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

Press Release

Embargo lifts May 3 at 10:00am.

Announcing the program for Bank of America Chamber Music

Eleven programs—each performed three times—feature new works and arrangements by Mark Applebaum, Steven Banks, Paul Wiancko, and Stephen Prutsman

Plus: a new scenic backdrop, to be revealed

May 27 – June 12 · 11:00am and 1:00pm · Dock Street Theatre

May 3, 2022 (Charleston, SC) — Geoff Nuttall, the Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director of Chamber Music, announced the full program for the 2022 Bank of America Chamber Music series at Dock Street Theatre.

A linchpin of Spoleto since its inaugural season, the Bank of America Chamber Music series continues to be one of the most beloved artistic elements of the Festival. “So much of what makes this series universally renowned is due to Geoff Nuttall’s careful curation of each of the 11 programs,” says Spoleto Festival USA General Director Mena Mark Hanna. “He’s ambitious and wild—pairing Mozart with Caroline Shaw or Heinrich Biber with Paul Wiancko, for instance—drawing connections between such seemingly disparate works that can wow established musicologists and entice and engage more novice listeners at the same time.”

Following a season cancellation in 2020 and a drastically scaled-down 2021 season, this year promises a return to full capacity, with audiences brimming with enthusiasm for Nuttall and his merry band of top international talent. “There are few theaters worldwide in which I feel as supported and energized as I do in Dock Street and at Spoleto” says Nuttall, whose jovial and captivating emceeing of the concerts is a large reason for the routinely full audiences. “On top of that, I’m playing alongside my friends and exceptional musicians who inspire me most—those who are creating incredible new works and playing older masterpieces extraordinarily.”

Audiences will be surprised to see a new scenic backdrop onstage. The Festival commissioned Charleston-based artist Fletcher Williams III to create a work of art. His piece, titled *Dusk*, a 50- x 38-inch acrylic on paper, will be transferred to the fabric and revealed on May 27. This is the first time since Christian Thee's 35- by 20-foot proscenium, created in 1983, that musicians will be framed by a new curtain. The work, notes Williams, takes inspiration from the South, which he describes as a "labyrinth. It's whimsical, sacred, and spirited; the ground hallow and air heavy with salt. When peering into its dense canopies of Spanish moss or tunnels of azaleas, I sense something elusive and wild, indescribable. *Dusk* is a memory of this place, which floats above the ground and reflects below the water's surface."

On the 2022 program, more than 340 years span between the earliest Renaissance piece and most contemporary composition—a world premiere from Mark Applebaum, a 2015 Bank of America Chamber Music composer in residence. The season also features its signature mix of returning and new artists. Among the series' first timers are pianist Julia Hamos, Adam Cockerham on theorbo, violinist Alexi Kenney, recorder virtuoso Tabea Debus and the series' first-ever saxophonist and composer Steven Banks. Two of Banks's new works, *Cries, Sighs, and Dreams* and *As I Am*, can be heard on Program II and III.

In addition to Nuttall's St. Lawrence String Quartet, the Castalian String Quartet—which was set to appear during the 2020 season before cancellation—will perform throughout the series. The Castalian Quartet, formed in 2011 and named the inaugural Hans Keller String Quartet in Residence at Oxford University in 2021, is garnering recognition as a dynamic ensemble, having made critically acclaimed debuts at Lincoln Center, Banff International String Quartet Festival, the Vancouver Recital Series, and The Philips Collection in Washington, DC.

Also joining the group for the first time is Grammy Award winning tenor Karim Sulayman, whose world premiere opera *Unholy Wars* premieres this season, also at Dock Street Theatre (May 29, June 1, June 3, June 6). On program VI, Sulayman performs "Where'er you walk" from George Frideric Handel's *Semele*.

Returning musicians include oboist James Austin Smith, violinist Livia Sohn, violist Ayane Kozasa, cellists Paul Wiancko and Nina Lee, bassist Anthony Manzo, pianists Pedja Muzijevic and Inon Barnatan, and tenor Paul Groves. Clarinetist Todd Palmer, who first performed at the Festival in 1994, premieres a new arrangement of the Overture from Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, performed for 10 instrumentalists on program XI. On program VIII, pianist Stephen Prutsman debuts a selection of five Stevie Wonder songs, performed by tenor Paul Groves and accompanied by Prutsman himself on piano.

Again in 2022, South Carolina Public Radio will record and broadcast each of the series' concerts on the program "Sonatas and Soundscapes," weekdays at 11:00am. Hosted by Bradley Fuller, the concerts—released in full—are interspersed with Festival artists interviews, providing illuminating peeks into the

performers' practices and approach to the music. Those outside of South Carolina can stream the program live at scpublicradio.org.

The full program, with all concert details, follows. Tickets to the Bank of America Chamber series can be purchased online at spoletousa.org or by calling the Spoleto box office at 843.579.3100. In-person box office sales begin Monday, May 2, at the Charleston Gaillard Center (Monday through Friday, 11:00am to 6:00pm; beginning May 27, hours are Monday through Sunday 11:00am to 6:00pm.)

