

Jessie Bagley, Director of Marketing and Public Relations
843.720.1136, office | jbagley@spoletousa.org
Jenny Ouellette, Public Relations Manager
843.720.1137, office | jouellette@spoletousa.org

Note: Images are available in the [online media gallery](#).

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

2019

PRESS RELEASE

The 2019 Bank of America Chamber Music Series Features 30 Composers, 22 Artists, and Four Mystery Performances to be Revealed in Concert

Spoletto celebrates Geoff Nuttall's 10th year as the Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director of Chamber Music

Eleven programs, each performed three times

May 24 – June 9 | Dock Street Theatre

April 1, 2019 (Charleston, South Carolina) – Geoff Nuttall, The Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director for Chamber Music, announced details of the 11 programs—33 total concerts—to be performed during the 2019 Spoleto Festival USA season.

Long considered a linchpin of the Festival since its inaugural concerts in 1977, the Bank of America Chamber Music series continues to be one of the most beloved artistic elements of the Festival. “The series’ ongoing success is due, in no small part, to Geoff Nuttall’s enthusiasm for the music presented and his own excellence as a performer,” says Festival General Director Nigel Redden. “The camaraderie of musicians onstage is special—and the performers are some of the top chamber musicians in the world. When Geoff was appointed director in 2009, he had some very big shoes to fill of the previous director, Charles Wadsworth. I’d say Geoff has certainly done so.”

Nuttall first performed during Spoleto Festival USA in 1995, when his St. Lawrence String Quartet was invited by then-director Charles Wadsworth to perform as the quartet in residence. Nuttall became associate artistic director of chamber music in 2008, and when Wadsworth retired in 2009, Nuttall was appointed host and director. In this role, Nuttall is responsible for enlisting musicians for each piece on the 11 varied programs, which reflect Nuttall’s eclectic tastes and passion for music within and beyond the traditional canon. Interspersed with his signature wit and commentary, concerts flow effortlessly from 17th-century classics to 21st-century premieres.

“I love combining the old with the new and the standards of the repertoire with rarely heard gems. I want to encourage audience members to open their ears, discover new things from a musical point of view, and think about possibilities for future listening,” says Nuttall. “The eclecticism of the series as a whole really started with Charles—though he never announced the programs ahead of the concerts. The audience’s trust in his programming was such an inspiration to me. So this year, I’m working on a tip-of-the-hat to him and bringing some elements of surprise back.” On four of the 11 programs, Nuttall has scheduled a mystery performance—artists and selections for “Geoff’s Surprise Picks” will be revealed during the concerts.

As commissioning new work has long been a pillar of Spoleto Festival USA’s mission, the Bank of America Chamber Music series has engaged several artists as composer in residence, including Doug Balliett, Osvaldo Golijov, Jaroslaw Kapuściński, Jonathan Berger, and Mark Applebaum in recent years. This season, cellist [Paul Wiancko](#), the 2019 Bank of America Chamber Music composer in residence, will debut his Oboe Quintet written for oboist **James Austin Smith** and the **St. Lawrence String Quartet on Program III**. Wiancko currently writes for and performs as a member of Ayane & Paul and the Bird’s Eye Trio and tours regularly with the American Contemporary Music Ensemble. His three-part piece *LIFT*, written for the Aizuri Quartet, was featured on the group’s album *Blueprinting*, nominated for a 2019 Grammy Award. Writes NPR Music, “If Haydn were alive to write a string quartet today, it might sound something like Paul Wiancko’s *LIFT*.” Two of Wiancko’s other works will be performed on Programs I and V, and he will join the musicians onstage in performance.

Four other musicians are new to the Festival. On Program V, violinist **Karen Gomyo**, makes her Spoleto debut in Sarasate’s *Carmen Fantasy*, op. 25, and **Paul Holmes Morton**, a gifted theorbo and banjo player, appears in Vivaldi’s Concerto for Two Celli in G minor, RV 531. **Amy Harman**, principal bassoonist of the English National Opera Orchestra, joins the series on Program VI in Poulenc’s Trio for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano. And **David Byrd-Marrow**, the solo horn of new music collective ICE (International Contemporary Ensemble), first takes the Dock Street stage for Britten’s *Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings*, op. 31 on Program VIII.

