



SALON CONCERTS

2017 - 2018 Season

Harmony

SALES

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TERRA NOVA VIOLINS

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www.TerraNovaViolins.com

President's Message

Welcome to Salon Concerts, with its splendid history of chamber music in Austin since 1990. It is my privilege to serve as the Board president and work alongside our ebullient board members and staff who share a common dedication and admiration for Chamber music and CHAMPS educational program.

This is an exciting year for us. Our 2017-2018 season is a season of Harmony with a profound musical legacy and artistic imprint of the past, present, and the future. The season opens with The Return of The Red Violin Gala Concert featuring Elizabeth Pitcairn, international virtuoso, playing on the legendary Mendelssohn Red Violin, accompanied by pianist Louise Thomas.

Our concert series of Chamber music features many accomplished professional musicians, local and international, performing a repertoire designed to provide enjoyment to many. Our CHAMPS program (Chamber Music in Public Schools) offers opportunities for young and emerging student musicians. It is our hope that this essential and successful collaboration between Salon Concerts Chamber music series and CHAMPS educational program encourages and offers significant and meaningful opportunities to inspire students to develop the highest levels of performing skills and meaningful music experiences and appreciation. The obvious and integral component for our continued success each year is you, our audience! And together, we embrace our mission and the shared sense of discovery, interest and appreciation of music as a whole. As we celebrate this season we also celebrate the continued support of our community of supporters, volunteers, our committed and enthusiastic Board members and staff that make a significant contribution in numerous ways. I wish to convey my heartfelt appreciation to you, for it has made and continues to make the difference.

Our vision this year includes implementing and conglomerating our current strategic planning with short- and long-term goals for Salon Concerts' Chamber Music Concert series and CHAMPS educational music program. Our ambitious plans rely on your support, irrespective of how big or small, as it continues to matter with our expanding programs.

I personally believe music is a vital ingredient of life. Through the sounds of music, we express ourselves, humanity, love, freedom and peace while conveying a sense of unity that neither seeks nor sees boundaries, just as a musician and an instrument come together with others to make one piece sound so brilliant. The opportunities we can offer to our young musicians to play an instrument or simply appreciate music is a gift of a lifetime.

Again, I am grateful and thankful to each of you for your continued support to Salon Concerts as we step into this season to anticipate another vibrant and exciting season of Harmony while celebrating and creating the joy of music with you today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

Warmest Regards,



Surangi Widyaratne
Salon Concerts
President



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Surangi and Dilum Chandrasoma

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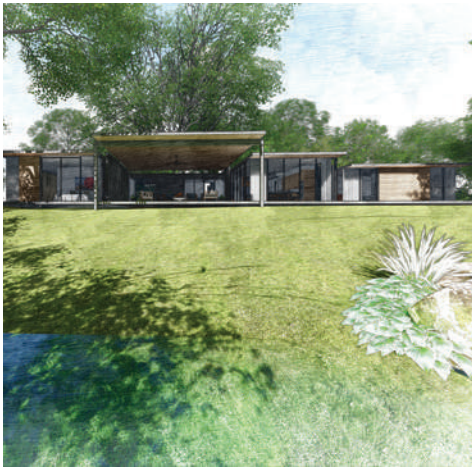
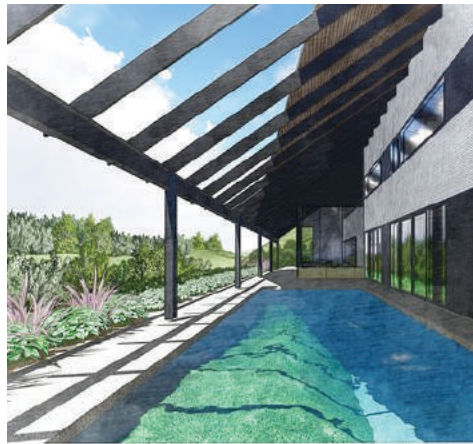
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October Concert

Sunday, October 8, 4:30 pm
Monday, October 9, 7:00 pm
 Home of Jannis and Robert Baldwin

Tuesday, October 10, noon
 Free Lunch –Hour Concert:
 at The University Presbetyrian Church

PROGRAM

Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 3 in E-Flat Major, Opus 12 no. 3
 Ludwig van Beethoven
Allegro con spirito
Adagio con molt' espressione
Rondo: Allegro molto

