of the Aspen Music Festival and School, will share with us his insights into the contemporary classical music scene.

But what truly sets this voyage apart from others is that the performing artists and lecturer are fellow travelers. They dine with you and engage in informal conversation. They will share the experience of hiking in the coral San Blas Islands, exploring the UNESCO World Heritage city center of Cartagena, observing the copious tropical fish, dolphins, and other marine life that glide through the pristine turquoise waters, and discovering the museums and colonial forts of Curacao. The natural beauty and historical import of the places visited are more than enough to recommend this voyage. When combined with exclusive access to performances by world-class musicians, it is irresistible.

In addition, you will enjoy the relaxed and gracious elegance of our five-star cruise ship *Le Boréal*, one of the most beautifully conceived and technologically sophisticated small ships afloat. Next spring, join fellow Smith Alumnae as we enjoy incomparable music while exploring the hidden, unspoiled jewels of the southern Caribbean.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations
Co-artistic director of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, pianist Wu Han ranks among the most esteemed and influential classical musicians in the world today. She has appeared at many of the world’s most prestigious venues, and performs extensively as duo partner with cellist David Finckel, with whom she launched ArtistLed, classical music’s first musician-directed and Internet-based recording company. She is co-founder and co-artistic director of Music@Menlo Chamber Music Festival and Institute; artistic director for Chamber Music Today in Seoul, Korea; and, in 2013, inaugurated a special chamber music program at Aspen Music Festival and School.

Taiwanese-born violinist Paul Huang has been hailed for his appearances as soloist and recitalist appearing with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s, the Bilbao Symphony, the Budapest Dohnányi Symphony, the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional in Mexico City, and the National Taiwan Symphony, among others. A recipient of a 2015 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Mr. Huang was also the winner of the 2011 Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

Violist Richard O’Neill is an Emmy Award winner, two-time Grammy nominee, and Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient. He has appeared as soloist with the London, Los Angeles, Seoul, and Euro-Asian Philharmonics; the BBC, KBS, and Korean Symphonies; the Moscow, Vienna, and Württemburg Chamber Orchestras; and Alte Musik Köln. A Universal/DG recording artist, he has made eight solo albums that have sold more than 150,000 copies.

Nicholas Canellakis has become one of the most sought-after and innovative cellists of his generation. He performs regularly with the Chamber Music Society in Alice Tully Hall and on tour, and is a former member of CMS Two. A frequent performer at Bargemusic in New York City, he has also been a guest artist at many of the world’s leading music festivals, including Santa Fe, La Jolla, Music@Menlo, Ravinia, Verbier, and Aspen.

Alan Fletcher, one of this country’s most accomplished music administrators and respected composers, was educated at Princeton and at Juilliard. In 1985, he was appointed to the faculty of the New England Conservatory of Music, where he served as Dean, Provost, and Senior Vice President. From 2000 to 2006, he was Professor of Music at Carnegie Mellon University, after which he assumed his current position as President and CEO of the Aspen Music Festival and School. Fletcher, who lectures widely and serves on many boards, panels, and juries, has won numerous composing awards and received commissions from the National Dance Institute, the Pittsburgh Symphony, New York Camerata, and other noted organizations.
Wednesday, April 6, 2016

USA | PANAMA CITY, PANAMA
Fly from the U.S. to Panama City, Panama. Founded in 1519 by the Spanish as their first city on the Pacific coast of the Americas, Panama City is strategically sited near the Pacific end of the Panama Canal. Transfer to the Hotel Intercontinental Miramar for overnight.