Returning to the series for Britten’s *Serenade* is tenor **Paul Groves**, who also sings as Herod in the Festival’s all-new production of Richard Strauss’s *Salome* (May 24, 30, June 2, and 5 at the Charleston Gaillard Center). Countertenor **Anthony Roth Costanzo** also sings during Bank of America Chamber Music. This will be his fourth return to the series, and on Program I, he will perform a selection of Handel and Philip Glass works from his Grammy-nominated album *ARC*.

Pianist and composer **Stephen Prutsman** performs, among other works, Beethoven's "Moonlight" Piano Sonata on Program II as well as an original score to Buster Keaton's silent film, *College*. Two other pianists return to the series: **Inon Barnatan** (Programs VIII, IX, and XI) and **Pedja Muzijevic** (Programs I, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, and XI). Other returning musicians include oboist **James Austin Smith**, who performs a solo, *Three Angularities*, written by his father Larry Alan Smith; bassist and 2018 composer-in-residence **Doug Balliett**, whose composition "Echo and Narcissus" appears on Program II; flutist **Tara Helen O'Connor**; violinist **Daniel Phillips**; violist **Meena Bhasin**; and cellists **Nina Lee** and **Joshua Roman**.

The 2019 season marks distinguished clarinetist **Todd Palmer**'s 25th return to the chamber music series; this year he plays on Program VI in Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, as well as on Programs VII, IX, X, and XI. His arrangement of the Overture from Rossini's *Barber of Seville* during Program XI culminates the series on Sunday, June 9. The full program can be found beginning on page 4.

Tickets to the 2019 Bank of America Chamber Music series at Dock Street Theatre can be purchased online at spoletousa.org or by calling 843.579.3100. In-person box office operations will be located at Charleston Gaillard Center beginning April 30. Tickets may be purchased Monday through Sunday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Spoletto Festival USA

Founded in 1977, Spoletto Festival USA is an annual 17-day performing arts festival in Charleston, SC, that presents leading artists in classical and popular music, opera, jazz, dance, and theater. The 2019 season takes place May 24 to June 9 in various locations on the downtown peninsula, including the historic Dock Street Theatre and the Charleston Gaillard Center. Spoletto Festival USA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.

Geoff Nuttall

Geoff Nuttall began playing the violin at age 8 after moving to Ontario from Texas. He spent most of his musical studies under the tutelage of Lorand Fenyves at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, the University of Western Ontario, and the University of Toronto, where he received his bachelor's degree. In 1989, Nuttall co-founded the St. Lawrence String Quartet. As a member of his Grammy-nominated foursome, he has played more than 2,000 concerts throughout North and South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. He is now on faculty at Stanford University, where the St. Lawrence String Quartet has been ensemble in residence since 1999, and makes his home in Portola Valley, California, with his wife Livia Sohn

and sons, Jack and Ellis. The 2019 season is Nuttall's 10th season as the Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director for Chamber Music.

Images

A selection of high resolution images can be found in Spoleto Festival USA's [online gallery](#).

For more information, visit the [press room](#).

BANK OF AMERICA CHAMBER MUSIC

GEOFF NUTTALL, THE CHARLES E. AND ANDREA L. VOLPE DIRECTOR OF CHAMBER MUSIC

ARTISTS

Composer in residence/Cello	Paul Wiancko
Countertenor	Anthony Roth Costanzo
Tenor	Paul Groves
Flute/Piccolo	Tara Helen O'Connor
Oboe	James Austin Smith
Clarinet	Todd Palmer
Bassoon	Amy Harman
French Horn	David Byrd-Marrow
Piano	Inon Barnatan
Piano/Harpsichord/Organ	Pedja Muzijevic
Piano	Stephen Prutsman
Violin	Karen Gomyo
Violin/Viola	Daniel Phillips
Viola	Meena Bhasin
Cello	Nina Lee
Cello	Joshua Roman
Double Bass/Viola da Gamba	Doug Balliett
Theorbo/Banjo	Paul Holmes Morton