BANK OF AMERICA CHAMBER MUSIC

Bank of America's title sponsorship of Spoleto Festival USA's chamber music series began in 2000. Says Mark Munn, President of Bank of America Charleston: "At Bank of America, we believe in the power of the arts to help economies thrive, to educate and enrich societies, and to create greater cultural understanding. Being a part of Spoleto and the presenting sponsor of the Bank of America Chamber Music series for nearly 30 years is just one example of the bank's leadership in helping the arts flourish across the Lowcountry and around the world."

FLETCHER WILLIAMS iii

Fletcher Williams III (b. 1987) is a Charleston-based interdisciplinary artist working in painting, sculpture, and site-specific installation. He received his BFA in 2010 from The Cooper Union and returned to the Lowcountry in 2013. During this time, Williams has developed an experimental and material-based practice that fuses Charleston's natural and built environments. As an independent artist, Williams has produced numerous solo exhibitions within the Charleston area and participated in group exhibitions throughout the United States. In 2021, South Arts named Williams the South Carolina State Fellow and Southern Prize Finalist. For more information, fletcher3.com.

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

Spoleto Festival USA was founded in 1977 by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who sought to create an American counterpart to the annual Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy, that he had founded in 1958. Now in its 46th year, Spoleto Festival USA is internationally recognized as America's premier performing arts festival. For 17 days and nights each spring, Spoleto Festival USA fills Charleston's historic theaters, churches, and outdoor spaces with performances in opera; theater; dance; and chamber, symphonic, choral, and jazz music. Spoleto's mission is to present programs of the highest artistic caliber while maintaining a dedication to young artists, a commitment to all forms of the performing arts, a passion for contemporary innovation, and an enthusiasm for providing unique performance opportunities for established artists. Beyond its role as a launching pad for young talent, Spoleto also serves as a catalyst for cultural change and has aided in Charleston's flourishing as a top arts and culture destination. With General Director Mena Mark Hanna at its helm, the 2022 season takes place May 27 to June 12 in various locations on the downtown peninsula. Spoleto Festival USA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.

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

2022 Programs, May 27 - June 12

Geoff Nuttall, The Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director of Chamber Music

Livia Sohn, Assistant Director of Chamber Music

Artists

Saxophone/Composer	Steven Banks
Recorders	Tabea Debus
Oboe	James Austin Smith
Clarinet/Arranger	Todd Palmer
Violin	Alexi Kenney
Violin	Livia Sohn
Viola	Ayane Kozasa
Cello/Composer	Paul Wiancko
Cello	Nina Lee
Double Bass	Anthony Manzo
Piano/Harpsichord	Pedja Muzijevic
Piano/Arranger	Stephen Prutsman
Piano/Arranger	Inon Barnatan
Piano	Julia Hamos
Tenor	Paul Groves
Tenor	Karim Sulayman
Theorbo	Adam Cockerham

St. Lawrence String Quartet

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

Castalian String Quartet

Violin	Sini Simonen
Violin	Daniel Roberts
Viola	Ruth Gibson
Cello	Christopher Graves

PROGRAM I

May 27, 1:00pm; May 28, 11:00am and 1:00pm^

String Sextet from Capriccio, op. 85St. Lawrence String Quartet; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Richard Strauss (1864 - 1949)

Limestone & FeltAyane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

String Quartet in E-flat major, K. 428

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 91)

^ This chamber music concert has been endowed through the generous support of Ann and Andrew Barrett.

PROGRAM II

May 29, 11:00am and 1:00pm*; May 30, 11:00am

PassacagliaAlexi Kenney, *violin*

Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber (1644 - 1704)

Cries, Sighs, and DreamsSteven Banks, *saxophone*; St. Lawrence String Quartet

Steven Banks (b. 1993)

Sonata in Three Parts in G minor, Z. 790Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Henry Purcell (1659 - 95)

Tiny Doors to Big WorldsSt. Lawrence String Quartet; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Paul Wiancko (b. 1983)

* This chamber music concert has been endowed through the generous support of Ann and Michael Tarwater.

PROGRAM III

May 30, 1:00pm; May 31, 11:00am and 1:00pm

As I AmSteven Banks, *baritone saxophone*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

Steven Banks (b. 1993)

Außer Atem for three recorders and one playerTabea Debus, *recorders*

Moritz Eggert (b. 1965)

String Quartet in D minor, op. 76 no. 2, "Quinten"

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809)

Ever YoursSt. Lawrence String Quartet; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*;
Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Osvaldo Golijov (b. 1960)

PROGRAM IV

June 1, 11:00am* and 1:00pm; June 2, 11:00am

Die Romantiker, op. 167

Joseph Lanner (1801 – 1843)

Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*;
Anthony Manzo, *double bass*

Recorder Concerto in C major, RV 443

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741)

Tabea Debus, *recorder*; Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*;
Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Anthony Manzo, *double bass*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

“The War Below” from Prospects of a Misplaced Year

Andy Akiho (b. 1979)

Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*; Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*;
Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

String Quartet in F minor, op. 80

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 47)

Castalian String Quartet

* This chamber music concert is dedicated in loving memory of Mary and Marion Field.

