

Spoletto Festival USA Announces 2024 Bank of America Chamber Music Series Artistic Roster and Repertoire

Paul Wiancko to debut as Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director of Chamber Music

May 24 – June 9; Dock Street Theatre; 11:00am and 1:00pm; tickets available now

March 6, 2024 (Charleston, S.C.) — [Spoletto Festival USA](#), America’s premier performing arts festival, has announced the artist roster and repertoire for the 2024 Bank of America Chamber Music series at the historic Dock Street Theatre. Curated by the new Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director of Chamber Music **Paul Wiancko**, the series will include 33 engaging performances performed twice daily throughout the duration of the festival from May 24 – June 9. Perennially, the series includes some of the most renowned performers in classical music along with its emerging stars. This year, a host of Festival favorites, such as pianists Inon Barnatan and Pedja Mužijević; violinists Livia Sohn, Owen Dalby, and Alexi Kenney; violists Lesley Robertson and Masumi Per Rostad, and clarinetist Todd Palmer, will return; several notable newcomers will make their Spoleto debuts, among them pianist Amy Yang, violinist Grant Houston, and cellist Raman Ramakrishnan. Violinist Gabriela Díaz and violist Ayane Kozasa, who were just announced as new members of the world-renowned Kronos Quartet, which includes Wiancko as cellist, will also perform as part of Spoleto’s chamber music series in 2024. Tickets are available for purchase at spoletousa.org or by calling 843.579.3100.

Highlights of the program include a world premiere string quartet by Spoleto’s 2024 Chamber Music Composer-in-Residence Reena Esmail, whose compositions bridge Indian and Western classical music and have been commissioned by Los Angeles Master Chorale, Seattle Symphony, and Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The program also features vocalists Karim Sulayman and Sarah Shafer from the Festival’s cast

of the world-premiere opera *Ruinous Gods*, which will debut at Spoleto on May 24. And in a rarity for the series, percussion virtuoso Ian Rosenbaum will perform as part of the ensemble.

"This season's program features the most thrilling and achingly beautiful music ever written—all performed by the most thoughtful artists of our time," shares Wiancko. "The program underscores the ethos of Spoleto. We will explore treasures of the canon while celebrating the work of today's most brilliant musical minds. From Beethoven, Ravel, and Price, to Bernstein, Esmail, and Montgomery, our adventurous audiences are in for treat after treat this season."

"The Bank of America Chamber Music Series is a cornerstone of the Spoleto experience," says Mena Mark Hanna, Spoleto Festival USA General Director and CEO. "Paul, who was a protégé of former Spoleto Chamber Music Director Geoff Nuttall, brings characteristic breadth to the series, juxtaposing different musical eras with spectacular catalytic energy. The curation is omnivorous, bookended by Hildegard von Bingen from the 11th century and a brand-new world premiere by Reena Esmail. In the middle, you have everything from Debussy, Schubert, and Mozart through to myriad works by living composers on nearly every single program. Under Paul's masterful curation, the series delivers a thrilling blend of innovation and tradition."

A bedrock of Spoleto since its inaugural season in 1977, the Chamber Music Series presents performances that span beloved works of the classical canon with invigorating contemporary compositions that share surprising thematic and musical ties. As designed by founding director Charles Wadsworth and continued by his successor, the late Geoff Nuttall, the programs are contextualized with witty, often irreverent banter between host and performers that offer keen insights into the compositions and to their juxtaposition on the programs. With a rotating roster of accomplished musicians, the series' famous alumni include cellist Yo-Yo Ma, countertenor Anthony Roth Costanzo, cellist Alisa Weilerstein, and pianists Emanuel Ax and Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

The 2024 Bank of America Chamber Music full roster and program details follow.

ARTISTS

Violin	Benjamin Beilman
	Owen Dalby
	Grant Houston
	Alexi Kenney

	Geneva Lewis
	Livia Sohn
Viola	Gabriela Díaz
	Ayane Kozasa
	Lesley Robertson
	Masumi Per Rostad
Cello	Christopher Costanza
	Sterling Elliott
	Raman Ramakrishnan
	Paul Wiancko
Piano	Inon Barnatan
	Pedja Mužijević
	Amy Yang
Double Bass	Lizzie Burns
Clarinet	Todd Palmer
Percussion	Ian Rosenbaum
Voice	Karim Sulayman
	Sarah Shafer

PROGRAM

Program I – May 24, 1:00pm; May 25, 11:00am & 1:00pm

Three Parts Upon a Ground Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Owen Dalby, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Mata-Au Salina Fisher (b. 1993)

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

Requiem David Popper (1843-1913)

Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Piano Quartet No 2 in E-Flat Major, K493 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)