ST. LAWRENCE STRING QUARTET

Violin	Geoff Nuttall
Violin	Owen Dalby
Viola	Lesley Robertson
Cello	Christopher Costanza

PROGRAM I

May 24, 1:00pm

May 25, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Piccolo Concerto in C major, RV 443

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741)

Tara Helen O'Connor, *piccolo*

Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*; Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Christopher Costanzo, *cello*;

Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

“Liquid Days”

Philip Glass (b 1937)

“Ombra mai fu” from *Xerxes*

George Frideric Handel (1685 – 1759)

“1000 Airplanes on the Roof”

Philip Glass

Anthony Roth Costanzo, *countertenor*

Tara Helen O'Connor, *flute*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*;

Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

Closed Universe

Paul Wiancko (b 1983)

Christopher Costanzo, *cello*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*; Owen Dalby, *violin*;

Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *glockenspiel*

Piano Quintet in C minor, op. 1

Ernst von Dohnányi (1877 – 1960)

Stephen Prutsman, *piano*; St. Lawrence String Quartet

PROGRAM II

May 26, 11:00am and 1:00pm

May 27, 11:00am

Piano Sonata, op. 27 no. 2, “Moonlight”

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)

Stephen Prutsman, *piano*

“Echo and Narcissus”

Doug Balliett (b 1982)

Anthony Roth Costanzo, *countertenor*; Tara Helen O'Connor, *flute*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*;

Owen Dalby and Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Christopher Costanzo, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*

Three Angularities

Larry Alan Smith (b 1955)

James Austin Smith, *oboe*

String Quartet in C major, op. 76 no. 3, “Emperor”

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732 – 1809)

St. Lawrence String Quartet

PROGRAM III

May 27, 1:00pm

May 28, 11:00am and 1:00pm

“One Charming Night” from *The Fairy Queen*

Anthony Roth Costanzo, *countertenor*; Tara Helen O’Connor, *flute*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*;
Christopher Costanzo, *cello*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

“Seek Not to Know” from *The Indian Queen*

Anthony Roth Costanzo, *countertenor*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Geoff Nuttall, *violin*;
Christopher Costanzo, *cello*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

“Dido’s Lament” from *Dido and Aeneas*

Anthony Roth Costanzo, *countertenor*; St. Lawrence String Quartet;
Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

Henry Purcell (1659 – 95)

Oboe Quintet (world premiere)

Paul Wiancko (b 1983)

James Austin Smith, *oboe*; St. Lawrence String Quartet

“Zoom Tube”

Ian Clarke (b 1964)

Tara Helen O’Connor, *flute*

Geoff’s Surprise Pick

Piano Quintet in E-flat minor, op. 87

Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778 – 1837)

Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*; Owen Dalby, *violin*; Daniel Phillips, *viola*;
Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*

PROGRAM IV

May 29, 11:00am and 1:00pm

May 30, 11:00am

Flute Quintet in B-flat major, op. 19 no. 5

Luigi Boccherini (1743 – 1805)

Tara Helen O’Connor, *flute*; Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*;
Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*

College

Silent film by Buster Keaton (1895 – 1966)

Original score by Stephen Prutsman (b 1960)

Stephen Prutsman, *piano*; Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*;
Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*

PROGRAM V

May 30, 1:00pm

May 31, 11:00am and 1:00pm

***When the Night* for Cello Quartet**

Paul Wiancko (b 1983)

Joshua Roman, Paul Wiancko, Christopher Costanza, Nina Lee, *cello*

Sonata for Flute and Keyboard in G minor, BWV 1020

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Tara Helen O'Connor, *flute*; Stephen Prutsman, *piano*

Geoff's Surprise Pick

Concerto for Two Celli in G minor, RV 531

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741)

Joshua Roman and Christopher Costanza, *cello*

Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*; Daniel Phillips, *viola*; Nina Lee, *cello*;

Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Paul Holmes Morton, *theorbo*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

“Carmen Fantasy,” op. 25, from Bizet’s *Carmen*

Pablo de Sarasate (1844 – 1908)

