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PETER MUELLER

Phenotypic Recordings is the
Official Recording Partner of the
2024 Chamber Music Series.



MUSIC

Bank of America Chamber Music

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

DOCK STREET THEATRE

Friday, May 24 at 1:00pm
Saturday, May 25–Sunday, June 9 at 11:00am and 1:00pm

Approximately 1 hour, 15 minutes
Performed without intermission



Sponsored by Bank of America.

Additional support provided by The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation.

The following musicians' participation
is generously sponsored by the individuals listed below:
Sterling Eliot, Raman Ramakrishnan, Reena Esmail, Lizzie Burns and
Ian Rosenbaum are sponsored by Erica Pascal and Michael Hostetler;
Ayane Kozasa is sponsored by Judith Green and Dr. Michael Fritz;
Inon Barnatan and Todd Palmer are sponsored by Miriam DeAntonio, M.D.

This series is supported in part by Dr. Martin Morad.

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Spoleto Festival USA Endowment, generously supported by
BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, Wells Fargo, and Bank of America.

CONVERSATIONS WITH
Tuesday, June 4 at 3:00pm

Host and CBS News correspondent
Martha Teichner interviews
Director of Chamber Music Paul Wiancko
at the Dock Street Theatre.

SPOLETOUSA.ORG

Celebrating and exploring this golden age of chamber music

Paul Wiancko on the 2024 program

There have been many golden ages throughout the history of chamber music, and we are now riding the crest of yet another. This season, we celebrate and explore the current golden age of chamber music through a wide lens. The oldest piece on the docket—a haunting, monophonic, medieval plainchant composed by Benedictine abbess Hildegard von Bingen shortly before her death in 1179—opens Program IV. We then leap 830 years forward into the sound world of Andy Akiho’s “21” for cello, percussion, and electronics, a work which establishes its own monophonic foundation before revealing its roots in traditional Trinidadian Soca rhythms.

As a curator, to discover a small parcel of common ground between Hildegard and Akiho is a rush, even if there’s no logical–or musicological–explanation for it. When I experience their music back-to-back, something inside me awakens, and I am left with a deeper appreciation for both as well as a desire to share that feeling with others.

With centuries of incredible music at our fingertips and unparalleled access to information, art, history, technology, and music-making tools, there are more composers writing chamber music today than ever before—each searching for something, and in the process, deepening our collective understanding of the world and of each other. One such composer has already had a profound impact on the world of music and joins us this season as the chamber music series’ composer-in-residence— Reena Esmail. Reena has created her own world between Indian and Western classical traditions, and we are delighted to present several of her works this year, including the world premiere of her new string quartet.

But first, we kick things off with our beloved friends Owen Dalby, Lesley Robertson, and Chris Costanza from the St.



Lawrence String Quartet, violinists Livia Sohn and Alexi Kenney, violist Ayane Kozasa, pianist Pedja Mužijević, and cellist Raman Ramakrishnan. We’ll bask in the seaside soundscapes of Angélica Negrón’s *Marejada* before plunging into Schubert’s glorious cello quintet. Program III, dubbed “The Spoleto Chamber Songbook,” Gabriella Smith’s The Who-inspired masterpiece *Carrot Revolution* gives way to a cutting-edge 17th century sonata by Isabella Leonarda, a handful of decadent Fritz Kreisler tunes, and Florence Price’s poignant reimaginings of spirituals and folk songs such as “Cavalry,” “Clementine,” and “Swing Low Sweet Chariot.”

Soon after, we’ll be joined by two shining stars of the opera world, both featured in Spoleto’s production of *Ruinous Gods*. Tenor Karim Sulayman will perform Jonathan Dove’s heart-wrenching epic “In Damascus,” and soprano Sarah Shafer will join Inon, Geneva, and me to perform timeless music by Clara Schumann and Reena Esmail. Throughout the festival, we will enjoy an influx of world-class artists, including pianists Amy Yang and Inon Barnaton, violinists Ben Beilman, Geneva Lewis, and Grant Houston, violists Gabriela Díaz and Masumi Per Rostad, cellist Sterling Elliot, bassist Lizzie Burns, percussionist Ian Rosenbaum, and clarinetist Todd Palmer.