Sonata for Viola and Piano No. 2 in E-Flat Major, Opus 120 no. 2
 Johannes Brahms
Allegro amabile
Allegro appassionato
Andante con moto-Allegro

Sequenza VI for Solo Viola
 Luciano Berio

Elisabeth Kufferath, Violin and Viola
 Stephen Perry, Piano

Clarinet Celebration

Saturday, November 18, 2017,
7 pm
Round Rock Presbyterian Church
 4010 Sam Bass Road, Round Rock, TX 78681

ARTISTS
 Toby Blumenthal, piano
 Steve Girko, clarinet
 Douglas Harvey, cello



PROGRAM
Ludwig van Beethoven,
 Trio in E-flat Major, Op. 38
 transcribed from the septet by the composer

Johannes Brahms
 Trio in A minor, Op. 114



Toby Blumenthal



Stephen Girko



Douglas Harvey

Concert Tickets \$25.00
 (student under age 18, \$10.00)

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 Festival of the Arts

Chávez,
 Villa-Lobos,
 Ginastera,
 y otros Compositores
 Latinoamericanos

MAY 18-27, 2018

The Return of the Red Violin

Sunday, October 15, 3:00 pm
Bates Recital Hall

PROGRAM

Praeludium and Allegro	Fritz Kreisler 1875-1962
Sonatina in D Major Op. 137, no. 1, D. 184 <i>Allegro molto</i> <i>Andante</i> <i>Allegro Vivace</i>	Franz Schubert 1797-1828
Sonata No. 2 in G Major Maurice Ravel <i>Allegretto</i> 1875-1937 <i>Blues</i> <i>Perpetuum mobile</i>	

Intermission

Blue Vishudda	Sara Carina Graef b. 1971
The Red Violin Chaconne	John Corigliano b. 1939
Elizabeth Pitcairn, violin Louise Thomas, piano	

January Concert

Sunday, January 28, 4:30 pm
Monday, January 29, 7:00 pm
Lunch –Hour Concert: Tuesday, January 30, noon

PROGRAM

Prelude, Allegro and Pastorale for Bb Clarinet and Viola <i>Andante semplice</i> <i>Allegro vigoroso</i> <i>Poco lento</i>	Rebecca Clarke
Thousand Whirling Dreams	Dana Wilson
From Eight Pieces, viola and piano, Op. 83 <i>Andante con moto</i> <i>Allegro agitato</i> <i>Andante con moto</i> <i>Allegro vivace, ma non troppo</i>	Max Bruch

Intermission

Trio in Eb Major, KV 498, “Kegelstatt” <i>Andante</i> <i>Menuetto</i> <i>Rondeaux - Allegretto</i>	W.A. Mozart
Suite for Clarinet, Violin and Piano <i>Introduction: Lento</i> <i>Scherzo: Allegretto</i> <i>Dialog: Adagio</i> <i>Final: Allegro non troppo</i>	Alexander Arutiunian

Strata:
Nathan Williams, Clarinet
James Stern, Violin, Viola
Audrey Andrist, Piano

March Concert

Sunday, March 25, 4:30 pm

Monday, March 26, 7:00 pm

Lunch –Hour Concert: Tuesday, March 27, noon

PROGRAM

Van Gough From Space Steven Snowden

Trio Sonata in G major for flute,
violin & basso continuo, BWV 1038 Johann Sebastian Bach