Karen Gomyo, *violin*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

PROGRAM VI

June 1, 11:00am and 1:00pm

June 2, 11:00am

Concerto Grosso, op. 6 no. 8, “Christmas Concerto”

Arcangelo Corelli (1653 – 1713)

Geoff Nuttall and Karen Gomyo, *violin*; Nina Lee, *cello*

Owen Dalby, *violin*; Daniel Phillips and Meena Bhasin, *viola*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*;

Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Paul Holmes Morton, *theorbo*; Pedja Muzijevic, *organ*

Trio for Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano

Francis Poulenc (1899 –1963)

James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Amy Harman, *bassoon*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

Appalachian Spring

Aaron Copland (1900 – 90)

Tara Hellen O'Connor, *flute*; Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Amy Harman, *bassoon*; Daniel Phillips, Karen

Gomyo, Owen Dalby, and Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Meena Bhasin and Isabella Costanza, *viola*; Christopher

Costanza and Nina Lee, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

PROGRAM VII

June 2, 1:00pm

June 3, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Geoff's Surprise Pick

Sonata in E minor, Wq. 59-5

Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (1714 – 1788)

Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

Divertissement for Oboe, Clarinet, and Bassoon

Erwin Schulhoff (1894 – 1942)

James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Amy Harman, *bassoon*

Piano Trio in B-flat major, K 502

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 91)

Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*; Karen Gomyo, *violin*; Nina Lee, *cello*

PROGRAM VIII

June 4, 11:00am and 1:00pm

June 5, 11:00am

Battalia

Heinrich Biber (1644 – 1704)

Geoff Nuttall and Karen Gomyo, *violin*; Owen Dalby and Meena Bhasin, *viola*; Joshua Roman and Nina Lee, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*; Paul Holmes Morton, *theorbo*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings, op. 31

Benjamin Britten (1913 – 76)

Paul Groves, *tenor*

David Byrd-Marrow, *French horn*; Geoff Nuttall and Karen Gomyo, *violin*;

Owen Dalby and Meena Bhasin, *viola*; Joshua Roman and Nina Lee, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*

Keyboard Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*; Meena Bhasin, *viola*; Nina Lee, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*

PROGRAM IX

June 5, 1:00pm

June 6, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Quintet for Piano and Winds in E-flat major, K 452

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 91)

Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Todd Palmer, *clarinet*;

Amy Harman, *bassoon*; David Byrd-Marrow, *French horn*

Dual

Matthew Aucoin (b 1990)

Joshua Roman, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*

Piano Quartet in C minor, op. 15

Gabriel Fauré (1845 – 1924)

Inon Barnatan, *piano*; Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Meena Bhasin, *viola*; Nina Lee, *cello*

PROGRAM X

June 7, 11:00am and 1:00pm

June 8, 11:00am

Geoff's Surprise Pick

Octet in F major, D. 803

Franz Schubert (1797 – 1828)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; David Byrd-Marrow, *French horn*; Amy Harman, *bassoon*; Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, *violin*; Meena Bhasin, *viola*; Nina Lee, *cello*; Doug Balliett, *double bass*

PROGRAM XI

June 8, 1:00pm

June 9, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Bassoon Sonata in F minor, TWV 41

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681 – 1767)

Amy Harman, *bassoon*; Nina Lee, *cello*; Paul Holmes Morton, *theorbo*;
Pedja Muzijevic, *organ*

Disco-Toccata

Guillaume Connesson (b 1970)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Joshua Roman, *cello*

Piano Trio in D major, op. 70 no. 1, "Ghost"

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)

Inon Barnatan, *piano*; Karen Gomyo, *violin*; Joshua Roman, *cello*

Overture from *Barber of Seville*

Gioachino Rossini (1792 – 1868), arr. Todd Palmer

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Amy Harman, *bassoon*; David Byrd-Marrow, *bassoon*;

Geoff Nuttall and Karen Gomyo, *violin*; Meena Bhasin, *viola*;

Joshua Roman and Nina Lee, *cello*; Paul Holmes Morton; Doug Balliett, *double bass*;

Pedja Muzijevic and Inon Barnatan, *piano*