From J.S. Bach’s most beloved Harpsichord Concerto and Maurice Ravel’s showstopper of a piano trio to music by modern-day icons Jessie Montgomery, John Adams, and Viet Cuong, we are in for treat after treat this season.

I can’t wait to share the experience with you. ■

Composer and cellist Paul Wiancko is the Charles E. and Andrea L. Volpe Director of Chamber Music at Spoleto Festival USA.

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

- Three Parts Upon a Ground**
Owen Dalby, *violin*; Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *harpsichord*
- Mata-Au**
Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*
- Requiem**
Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*
- Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor, K 478**
Livia Sohn, *violin*; Lesley Robertson, *viola*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

The May 24 at 1:00pm performance of Program I has been endowed through the generous support of Ann and Andrew Barrett.

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

- Marejada**
Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*
- Cello Quintet in C Major, D. 956**
Owen Dalby, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Lesley Robertson, *viola*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*

The May 26 at 1:00pm performance of Program II has been endowed through the generous support of Ann and Michael Tarwater.

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

- Carrot Revolution**
Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Owen Dalby, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*
- Sonata Duodecima**
Alexi Kenney, *violin*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *harpsichord*
- Four Songs for Piano Trio**
Livia Sohn, *violin*; Christopher Costanza, *cello*; Pedja Mužijević, *piano*
- Five Folksongs in Counterpoint**
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**
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**
Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Masumi Per Rostad, *viola*; Raman Ramakrishnan, *cello*

The May 29 at 11:00am performance of Program IV is dedicated in loving memory of Mary and Marion Field.

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, *tenor*; 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)
arr. Alex Fortes (b. 1985)
Benjamin Beilman, *violin*; Livia Sohn, *violin*; Masumi Per Rostad, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*

21 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*

The June 1 at 1:00pm performance of Program VI has been endowed through the generous support of Gary and Mary Becker.

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 á 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, *piano*

Varied Trio Lou Harrison (1917–2003)
Ian Rosenbaum, *percussion*; Benjamin Beilman, *violin*, Pedja Mužijević, *piano*

Three Lieder, Op. 12 Clara Schumann (1819–1896)
Sarah Shafer, *soprano*; Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Who makes a clearing Reena Esmail (b. 1983)
Sarah Shafer, *soprano*; 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 in E-flat Major, Op. 47 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 (b. 1983)
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*

The June 8 at 11:00am performance of Program X has been endowed through the generous support of Deborah Chalsty.

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

Strum Jessie Montgomery (b. 1981)
Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Grant Houston, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*

Sonata for Clarinet and Piano 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*; Gabriela Díaz, *violin*; Ayane Kozasa, *viola*; Paul Wiancko, *cello*; Sterling Elliott, *cello*; Lizzie Burns, *double bass*

La Follia Variations Francesco Geminiani (1687–1762)
arr. 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*



PAUL WIANCKO
Paul Wiancko is an acclaimed composer and cellist of the internationally-celebrated Kronos Quartet and founding member of the quartet-collective “dream group” (*The New York Times*) Owls. *The Washington Post* describes Wiancko as “a restless and multifaceted talent who plays well with others” – a reference to his extensive collaborations with artists like Max Richter, Chick Corea, and Norah Jones. Wiancko has composed works for the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Kronos Quartet, Aizuri Quartet, Parker Quartet, Attacca Quartet, Alisa Weilerstein, and many others. His first appearance at Spoleto was as the composer-in-residence in 2019. He is making his debut as Director of Chamber Music for Spoleto Festival USA at this year’s Festival.



INON BARNATAN
“One of the most admired pianists of his generation” (*The New York Times*), Inon Barnatan has established a unique and varied career, equally celebrated as a soloist, curator, and collaborator. He is a regular soloist with many of the world’s foremost orchestras and conductors and served as the inaugural artist-in-association of the New York Philharmonic for three seasons. In 2023, Barnatan released his album, *Rachmaninoff Reflections*, offering some of the composer’s most cherished works. Born in Tel Aviv, Barnatan started playing the piano at the age of three and made his orchestral debut at 11. He is a recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and Lincoln Center’s Martin E. Segal Award.