Largo

Vivace

Adagio

Presto

Drumming; excerpt from Part 1 Steve Reich

I'll Meet You There Kathryn Mishell

Intermission

Piano Trio No. 44 in E major (Hob. XV No. 28) Joseph Haydn

Allegro moderato

Allegretto

Finale - Allegro

In The Gloaming Joel Love

Sonata for Flute and Piano, Op. 23 Lowell Liebermann

Lento con rubato

Presto energico

Line Upon Line Percussion: Matthew Teodori, Adam Bedell, Cullen Faulk

Marianne Gedigian, flute

Annie Chalex Boyle, violin

Douglas Harvey, cello

Rick Rowley, piano

Kathryn Mishell, piano

April Concert

Sunday, April 29, 4:30 pm

Monday, April 30, 7:00 pm

Lunch –Hour Concert: Tuesday, May 1, noon

PROGRAM

Fantasy for Violin and Harp Op.124 Camille Saint- Saëns

Sonata for Solo Cello György Ligeti

Dialogo – Adagio, rubato, cantabile

Capriccio – Presto con slancio

Sicilienne, Op. 78, arranged for cello and harp Gabriel Fauré

Sonata for Violin and Piano Leos Janáček

Con Moto

Ballada. Con moto

Allegretto

Adagio. Un poco piu mosso

Intermission

Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 15 Bedrich Smetana

Moderato assai

Allegro, ma non agitato

Finale. Presto

Stephanie Sant'Ambrogio, Violin

Elaine Barber, Harp

Douglas Harvey, Cello

Colette Valentine, Piano

Kathryn Mishell, Piano

About The Artists

A member of the Tetzlaff String Quartet since its inception in 1992, **Elisabeth Kufferath** has performed on the stages of some of the most auspicious halls in Europe and the United States, including Philharmonie Hall in Berlin, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Musikverein in Vienna, Carnegie Hall in New York, and the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. In 2015 the Tetzlaff Quartet was awarded a Diapason d'Or de l'année for their recording of string quartets by Berg and Mendelssohn.

Elisabeth Kufferath's chamber music partners include Lars Vogt, Isabelle van Keulen, Adrian Brendel and Gustav Rivinius. Ms. Kufferath has been invited to perform at Berliner Festwochen, Schleswig-Holstein Festival, "Spannungen" Heimbach, Helsinki Festival, Lucerne Festival and Schubertiade Schwarzenberg. Heinz Holliger thinks of Elisabeth Kufferath as *'unquestionably one of the most interesting and influential string players of her generation.'*

She has appeared as soloist with the WDR-Symphony Orchestra Cologne under the direction of Heinz Holliger, Ensemble Oriol Berlin led by Marcus Creed, the Munich Chamber Orchestra with conductor Christoph Poppen, World Youth Symphony Orchestra and Gerard Schwarz, as well as the Cologne Chamber Orchestra, musica assoluta Hannover and Kammerakademie Potsdam. She has recorded for the Naxos, cpo, Wergo, Avi and Ondine Labels.

Ms. Kufferath is Professor of Violin at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater, und Medien in Hannover, Germany. Previously, she held the same position at the Musikhochschule Detmold and was a concertmaster of the Bamberg Symphony. She has been a guestconcertmaster with Camerata Salzburg, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Ensemble Oriol Berlin and Ensemble Resonanz.

Both her violin and viola were built by the German luthier Stefan-Peter Greiner.

An Austin native currently based in Germany, **Stephen Perry** recently performed solo recitals in Tokyo, Japan and Pune, India. His performances have been heard on National Public Radio and on CBS and PBS television. He has presented masterclasses at CCM in Cincinnati, Indiana University in Bloomington, The Colburn School in Los Angeles, and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hannover.

He is a former faculty member at the Interlochen Arts Academy, Lawrence University, and the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold. A magna cum laude graduate of the University of Southern California, he earned a Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree from the Eastman School of Music. His principal teachers include Kathryn Mishell, Tim Woolsey, John Perry, Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, and Nelita True.

Violinist **Annie Chalex Boyle** is internationally recognized as a chamber musician, soloist, and teacher. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Violin at Texas Tech University. She has won prizes at the Seventeen Magazine/General Motors National Competition and the Irving M. Klein International String Competition, and was a finalist in the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition and the Stulberg International String Competition. She was also the Grand Prize Winner of the Junior Division of the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition.

As a soloist, Ms. Chalex Boyle has performed with the Quartz Mountain Music Festival Orchestra, New England Conservatory Orchestra, Harper College Symphony, Amarillo Symphony, Northwest Chicago Symphony, Randel Chamber Orchestra, Mondovi Chamber Orchestra, Amarillo Virtuosi, and numerous others. She has been a frequent guest of Camerata San Antonio, as well as Chamber Music North and Chamber Music Amarillo. She has been Concertmaster of the Hot Springs Music Festival Orchestra, Amarillo Virtuosi, Interlochen Faculty Orchestra, Amarillo Symphony, Big Spring Symphony, Randel Chamber Orchestra, Lubbock Symphony, and Quartz Mountain Music Festival. She has been heard on NPR's "Performance Today" with various chamber music ensembles and chamber orchestras.