Thursday, April 7

PANAMA CITY | PANAMA CANAL | COLON | EMBARK
Leave Panama City in the morning to drive along the famed Panama Canal. Stop at the Miraflores Locks Visitor Center, where you can enjoy a front row seat as massive ships pass through the lock chambers. In the afternoon, explore Soberania National Park, a pristine rain forest along the eastern side of the canal. A boat ride along the Chagres River crosses the Canal to Monkey Island and the surrounding Gamboa Reserve—wildlife habitat of nearly 500 species of birds, Howler and Capuchin Monkeys. Continue to Colon to embark Le Boréal and set sail. (B, L, D)

Friday, April 8

SAN BLAS ISLANDS
This archipelago consisting of over 370 islands and cays is known for its natural beauty, colorful reefs, and for the hospitality of the indigenous Kuna people. Enjoy a nature hike with stunning seascape views and visit a Kuna village. (B, L, D)

Saturday, April 9

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA
Founded in 1533, Cartagena served as the major trading port for the conquistadors. Its historic, walled center is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Our walking tour of Cartagena includes the Cathedral, the Fortress of San Felipe, and La Popa monastery. The Guillermo Pineres Botanical Garden, just outside the city, showcases protected local forests, natural springs, and a variety of fauna. Our first concert is at the Teatro Adolfo Mejia. (B, L, D)

Sunday, April 10

AT SEA (B, L, D)

Monday, April 11

WILLEMSTAD, CURACAO
Our exploration of Willemstad begins with a walking tour of Punda, the oldest part of the city, established in 1634. Continue along the picturesque waterfront of Handelskade, with its gables and pastel colors; the Mikve Israel-Emmanuel Synagogue, the oldest synagogue in continuous use in the Western Hemisphere; the Maritime Museum; and the famous “floating market.” Our second concert will be held at the Hotel Avila. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, April 12

LA BLANQUILLA, VENEZUELA
A fan-shaped island built of limestone and sand, the 72-square-mile La Blanquilla is an uninhabited and unspoiled gem of the Caribbean. The remoteness of the island and its shallow reef—noteable for their wealth of rare black coral—make for superb swimming and snorkeling opportunities. On land, look for colorful parrots and other wildlife. Our third concert takes place aboard Le Boréal tonight. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, April 13

ST. GEORGE’S, GRENADA
Grenada, the “Spice Island,” is known for its mountainous beauty and friendly inhabitants. Enjoy a drive through the countryside, blanketed in fields of sugarcane, cocoa, and lime groves. Pass Fort Frederick, pausing to appreciate its panoramic views of the coastline and surrounding rain forest. At a secluded beach near La Sagesse, swim, snorkel, and relax under shady coconut trees. (B, L, D)

Thursday, April 14

CASTRIES, ST. LUCIA | DISEMBARK | USA
Transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT ELIZABETH BIGWOOD AT 413-585-2029 OR 800-225-2029.
LIFE ABOARD
Life aboard the 264-guest Le Boréal is relaxed and refined, capturing the best of the French art of living well. Your comfort and well-being are the special responsibility of the impeccably trained staff, whose discreet yet attentive service has become legendary among seasoned travelers. Our goal is to make you feel as though you are sailing aboard your very own yacht.

REDEFINING REST & RELAXATION
All suites and staterooms face outside and measure from 226 to 581 square feet (including the balcony), and all but eight have a balcony. Features and amenities include a king-size bed or twin beds, mini-bar, safe, individually controlled heat/air-conditioning, flatscreen TV, in-house movies, iPod docking station, wireless Internet access, and telephone. Bathrooms come equipped with a shower (or shower/bathtub), hair dryer, French toiletries, and bathrobes. Laundry services and 24-hour room service are available throughout.

CUISINE
The quality of food, its preparation, and the social experience of a meal are the objects of special care aboard ship. Whether you are enjoying breakfast among friends, a sun-kissed lunch on one of the outside decks, or a delightful dinner in the elegant surroundings of the restaurants, the talented chefs showcase their expertise by bringing out the very best in local flavors. PONANT was selected as an Outstanding Culinary Cruise Line by Saveur magazine in 2014.

RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
The health of our planet, and especially its oceans, is a critical concern for us. We have taken care to certify all of our sister ships as “clean ships,” employing the most eco-friendly technology available today. As environmentally responsible ship operators, we not only comply with existing regulations; we anticipate new ones. We continually seek to share industry best practices on matters ranging from increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to waste treatment and recycling.
FARES PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

- Superior Stateroom: $5,990
- Deluxe Stateroom: $6,990
- Prestige Stateroom - Deck 4: $7,990
- Prestige Stateroom - Deck 5: $7,990
- Prestige Stateroom - Deck 6: $7,990
- Deluxe Suite: $7,990
- Prestige Suite - Deck 5: $8,090
- Prestige Suite - Deck 6: $8,090

Single Occupancy Supplement: Singles are available in the Prestige Stateroom categories at an additional supplement to the per person, double occupancy fares as follows: $3,000 (Prestige Stateroom – Deck 4), $3,200 (Prestige Stateroom – Deck 5), and $3,400 (Prestige Stateroom – Deck 6). Subject to availability.

SPECIAL OFFER – AIRFARE CREDIT
We are pleased to offer an airfare credit of $1,000 per couple ($500 per solo traveler) when you book this cruise by October 31, 2015. This offer cannot be combined with any other offers.
ALL-INCLUSIVE FARES & UNIQUE FEATURES

Our fares are truly all-inclusive. Coupled with the high-quality musical program, we provide a most attractive value.

Included

• 1 night at the Hotel Intercontinental Miramar (or similar) in Panama City
• Cruise aboard the deluxe Le Boréal
• Complete program of tours and excursions ashore
• Airport/hotel/pier transfers and handling of luggage
• All meals aboard ship including early riser’s coffee & pastry, breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner
• Complimentary open bar aboard ship
• Gratuities to shipboard personnel, porters, guides, and drivers
• Port taxes and charges
• Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
• Chamber music concerts by accompanying musicians
• Enrichment program of lectures, discussions, and guided experiences led by onboard expert
• 24-hour room service
• Comprehensive pre-departure materials

Not Included

Airfare; airport taxes; passport and visa fees and/or immigration reciprocity taxes (if applicable); trip cancellation and baggage insurance; medical and repatriation insurance; meals and beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses (such as telephone, Internet, laundry service, hair salon services, à la carte spa treatments, etc.)

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Companie du PONANT, PONANT Group USA, LLC, and PONANT USA, LLC are hereinafter collectively referred to as "PONANT GROUP". Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and PONANT GROUP and the tour's sponsoring organization.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: In order to secure a booking, the guest is required to pay 25% of total cruise price upon confirmation. The final 75% is due no later than 60 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATION, MODIFICATION PENALTIES & REFUNDS: All cancellations or modifications must be in writing. Any and all guests not reporting for departure or prevented from reporting for departure or waiving for any reason whatsoever the benefit of services included in the program cannot claim any refund. PONANT GROUP shall not be required to refund monies to guests who have left the cruise prematurely for any reason, nor shall PONANT GROUP be held responsible for any costs, fees, damages or costs of action which result from the transportation expenses incurred by guest's early departure.

For any deposited or fully paid booking, cancellation penalties will be assessed as noted below. These cancellation penalties are applicable on all services booked with PONANT GROUP.

• From confirmation of booking date up to 91 days prior departure: 10% of full fare
• 90-61 days prior departure: 25% of full fare
• 60-46 days prior departure: 50% of full fare
• 45-31 days prior departure: 75% of full fare
• Less than 30 days prior departure: 100% of full fare.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Passengers shall be responsible for subscribing to cancellation/luggage/assistance/repatriation/medical insurance(s). Insurance information will be sent to you by Smith Travel on receipt of your registration.