PROGRAM V

June 2, 1:00pm; June 3, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Brandenburg Concerto in F major, BWV 1047

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Tabea Debus, *recorder*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*;
Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Castalian String Quartet; Anthony Manzo, *double bass*;
Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

Children of The Fire

Gabriella Smith (b. 1991)

James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Sini Simonen, *violin*;
Ruth Gibson, *viola*; Anthony Manzo, *double bass*

La Monica Renaissance set

Unknown

Tabea Debus, *recorder*; Adam Cockerham, *theorbo*

Two and a Half Minutes to Midnight

Dani Howard (b. 1993)

Tabea Debus, *recorder*

Piano Quartet in E-flat major, op. 47

Robert Schumann (1810 – 56)

Stephen Prutsman, *piano*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*;
Paul Wiancko, *cello*

PROGRAM VI

June 4, 11:00am and 1:00pm^; June 5, 11:00am

Concerto a quattro for Recorder, Oboe, Violin, and Continuo in G major, TWV 43:G6

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681 – 1767)

Tabea Dabus, *recorder*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*;
Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

“Where’er you walk” from Semele, HWV 58

George Frideric Handel (1685 – 1759)

Karim Sulayman, *tenor*Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Sini Simonen, *violin*; Daniel Roberts, *violin*;Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Ruth Gibson, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Christopher Graves,
double bass; Anthony Manzo, *double bass*; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord***Sextet in B-flat major, op. 18**

Johannes Brahms (1833 – 97)

Castalian String Quartet, Ayane Kozasa, *viola*, Paul Wiancko, *cello*

^ This chamber music concert has been endowed through the generous support of Gary and Mary Becker.

PROGRAM VII**June 5, 1:00pm; June 6, 11:00am and 1:00pm****Première Rhapsodie**

Claude Debussy (1862 – 1918)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Stephen Prutsman, *piano***More or Less for pre-recorded and live violin** (world premiere)

Mark Applebaum (b. 1967)

Livia Sohn, *violin***Oboe Concerto in D minor, op. 9 no. 2**

Tomaso Albinoni (1671 – 1751)

James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Castalian String Quartet; Anthony Manzo,
double bass; Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord***Piano Quintet in A minor, op. 30**

Louise Farrenc (1804 – 75)

Julia Hamos, *piano*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Ruth Gibson, *viola*; Nina Lee, *cello*;
Anthony Manzo, *double bass***PROGRAM VIII****June 7, 11:00am and 1:00pm; June 8, 11:00am****Ten Blake Songs (selected)**

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)

- I. “Infant Joy”
- III. “The Piper”
- VI. “Ah! Sun-flower”
- IX. “The Divine Image”
- X. “Eternity”

Paul Groves, *tenor*; James Austin Smith, *oboe***Symphonic Dances, op. 45: III. Lento assai – Allegro vivace**Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873 – 1943),
arr. Inon BarnatanInon Barnatan, *piano***Sonata for Clarinet and Cello**

Francis Poulenc (1899 – 1963)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Nina Lee, *cello***Steve’s Wonder**

arr. Stephen Prutsman

Five Stevie Wonder songs for tenor and piano

Paul Groves, *tenor*Stephen Prutsman, *piano*

PROGRAM IX

June 8, 1:00pm; June 9, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Three Romances, op. 22James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

Clara Schumann (1819 – 96)

String Quartet, “Kreutzer Sonata”

Castalian String Quartet

Leoš Janáček (1854 – 1928)

Piano Trio in B major, op. 8Inon Barnatan, *piano*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Nina Lee, *cello*

Johannes Brahms (1833 – 97)

PROGRAM X

June 10, 11:00am* and 1:00pm; June 11, 11:00am

Keyboard Concerto in E-flat major, op. 7 no. 5, WC59Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*; Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*;
Nina Lee, *cello*; Anthony Manzo, *double bass*

Johann Christian Bach (1735 – 82)

Sonata for Double Bass and PianoAnthony Manzo, *double bass*; Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Sofia Gubaidulina (b. 1931)

Clarinet Quintet in F-sharp minor, op. 10Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Castalian String Quartet

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875 – 1912)

* This chamber music concert has been endowed through the generous support of Deborah Chalsty.

PROGRAM XI

June 11, 1:00pm; June 12, 11:00am and 1:00pm

Le Nozze di Figaro: Overture, Act I (world premiere)Castalian String Quartet, Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Nina Lee, *cello*;
Anthony Manzo, *double bass*; James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Todd Palmer, *clarinet*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 91),
arr. Todd Palmer**Trio Sonata in C minor, HWV 386a**James Austin Smith, *oboe*; Geoff Nuttall, *violin*; Nina Lee, *cello*;
Pedja Muzijevic, *harpsichord*

George Frideric Handel (1685 – 1759)

The Rite of Spring for two pianosInon Barnatan, *piano*; Pedja Muzijevic, *piano*

Igor Stravinsky (1882 – 1971)