Douglas Harvey joined the cello section of the Austin Symphony at age 17, and in 2002 became the youngest principal cellist in the history of the Orchestra. In 2005, he became the principal cellist of the Austin Opera Orchestra. Douglas performed his first concerto as solo cellist with the Youth Orchestra of San Antonio at the age of 13, and made his debut as soloist with the San Antonio Symphony at the age of 15. At age 16 he was the youngest cellist in history to be invited by the University of Texas at Austin to perform a full recital on its campus. He won first place awards in the 2000 William C. Byrd International Competition, the Idyllwild International Young Artists

Competition, and the Corpus Christi International Competition, as well as two first place solo Bach prizes awarded at the Corpus Christi and Kingsville International Competitions. Since then, Mr. Harvey has performed almost 20 different works for cello and orchestra. Douglas plays on the Grand Prize winning "Emperor" cello made c. 1860 in Paris by Gand Freres, commissioned by the Emperor Napoleon III.

Pianist **Rick Rowley** leads a diverse artistic life. Mr. Rowley has been on the Faculty of the University of Texas at Austin in the Butler School of Music for the past eleven years. In his position he coaches singers, works with collaborative pianists and has taught classes in art song literature, the history of Broadway and acting and singing for the musical theater. He also serves as Artistic Director of the Butler Opera Center Young Artists Program. His performance of Schumann's C major Fantasy, Op. 17, not only won the Austin Critics' Table award for Instrumentalist of the Year, but was also named one of the 10 Best Performances of Music and Dance by the Austin Chronicle. In addition to a musical career, Mr. Rowley has been involved in over fifty theatrical productions as actor, musical director and director. He appeared as Cosme McMoon, pianist to famed "non-soprano" Florence Foster Jenkins, in the play "Souvenir". He performed speaking roles for two Austin Symphony "Beyond the Score" performances, including Dvorak's "New World" Symphony and as Stravinsky for the presentation of "The Rite of Spring". He also performed the solo actor version of Stravinsky's "L'Histoire du soldat" with Dan Welcher and the UT New Music Ensemble. He appeared in the role of Frosch for the Butler Opera Center's production of "Die Fledermaus" to great acclaim and created Herr Budweiser, a character who sang Gershwin's "By Strauss" for the gala scene of the opera.

Marianne Gedigian, holder of the Butler Professorship in Music at The University of Texas at Austin Butler School of Music, performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra for over a decade. As Principal Flute with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and Acting Principal Flute with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Boston Pops. Ms. Gedigian has been heard on dozens of recordings and Evening at Pops television broadcasts as well as the nationally broadcast Fourth of July specials. She has also been heard on several John Williams' movie scores, including *Saving Private Ryan* and *Schindler's List*. Her solo performances have taken her around the world performing recitals in Japan, Australia, England, and Armenia, and she has appeared as concerto soloist numerous times with the Boston Pops Orchestra

and with the Armenian Philharmonic. She keeps an active schedule as a chamber musician as a founding member of the Boston-based Walden Chamber Players.

Stephanie Sant'Ambrogio, praised as a "violinist who most often takes your breath away" by Gramophone Magazine, and described as an "expressive and passionate chamber musician" by the San Antonio Express-News, Ms. Sant'Ambrogio enjoys a varied teaching, performing and recording career as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral leader and pedagogue. Ms. Sant'Ambrogio has performed as a soloist and chamber musician on the foremost stages of the U.S., as well as in Canada, Estonia, Sweden, Ghana, Italy, Peru, Chile and Mexico. In addition to her active performing career, Stephanie is devoted to teaching serious string players, many who have won positions in America's symphony orchestras and universities. Currently Associate Professor of Violin and Viola at the University of Nevada, Reno, she is also Artistic Director of Cactus Pear Music Festival, which she founded in 1997 while serving as Concertmaster of the San Antonio Symphony. Former First Assistant Principal Second Violin of The Cleveland Orchestra under Christoph von Dohnany, she toured and recorded internationally with this ensemble for eight seasons.

Currently Concertmaster of the Fresno Philharmonic Orchestra (CA), Ms. Sant'Ambrogio has a discography of over 75 orchestral and chamber music CDs, and has recently recorded her Soaring Solo: Unaccompanied Works for Violin & Viola CD that was released in June 2016. Audiophile Review praised her Johannes Brahms: The Violin Sonatas CD as, "Fine readings of great finesse, rich coloring and complete understanding" and Fanfare Magazine wrote, she "play[s] with immaculate technique, impeccable intonation, lustrous tone, and emotional warmth." Ms. Sant'Ambrogio was the graduate assistant to Donald Weilerstein at The Eastman School of Music, where she received her Master's degree. Previously she received her Bachelor degree from Indiana University as a student of Laurence Shapiro and James Oliver Buswell. Performing on a violin crafted in 1757 by J.B. Guadagnini of Milan and a 2008 viola by Jacek Zadlo of Chicago, she and her graphic designer husband Gary Albright enjoy traveling with their daughters 18-year-old Isabel and 16-year-old Gabrielle.