ITINERARY: PONANT GROUP reserves the right to withdraw and or cancel a sailing to make changes in the itinerary whenever, in its sole judgment, or in the judgment of the vessel owner or operator, conditions warrant it.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS/LIMIT OF LIABILITY: The passenger agrees that PONANT GROUP acts as an agent and/or trustee for any person, ground and maritime agents and subcontractors, who provide any service forming, or in connection with, any part of the cruise. Transportation services to the port of departure, transfer to the ship, including, as applicable, hotel room and restaurant bookings or guided tours, are performed by independent suppliers who are not employees of PONANT GROUP. In this respect, PONANT GROUP acts only as an agent and shall not be held liable for said services or for the acts or omissions of subcontractors or other contractors.

PONANT GROUP shall not be held liable for bodily injury to, or death of passengers, or for loss of, or damage to luggage or other personal belongings, unless it is proved that the carrier has infringed statutory obligations or that it or one of its employees or agents has committed gross negligence. However, in the event the liability of PONANT GROUP is incurred, such liability is limited (details available upon request). PONANT GROUP shall in any case not be liable for failure of improvement when the same is due to or caused by the fault of the passenger, the unsaleable or unavoidable fault of a third party, unconnected with the provisions of any services to be provided under the contract; general and unforeseeable circumstances beyond the control of PONANT GROUP, act of God, terrorist activities, natural and nuclear disaster, fire, technical problems with transport, closure of ports, strikes and any industrial action, or any other event beyond the control of PONANT GROUP.

Of these programs PONANT GROUP reserves the right within the legal limits of applicable laws to vary the prices if necessary. All variation of the cost of transport, fuel, taxes, duties and visa costs will be passed on within the voyage cost. Additionally, any surcharge levied will be increased to include an amount to cover agent's commission. Any change in fare cannot be imposed less than 60 days prior to departure. For the cruise-only rate, daily surcharge, if any, will be calculated based on: S= fuel variation * x daily consumption **

Ship capacity: ***

Terms & conditions are subject to and are interpreted according to international regulations and concern the transportation of passengers and their luggage from the time of boarding the ship to the moment of disembarking, as well as at ports of departure, destination, or stopover. PONANT GROUP shall incur no liability outside this period at all. Without prejudice to required legal regulations, any actions related either to the interpretation, or execution of this agreement shall be brought before the competent courts of Marseille, France.

PONANT GROUP is not responsible for omissions, printing and/or presentation errors and reserves the right to make corrections as required.

SHIPS' REGISTRY: France

Each participant must sign below:

1/We have read the "Terms & Conditions" section and agree to its terms.

SIGNATURE: ____________________________ DATE: ____________________________

CA Seller of Travel Ref No 2120712-240

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REGISTRATION

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for 25% of the program fare per person as a deposit to hold _______ place(s) on Opus Musicale. I understand that final payment is due sixty (60) days prior to departure.

Please make check payable to: PONANT Cultural Cruises & Expeditions and mail with this registration form to: Smith Travel, Office of Alumniae Relations, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063 Fax: 413-585-2015 Phone: 413-585-2029 or 800-225-2029

Email: alumn trav@smith.edu

☐ AmEx  ☐ Discover

☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard

No: ____________________________ Exp: ____________

3- or 4-Digit Security Code ____________________________

Please select cabin category in order of preference (1st, 2nd & 3rd choice):

___ Superior Stateroom
___ Deluxe Stateroom
___ Prestige Stateroom - Deck 4
___ Prestige Stateroom - Deck 5
___ Prestige Stateroom - Deck 6
___ Deluxe Suite
___ Prestige Suite - Deck 5
___ Prestige Suite - Deck 6

___ Twin Beds  ☐ Double Bed
___ Single Occupancy
☐ Share (cannot be guaranteed)

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No. ____________________________

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms. ______ FIRST LAST

____ ADDRESS

___ CITY/STATE/ZIP

____ TELEPHONE (DAY) (EVENING)

____ EMAIL

Each participant must sign below:

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For reservations or information, please contact Elizabeth Bigwood at 413-585-2029 or 800-225-2029 or alumtrav@smith.edu