BENJAMIN BEILMAN
Benjamin Beilman is a leading violinist of his generation. He has won international praise for his passionate performances and deep rich tone which the *Washington Post* called “mightily impressive”, and *The New York Times* described as “muscular with a glint of violence”. In April 2022, Beilman became one of the youngest artists appointed to the Curtis Institute of Music faculty. In recent seasons, Beilman’s commitment to and passion for contemporary music has led to new works written for him by Frederic Rzewski and Gabriella Smith. Beilman studied at the Curtis Institute of Music and played the “Ysaÿe” Guarneri del Gesù from 1740, on loan from the Nippon Music Foundation.



LIZZIE BURNS
Lizzie Burns is a bassist and chamber musician who performs in Chamber Orchestras, Continuo Sections, Rhythm Sections, and New Music Ensembles worldwide. She is a member of The Knights and A Far Cry, has given dozens of world premieres, and performs with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. As an experienced historical bassist, she performs with the Handel and Haydn Society, Tafelmusik Baroque, and the Trinity Baroque Orchestra. She has recorded for major record labels including Sony Masterworks, Deutsche Grammophon, Naxos, New Amsterdam, and Nonesuch. Lizzie serves on the faculty of the Hartt School of Music, Mannes Conservatory, and Montclair State University.



CHRISTOPHER COSTANZA
Christopher Costanza enjoys a variety of interests and passions, among them are running, cooking, and passenger rail-related pursuits. He finds running a perfect opportunity to explore the unique locales he visits during his extensive travels. As a runner, he has completed several full and half marathons as well as 5K and 10K races. Costanza’s cooking interests and skills revolve around a plant-based diet and are focused on local, organic, and seasonal ingredients. Costanza has performed throughout the world as a soloist and chamber musician.



OWEN DALBY
Praised as “dazzling” (*The New York Times*) and “a fearless and inquisitive violinist” (*San Francisco Classical Voice*), Owen Dalby leads a rich musical life as a soloist, chamber musician, and educator. Dalby made his debut as a member of the St. Lawrence String Quartet (SLSQ) at Spoleto Festival USA in 2015 and has appeared annually ever since. Dalby is artist-in-residence at Stanford University. Prior to joining the SLSQ, Dalby lived in New York City, where he was a co-founder of Decoda, the affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall. Dalby is co-artistic director of Noe Music, a renowned chamber music series in San Francisco. He performs on the “Fetzer” Stradivarius made in Cremona in 1694.



GABRIELA DÍAZ
2024 will be Gabriela Díaz’s second appearance at Spoleto Festival USA. A cancer survivor, Díaz is committed to supporting cancer research and treatment as a musician, bringing music to cancer units throughout Boston. Díaz is a member of the International Contemporary Ensemble, Winsor Music, A Far Cry, Castle of our Skins, and plays regularly with other chamber music ensembles throughout the United States. Her recording of Lou Harrison’s *Suite for Violin and American Gamelan* was highlighted in *The New York Times* article “5 Minutes That Will Make You Love Classical Music”.



STERLING ELLIOT
Acclaimed for his stellar stage presence and joyous musicianship, cellist Sterling Elliot is a 2021 Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient and winner of the Senior Division of the 2019 National Sphinx Competition. Elliot has appeared with major orchestras such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony, and the Dallas Symphony among others. Sterling is pursuing an Artist Diploma at the Juilliard School following completion of his Master of Music and undergraduate degrees at Juilliard. He performs on a 1741 Gennaro Gagliano cello on loan in partnership with the Sphinx Organization.



REENA ESMAIL

Reena Esmail works between the worlds of Indian and Western classical music and brings communities together through the creation of equitable musical spaces. Esmail holds degrees from The Juilliard School and the Yale School of Music. A resident of Los Angeles, Esmail is the 2025 Swan Family artist-in-residence with Los Angeles Master Chorale and was the 2021 composer-in-residence with Seattle Symphony. She is a co-founder and artistic director of Shashtra, a non-profit organization that promotes the creation of cross-cultural music connecting the musical traditions of India and the West.



GRANT HOUSTON

Grant Houston connects with listeners through performances of unbridled energy and emotional magnetism. Particularly devoted to chamber music, his recent appearances include the festivals of Ravinia, Norfolk, and Moritzburg; with debuts this summer at the festivals of Great Lakes, Grand Canyon, and Spoleto Festival USA. In addition, Houston has recently appeared at the Chamber Music Society of Central Virginia, Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society, Monadnock Music, Wellesley Chamber Players, and many more. He can often be heard in recitals with Trio Gaia, a piano trio founded in 2018. Grant performs on a 1757 Michel'angelo Bergonzi violin on loan.



