ALL-STATE INTENSIVE VIOLIN SEMINAR HOUSTON, SEPTEMBER 18 – OCTOBER 8 ASSIA DULGERSKA, DIRECTOR 216-536-3002, ASSIAD@YAHOO.COM

What is the seminar?

This intensive seminar is geared towards helping high school violinists perfect their preparation for Region and Allstate auditions. They will get highly individualized attention and actual audition experience so they can be technically and mentally ready for the audition. Group size is limited to only 10 students to ensure successful results. Students only play individually! Audition strategies will be taught in detail. The seminar is directed by former Assistant Concertmaster of Houston Symphony Assia Dulgerska, whose extensive audition experience includes winning over 15 professional orchestra auditions and numerous solo competitions. Full resume is attached below.

What to expect?

The seminar will last 3 weeks. It includes 3 (three) 90-min individual lessons and 3 Mock Auditions in front of the entire class. Lessons will be scheduled weekly and Mock Auditions will be on Saturdays. All students will play at the Mock Auditions and receive comments and feedback afterwards. They will also listen to their peers perform the same material and learn from their strengths and mistakes. Unlike other programs where everyone plays together, in this seminar students get actual performance experience that closely mimics the Region and All State auditions.

What to bring?

Please bring a folding music stand, pencils, notebook, and a copy of the required all-state etudes and orchestral excerpts. Video recording is highly recommended.

Where to go?

My studio: 616 Memorial Heights Drive, Houston, TX 77007

Assia Dulgerska

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Assia Dulgerska has been recognized as a "virtuoso violinist" and her playing has been described by critics as "distressingly beautiful" (TheDailyCougar). A native of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, she began music theory studies at the age of 4 and formal violin studies at the age of 5. Only 3 years later she won the First Prize at the National Violin Competition "Svetoslav Obretenov". By the age of 10 Ms. Dulgerska had already won top prizes in national and international violin competitions and made her solo orchestral debut with Plovdiv Philharmonic. While still a teenager, she went on to perform numerous recitals and critically acclaimed concerts in Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece, Slovakia, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic and France.

Assia Dulgerska joined Houston Symphony in 2007 in the position of Assistant Concertmaster and performed her Houston solo debut shortly thereafter earning glorious reviews. She later made numerous solo and concertmaster appearances with the Houston Symphony. Previously, she held the position of Assistant Concertmaster with the Louisville Orchestra for two years. She has also been invited to serve as a Guest Concertmaster at Round Top Festival Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, Oregon Symphony, and San Antonio Symphony among others.

Ms. Dulgerska has toured internationally in 18 countries over 4 continents including Italy, Spain, England, Switzerland, China, Japan, South Korea, and Australia. She has performed in some of the best concert halls in the world. Some notable venues are: Carnegie Hall (New York), Konzerthaus (Vienna), Forbidden City Hall (Beijing), Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre Concert Hall (Shanghai), Auditori de Barcelona (Barcelona), Teatro di San Carlo (Naples), Auditorium Stravinsky (Montreux, Switzerland), Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall (Tokyo), Grand Theatre, Sejong Centre (Seoul, South Korea), Hamer Hall, the Arts Centre (Melbourne), Sydney Opera House (Sydney).

Festival solo, chamber, and orchestral appearances include Round Top Festival, Music Academy of the West, Aspen Music Festival, and Verbier Music Festival where she had the opportunity to work with world-renowned musicians James Levine, Herbert Blomstedt, Evgeny Kissin, Hilary Hahn, Yuri Bashmet, Maxim Vengerov, and Joshua Bell among others. In Aspen she premiered works by Pulitzer Prize winning composer Paul Moravec and served as the Concertmaster of "Sinfonia" where she was featured in the performance of Capriccio Espagnol by Rimsky-Korsakov. There she also collaborated with Michael Stern, Joseph Silverstein, and Sir Neville Marriner.

As a two-time Concerto Competition winner she has performed Brahms and Tchaikovsky violin concerti with the LSU Symphony orchestra. Ms. Dulgerska is the First Prize winner of the MTNA National String Competition and a finalist in the MTNA National Chamber Music Competition as a member of the V.A.V. piano trio. She has toured with this group in the United States and Canada promoting contemporary chamber music.

Ms. Dulgerska has given Masterclasses at Sam Houston University, Nicholls State University, and Louisville Youth Orchestra, and has taught a class at the Cleveland Institute of Music as a Graduate Assistant. In her spare time she is actively involved in community outreach in local hospitals, schools, retirement homes, and churches. Recently she participated in a music therapy program for children with special needs. Since 2014 she has focused on preparing students for auditions and competitions.

Ms. Dulgerska's educational background includes a Bachelor's Degree from Louisiana State University in the studio of Kevork Mardirossian and a Master's Degree from Cleveland Institute of Music in the studio of Paul Kantor. She was awarded full scholarships for both degrees. She is also certified in Suzuki violin teaching method.