Line upon line employs percussion for fervent, communal experiences that we believe are essential for human beings to thrive. To date, the Austin-based trio has premiered twenty-eight new works by

composers such as Andrew Greenwald, Jessie Marino, Alex Mincek, Kate Soper and Steve Snowden, in addition to performing the greatest existing music for percussion instruments by influential composers such as John Cage, Steve Reich and Iannis Xenakis. The trio has twice been named “Best Ensemble” by the Austin Critics’ Table and is currently a member of the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Roster. The group’s self-presented concert series, now in its fifth year, was listed as one of the *Austin Chronicle’s* Top 10 Dance/Classical Music Treasures. The *Austinist* called line upon line “the premier new music percussion ensemble in Texas and the South” and the *Austin American-Statesman* considers the group “a riveting, always-surprising and delightful trio.”

line upon line will teach at UT Austin for four weeks in 2018, has been in residence at Stanford University (May 2017) and has performed and taught at universities in twenty-one different states. Internationally, the group has twice toured England and also performed in Basel (Hochschule für Musik), Berlin (Unerhörte Musik) and Cologne (Loft Köln). line upon line has performed at the 2013 and 2017 Fusebox Festivals, 2012 and 2015 Percussive Arts Society International Conventions, as well as SXSW, the Victoria Bach Festival and the International Festival-Institute at Round Top.

Formed in 2009, line upon line percussion consists of its three original members, Adam Bedell, Cullen Faulk and Matthew Teodori.

Strata is a coming together of three extraordinary musical talents: Audrey Andrist, piano; Nathan Williams, clarinet; and James Stern, violin and viola. Their combined credits encompass numerous international prizes and performances across four continents including such places as Carnegie Hall, the Marlboro Festival and the Kennedy Center.

Strata brings “deft ensemble playing” and a “talent... that’s worth getting worked up about” [*Washington Post*] to a repertoire that combines the great trio and duo repertoire of the past with an ever-growing body of new works written especially for them over the more than 25 years they have been playing together. Equally capable of winning over an audience with unique renderings of popular music and of making even the most complex works accessible, exciting and meaningful, Strata has received enthusiastic repeat engagements at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, New York’s historic Maverick Concerts and San Francisco Composers Inc, for which they were listed as one of San Francisco Classical Voice’s “highlights of 2005.” They have been resident artists at the Banff Centre for the Arts and appeared in New York City under the

auspices of the International Society for Contemporary Music.

All holders of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Juilliard School, the members of Strata are dedicated to every level of music education, from the mentoring of graduate students and young professionals, to the initial sparking of musical passion in very young children, to the guiding of audiences in what to listen for. Spoken commentary is an integral part of all their concerts. They perform a wide range of specially tailored presentations for K-12 schools, and have done numerous university residencies involving coaching chamber music and both advising and performing the music of young composers. They have appeared as a featured ensemble at the annual conventions of the Music Teachers’ Association of California and the International Clarinet Association. The ensemble’s first CD, an exciting mix of old and standard repertoire recorded in 1999, is available on the AUR label as well as on iTunes and Amazon. They are featured on compact discs of the music of Robert Maggio for CRI and Adam Silverman for Albany Records, and have been recorded live in concert for CBC Radio in Canada.

Kathryn Mishell was born in Los Angeles, where she received her early musical training. Her college and graduate work were done at Pomona College, The University of Kansas, and the University of Southern California. During these years she was a piano student of John Perry and a composition student of John Pozdro and then Ingolf Dahl.