ALEXI KENNEY

Violinist Alexi Kenney has forged a career that defies categorization by following his interests, intuition, and heart. Kenney has performed as soloist with the Cleveland Orchestra, the San Francisco, Dallas, Pittsburgh, and Detroit symphonies; in recital at Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall, Cal Performances, and the Phillips Collection; and as chamber musician at the Marlboro Music Festival and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Alexi is a founding member of Owls, an inverted quartet hailed as a "dream group" by *The New York Times*. The Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient and graduate of the New England Conservatory is set to release his debut solo album, *Shifting Ground*, in June 2024.



AYANE KOZASA

Hailed for her "magnetic, wide-ranging tone" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*), Primrose International Viola Competition winner Ayane Kozasa is a founding member of the Grammy-nominated Aizuri Quartet, and recipient of the 2022 Cleveland Quartet Award. She is also a member of Owls, an inverted quartet with violinist Alexi Kenney and cellists Gabriel Cabezas and Paul Wiancko, who share an uncommonly fierce creative spirit, weaving together new compositions with original arrangements of music. Her love for chamber music has led to collaborations with artists such as Norah Jones, Wilco, and Nobuko Imai. Currently, she is on the viola faculty at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.



GENEVA LEWIS

New Zealand-born violinist Geneva Lewis has been lauded for the "remarkable mastery of her instrument" (*Classical Voice North Carolina*) and hailed as "clearly one to watch" (*Musical America*). Named a BBC New Generation Artist (2022-24), she is also the recipient of a 2022 Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award and a 2021 Avery Fisher Career Grant. She was Grand Prize winner of the 2020 Concert Artists Guild Competition, winner of Kronberg Academy's Prince of Hesse Prize (2021), Musical America's New Artist of the Month (June 2021), a Performance Today Young Artist-in-Residence, and a Young Classical Artists Trust Concordia Artist. Geneva currently performs on a composite violin by Giovanni Battista Guadagnini, c. 1776 on loan from a Charitable Trust.



PEDJA MUŽIJEVIĆ

Pianist and curator Pedja Mužijević has performed in solo recitals, with orchestras, in chamber music, and for dance and theater on five continents. He has performed internationally from Carnegie Hall, Bunka Kaikan, and Barbican to Paris Opera and Teatro Colón. Mužijević has played at Mostly Mozart, Spoleto Festival USA, Holland Festival, Melbourne International Arts Festival, and Lucerne Festival. Mužijević is the artistic administrator at Baryshnikov Arts Center in New York and artistic advisor at Tippet Rise Art Center in Montana. He also directs workshops at the Verbier Festival Academy and Banff Centre where he explores concert as a format and how it can be more relevant today.



TODD PALMER

Todd Palmer is a three-time Grammy nominee and has appeared as a soloist, recitalist, chamber music collaborator, educator, arranger, and presenter in a variety of musical endeavors around the world. He has appeared with many orchestras including those of Houston, Atlanta, St. Paul, Cincinnati, Montréal, BBC Scotland, Santa Fe Chamber; and has given recital performances at Weill Hall and the 92nd Street Y in New York City, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and Suntory Hall in Tokyo. He has recorded works by Osvaldo Golijov, Ricky Gordon, David Bruce, and others. His Broadway credits include *South Pacific*, *The King & I*, *Les Misérables*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Sweeney Todd*.



RAMAN RAMAKRISHNAN

Cellist Raman Ramakrishnan enjoys performing chamber music, old and new, around the world. For two decades, as a founding member of the Horszowski Trio and the Daedalus Quartet, he has toured extensively through North and South America, Europe, and Asia, and recorded for Bridge Records and Avie Records, including, most recently, the complete piano trio of Robert Schumann. Mr. Ramakrishnan is currently an artist member of the Boston Chamber Music Society and is on the faculty of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. As a guest member of Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble, he has performed in New Delhi and Agra, India, and Cairo, Egypt. He plays a Neapolitan cello made by Vincenzo Jorio in 1837.