Livia Sohn, *violin*; Lesley Robertson, *viola*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Program II – May 26, 11:00am & 1:00pm; May 27, 11:00am

Marejada Angélica Negrón (b. 1981)

Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Cello Quintet in C Major, D. 956

Franz Schubert

(1797-1828)

Owen Dalby, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Lesley Robertson, *viola*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*

Program III – May 27, 1:00pm; May 28, 11:00am & 1:00pm

Carrot Revolution

Gabriella Smith (b. 1991)

Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Owen Dalby, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Sonata Duodecima

Isabella Leonarda (1620-1704)

Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *harpsichord*

Three Songs for Piano Trio

Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)

Livia Sohn, *violin*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Five Folksongs in Counterpoint

Florence Price (1887-1953)

Owen Dalby, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Lesley Robertson, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Program IV – May 29, 11:00am & 1:00pm; May 30, 11:00am

Violin Sonata No. 1, Op. 105

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Amy Yang, *piano*

Homage to a Mixtape: Selections by C.P.E. Bach, George Crumb, and Henry Cowell

Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Masumi Per Rostad, *viola*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*

Program V – May 30, 1:00pm; May 31, 11:00am & 1:00pm

Piano Trio No 3 in C minor, Op. 1, No. 3

Ludwig van Beethoven

(1770-1827)

Amy Yang, *piano*; Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*

In Damascus

Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

Karim Sulayman, *voice*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Masumi Per Rostad, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Lullaby

Valentin Silvestrov (b. 1937)

Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Program VI – June 1, 11:00am & 1:00pm; June 2, 11:00am

“Columba aspexit”

Hildegard Von Bingen (1098-1179)

Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Masumi Per Rostad, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

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Andy Akiho (b. 1979)

Ian Rosenbaum, *percussion*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Jhula Jhule for Clarinet and Piano

Reena Esmail (b. 1983)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Amy Yang, *piano*

Shaker Loops

John Adams (b. 1947)

Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*;

Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*

Program VII – June 2, 1:00pm; June 3, 11:00am & 1:00pm

Nocturne and Cortege

Lili Boulanger (1893-1918)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Mother and Child

William Grant Still (1895-1978)

Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Double Happiness

Christopher Cerrone (b. 1984)

Ian Rosenbaum, *percussion*; Amy Yang, *piano*

String Quartet No. 2, Op. 13

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Masumi Per Rostad, *viola*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*

Program VIII – June 4, 11:00am & 1:00pm; June 5, 11:00am

Battalia a 10

Heinrich Biber (1644-1704)

Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Gabriela Díaz, *viola*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*; Amy Yang, *harpsichord*

Varied Trio

Lou Harrison (1917-2003)

Ian Rosenbaum, *percussion*; Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Art Songs

Clara Schumann (1819-1896)

Sarah Shafer, *voice*; Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Who Makes a Clearing

Reena Esmail (b.1983)

Sarah Shafer, *voice*; Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Waltz & Romance (for Piano Six Hands)

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

Amy Yang, *piano*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*; Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Program IX – June 5, 1:00pm; June 6, 11:00am & 1:00pm

Suite for Clarinet, Violin, and Piano Op. 157b

Darius Milhaud (1892-1974)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Inon Barnatan, *piano*

String Quartet (World Premiere)

Reena Esmail (b. 1983)

Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Piano Quartet

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Livia Sohn, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Program X – June 7, 11:00am & 1:00pm; June 8, 11:00am

Harpsichord Concerto No. 5, BWV 1056

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Grant Houston, *violin*; Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*; Pedja Mužijević, *harpsichord*

Allemande pour Tout le Monde

Kenji Bunch

(b. 1973)

Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*

Blue Bourrée

Michi Wiancko (b. 1976)

Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*

Yann's Flight

Shawn Conley

Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*

Piano Trio in A minor

Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)

Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Program XI – June 8, 1:00pm; June 9, 11:00am & 1:00pm

Strum

Jesse Montgomery (b. 1981)

Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*

Clarinet Sonata

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Todd Palmer, *clarinet*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Next Week's Trees

Viet Cuong (b. 1990)

Ian Rosenbaum, *percussion*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

Quartet for Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass: I

Mark O'Connor (b. 1961)

Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*

Tegere Tulon: I. Funtukuru

Hawa Kassé Mady Diabaté (1949-2018)

Livia Sohn, *violin*; Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Gabriella Díaz, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*

La Follia Variations

Francesco Geminiani (1687-1762) Arranged by Michi Wiancko (b. 1976)

Livia Sohn, *violin*; Geneva Lewis, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*; Ian Rosenbaum, *percussion*

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA

Spoletto 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, which he had founded in 1958. Now in its 48th 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 & CEO Mena Mark Hanna at its helm, the 2024 season takes place from May 24 to June 9 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 the online gallery.

MORE: Visit the [virtual press room](#).