Ms. Mishell’s works include over a hundred piano pieces, ensemble and orchestral works, and music for chorus, dance and theatre. Her published collections of pieces for piano students have sold thousands of copies nationwide. She is the recipient of the 2011 Sylvia Glickman Prize from the International Alliance of Women in Music for her Piano Quartet. She is one of two women composers honored by the National League of American Pen Women in 1996. She was the 1997 commissioned composer of the Texas Music Teachers Association, and has received ASCAP awards for the past several years. Her commissions include chamber works for Trio Contraste, Chamber Soloists of Austin, the Arundel Trio, Pacific Serenades of Los Angeles, Musiques en Euroregion, and Austin Lyric Opera’s Armstrong Community Music School, for which she is composer-in-residence. Mishell has participated in the Women’s Philharmonic New Music Reading Sessions, the Society of Composers National Conference, and has been guest composer at the UT at Austin.

Ms. Mishell produced and hosted *Into the Light*, a weekly radio program devoted to the music of women composers, for ten and a half years. Produced at KMFA, the fine arts station in Austin, it won three Gracie awards for outstanding work in biography for public radio, as well as two international Communicator Awards of Distinction for excellence in broadcasting. This project extended into the concert world as Ms. Mishell produced, lectured, and performed *Into the Light*, live for audiences. The hundreds of hours of broadcasts of the work of women composers with Ms. Mishell’s commentary are available for broadcast throughout the world.

As pianist, Ms. Mishell has performed extensively in the U.S. and Mexico as a soloist and in chamber music. She has been touring pianist for the Sharir Dance Company, and for the music dramas *Paganini!* and *Heroes and Lovers*, for which she wrote the incidental music.

A teacher of many award-winning young pianists, Ms. Mishell has taught at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and has acted as clinician, adjudicator, and as consultant in the use of computers in music instruction. She maintains a class of private piano students in Austin, where she has twice been awarded the Outstanding Pre-collegiate Teaching Award.

Elaine Barber began playing the harp at the age of ten, and began playing professionally in her native Mississippi four years later. She earned her master’s degree at the Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music, studying with Beatrice Rose, and has been Austin Symphony Principal Harpist since 1992. Also an early music specialist, she plays baroque and renaissance harp with Texas Early Music Project, Austin Baroque Orchestra, Istanpitta and on the St. Cecelia Music Series. She has been featured soloist at the American Harp Society National Conference, and with Austin Symphony, Mississippi Symphony, Shepherd Symphony, and Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra. As an orchestral musician she has performed with Spoleto USA, San Antonio Symphony, Houston Symphony, Memphis Symphony, Alabama Symphony, Mississippi Symphony and Mississippi Opera. She has performed with Ray Charles and Renee Fleming, for the King of Norway and the Governor of Mississippi, on movie and video game soundtracks and children’s TV shows. She plays with central Texas chamber music groups such as REVEL, Austin Chamber Music Festival, Cactus Pear Music Festival, Musical Offerings, and Victoria Bach Festival. She has recorded for the Naxos, Nonesuch and Matador labels, and has premiered solo and chamber works by James Sclater, Peter Stopschinski, Gordon Jones, and P. Kellach

Waddle. Ms. Barber maintains a private teaching studio in Austin and has been on the faculty of Austin Chamber Music Center, Sewanee Summer Music Festival, Abilene Summer Music Festival, University of Texas Harp Camp, and Mississippi College. She is artistic director of the Girl Scout Harp Ensemble, probably the only Girl Scout troop anywhere made up entirely of harpists. She has two nicely grown children and a sweet old dog.

Pianist **Colette Valentine**, one of the most active professional collaborative pianists in the United States, joined the faculty of the newly created Collaborative Piano Department at the University of Texas at Austin’s Butler School of Music in the fall of 2008. She completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance at the State University of New York at Stony Brook with Gilbert Kalish after earning Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the University of Maryland where she studied with Nelita True. From 2000-2008 she was on faculty at Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus, as an instrumental repertoire coach and faculty recital partner. She was also a faculty member at New Jersey City University from 1996-2008 where, in addition to coaching students and performing with faculty and guest artists, she taught courses in The Application of Theory in Performance and The Art of Accompanying. In the summers, she joins other professional colleagues as a coach at the Interlochen Adult Chamber Music Camp in Michigan.