LESLEY ROBERTSON

Lesley Robertson has performed across the globe for 33 years with the internationally celebrated St. Lawrence String Quartet. Robertson makes her home at Stanford University where, along with her St. Lawrence colleagues, she directs the chamber music program and spearheads SLSQ's Emerging String Quartet Program and annual Chamber Music Seminar. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, The Juilliard School, and a degree holder from the University of British Columbia, Robertson has recorded widely and served on the juries of the Banff, Melbourne, Geneva, and Wigmore International String Quartet Competitions. Lesley is thrilled to be celebrating 25 years at Spoleto Festival USA.



IAN ROSENBAUM

Praised for his "spectacular performance" (*Wall Street Journal*) and his "unfailing virtuosity" (*Chicago Tribune*), the Grammy-nominated percussionist has developed a musical breadth far beyond his years. As a passionate advocate for contemporary music, Rosenbaum has premiered over one hundred new chamber and solo works. In 2012, Rosenbaum joined the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Bowers Program as only the second percussionist selected in their history. Rosenbaum is a founding member of Sandbox Percussion and is on faculty at the Mannes School of Music and the University of Missouri - Kansas City.



MASUMI PER ROSTAD

Grammy Award-winning Japanese-Norwegian violist, Masumi Per Rostad is an in-demand soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. In 2017, he was appointed to the faculty of the Eastman School of Music. His 2023- 2024 highlights include concerto appearances with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, The Knights, Grant Park Symphony Orchestra, and numerous festivals. He received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees at The Juilliard School. As a former member of the Pacifica Quartet, Rostad has recorded and concertized extensively. Rostad maintains a YouTube channel and produces videos about music and musicians. His Amati viola was crafted in Cremona, Italy, in 1619.



LIVIA SOHN

Hailed by *Opus Magazine* as "a stunning musician," Livia Sohn has performed widely on the international stage as concerto soloist, recitalist, and festival guest artist in North America, Europe, and Asia. Sohn began playing violin at age five and gave her first public performance at age eight. At thirteen, she won first prize in the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition. She attended the Juilliard Pre-College from the age of seven and began her studies with Dorothy DeLay and Hyo Kang. She continued under their tutelage at The Juilliard School, where she also studied chamber music with the legendary Felix Galamir. Sohn makes her home in the Bay Area with her sons Jack and Ellis.



AMY YANG

A "jaw-dropping pianist who steals the show...with effortless finesse" (*Washington Post*), pianist Amy Yang has performed across the globe alongside numerous symphonies and world-renowned musicians. Ms. Yang's energetic exploration of contemporary voices has brought forth world premieres of music by Caroline Shaw, Richard Danielpour, Paul Wiancko, and many other ground-breaking composers. Yang has recorded extensively, including her solo album, *Resonance*, a world premiere recording of piano music by Ezra Laderman, and a world premiere recording of Michael Hersch's *I hope we get a chance to visit soon*, amongst others.



SARAH SHAFER

American soprano Sarah Shafer, lauded by *Opera News* and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, actively appears on the leading operatic and concert stages across the world. Shafer has appeared at Opera Philadelphia as Iris in *Semele*, Cupid in John Blow's *Venus and Adonis* with Opera Lafayette, and the roster of the Metropolitan Opera in *Le nozze di Figaro*. Continuing her concert career, Shafer is excited to appear with Atlanta Symphony Orchestra singing Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate* and Mahler's Symphony No. 4, Schumann's *Das Paradies und die Peri* with the Cincinnati Symphony, a concert entitled Emerging Voices with the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and many other upcoming engagements.



KARIM SULAYMAN

Internationally acclaimed Lebanese American tenor Karim Sulayman returns to Spoleto after debuting with his original production, *Unholy Wars*, in 2022. Recent seasons include leading roles at the Royal Opera House, Drottningholms Slottsteater, Opera Philadelphia, Teatro Comunale di Bolzano e Trento, and the Aldeburgh Festival. He has appeared in recital at Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Ravinia and Schleswig-Holstein Festivals, and recently performed with the Chicago, Pittsburgh, New World, and National Symphony Orchestras. Sulayman's debut album, *Song of Orpheus*, awarded him a Grammy in 2019, and his latest album, *Broken Branches*, saw him nominated for the same award in 2024.