Critically hailed for her “clean, sparkling technique” (*Salt Lake Tribune*) and for her “consummate skill and musicianship” (*Classical New Jersey*), Colette Valentine has performed in such important venues as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the 92nd Street Y, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Kennedy Center, the Library of Congress, the Phillips Collection, the Corcoran Gallery, and internationally in Paris, Zurich, Tokyo, Seoul, and Hong Kong. As pianist of the Ecco Trio, praised by the *Washington Post* for capturing “the intimacy of chamber music at its best”, she has toured the United States and Japan. She has also collaborated in chamber concerts with the New York Philharmonic Winds, St. Luke’s Chamber Ensemble, the Washington Chamber Society, the Left Bank Concert Society, the Grand Teton Music Festival and the Rembrandt Chamber players, among others. For many years, she has been official staff pianist for the William Kapell International Piano Competition, the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, the Washington International Competition for Strings, and the National Flute Association National Convention. She has also served in that capacity for the Leonard Rose International Cello Competition, the Marian

Anderson International Vocal Competition, and the Music Teachers National Association Competitions. She has recorded for the Albany, fontec, Antara, Well-Tempered and CRI labels.

American violin virtuoso **Elizabeth Pitcairn** is passionate about youth and education. She is in her fifth year as President and Artistic Director of the Luzerne Music Center which provides training for gifted young musicians ages 9-18 in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York. (www.luzernemusic.org)

The artist performs with one of the world's most legendary instruments, the "Red Mendelssohn" Stradivarius violin of 1720, said to have inspired the Academy Award-winning film *The Red Violin*. Pitcairn is featured on the 10th Anniversary edition of *The Red Violin DVD* in a special feature called "The Auction Block". Named the Red Stradivarius violin while in the possession of Joseph Joachim, it was a gift from her grandfather in 1990 at Christie's Auction in London.

Born in 1973 in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, to a closely-knit musical family (her mother is a Juilliard-trained cellist), Pitcairn began playing the violin at age three and made her debut with orchestra at 14. Her path led her to Los Angeles to study with preeminent violin professor Robert Lipsett at the University of Southern California. Her former teachers include Julian Meyer, Sylvia Ahramjian, Jascha Brodsky, Robert Lipsett and Shmuel Ashkenasi. She was a member of the distinguished faculty of both USC and the Colburn School for 10 years (2000-2010), taught at the Encore School for Strings, and is an alumna of the Marlboro Music Festival, the National Repertory Orchestra, Luzerne Music Center, Temple University's Center for Gifted Young Musicians, the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, the Meadowmount School, Point Counter Point, the Encore School for Strings, the YMF Debut Orchestra and the American Youth Symphony. She served as concertmaster of the New West Symphony under the direction of Boris Brott for 11 years (2000-2011). With Maestro Brott, she appeared with the McGill Chamber Orchestra of Montréal, the National Academy Orchestra in Ontario and the New West Symphony. She has appeared in recital for the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and for a special event at the Aspen Music Festival with President and CEO Alan Fletcher and soloist Robert McDuffie. Pitcairn regularly appears internationally with pianists Barbara Podgurski, Hungarian pianist Anikó Szokody, Louise Thomas and Cynthia Elise Tobey. She believes strongly in philanthropy and is a frequent performer for charitable events such as the American Cancer Society, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation,

the Helping Hands and Hearts Foundation and the Nakashima Foundation for Peace.

A champion of new music, Pitcairn commissioned Sweden's renowned composer Tommie Haglund to compose the violin concerto tone poem *Hymnen an die Nacht* (Hymns to the Night), receiving a Swedish Grammi nomination in 2009. Other commissions include a sonata for violin and piano by Russian composer David Finko and *The Blue Vishuddha* (2014) by Sara Carina Graef which was composed for her Fisher Center recital at Bard College.

Pitcairn made her debut with orchestra at age 14 performing the Saint-Saëns Concerto, and has since appeared as soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Academy of Music and at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall in the year 2000 with the New York String Orchestra in her New York debut. She has since performed at Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Kimmel Center, Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and the Fisher Center at Bard College. She has given performances of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra of China and with conductor Wagner Politshuk in São Paulo, Brazil. Under the baton of Finnish conductor Hannu Koivula, Pitcairn has performed the Barber Concerto with the Vaasa City Symphony, the Jönköping Symphony of Sweden and given the premiere of eminent Swedish composer's *Hymnen an die Nacht* with the Helsingborg Symphony. She gave a nationally televised broadcast of the Bruch Violin Concerto with the Classic FM Radio Symphony Orchestra of Bulgaria conducted by Maxim Eshkenazy. She has also concertized in Italy, France, Germany, the British Isles, Hungary, Brazil, Canada, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the French West Indies. In the winter of 2016, she will appear in recital at the Cayman Arts Festival with pianist Glen Inanga and with the Arkansas Philharmonic and the North Mississippi Symphonies conducted by Steven Byess. She will also perform the Brahms Violin Concerto with the Richardson Symphony, and will release a recording of the Brahms and Mendelssohn Violin Concerti in the fall of 2016. She has appeared with the Fort Collins Symphony conducted by Wes Kenney, the Allentown Symphony with Diane Wittry, the Bucks County Symphony, Ridgewood Symphony and Knickerbocker Chamber Orchestra of New York led by Gary Fagin, the Marin Symphony conducted by Alasdair Neale and the USC and Richardson Symphonies conducted by Anshel Brusilow. She performed the Brahms Double Concerto with Ronald Leonard, under the baton of Yehuda Gilad and Carlo Ponti, Jr. She has performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the San Luis Obispo Symphony music director Michael Nowak, and the Beethoven Violin Concerto with Lara Webber and the

Livermore Symphony. In 2010, on the 20th anniversary of the auction of the Red Mendelssohn Stradivarius, she gave a commemorative recital in Cremona, Italy with pianist Igor Longato, whom she met at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 1998. She has toured northern Italy with the TOCCATA-Tahoe Orchestra performing Vivaldi's Four Seasons and in 2017, she will tour Vienna, Salzburg and Prague, as well as Romania and Serbia. Also in 2017, she will perform *The Red Violin Chaconne* with Maestro Jung-Ho Pak and the Cape Symphony and record the Sibelius Violin Concerto which will be released together with the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto.

Her discography includes the Tchaikovsky and Mozart A Major Concerti with the Slovenia Radio Television Orchestra, *Hymnen an die Nacht* (Hymns to the Night) by Tommie Haglund with the Helsingborg Symphony for Phono Suecia, the Bruch Scottish Fantasy and Sarasate Carmen Fantasy with the Sofia Philharmonic, the Beethoven and Bruch Concerti (2015), the Brahms and Mendelssohn Violin Concerti (2016) and the Sibelius Concerto (2017) with the Classic FM Radio Orchestra of Bulgaria conducted by Maxim Eshkenazy.

Pitcairn's gowns are courtesy of LaFemme Fashion. The "Red Mendelssohn" Stradivarius is fitted with Wittner Finetune-Pegs and travels in a titanium case by GEWA. Her favorite activities are skiing, tennis, horseback riding, wine tasting and her philanthropy www.littleredviolinfoundation.org. For her concert schedule and history of the "Red Mendelssohn" Stradivarius violin, please visit www.redviolin.com.

Pianist Louise Thomas has concertized extensively throughout Europe, North America and Asia at such concert venues as the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow, the Franz Liszt Academy Museum in Budapest, the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles and Weill Hall in New York City.

Louise Thomas was born in Ireland and completed undergraduate musicology studies at Trinity College, Dublin. She received a German Government scholarship to continue piano performance studies at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hannover, Germany where she received a Konzertdiplom in the solo piano class. Dr. Thomas won second prize at the Ibla-Ragusa competition in Sicily where she was awarded the Béla Bartók Prize. She also won the concerto competition at the University of Southern California and performed with Maestro Sergiu Comissiona. Dr. Thomas received her doctorate in piano performance in 1999 from USC where she studied with Prof. John Perry and Director of Keyboard

Collaborative Arts, Dr. Alan Smith.

A dynamic collaborative pianist, Louise Thomas has made CD recordings in Germany (as part of the chamber music festival, "Schwetzinger Festspielen"); at the Banff Center for the Arts in Canada with the Irish Contemporary Music group, Nua Nós, and has appeared on numerous live radio broadcasts for Irish Radio, BBC Radio Northern Ireland, Moscow radio, K-USC and K-MZT in Los Angeles. She has also played live and recorded for RTE (Irish National Television) and the nationally distributed Ovation Arts Channel in Los Angeles. Her recordings are available at iTunes.com and on the Centaur label. She concertizes regularly with violinist, Elizabeth Pitcairn, who performs on the legendary "Red Mendelssohn" Stradivarius, in addition to appearing regularly on the acclaimed Jacaranda Series in Los Angeles.

Louise Thomas has been invited onto the faculty of several summer programs: she was the vocal coach at the 2002 "La Fabbrica" summer program in Tuscany, and from 2003-2009, she was the Festival pianist and vocal/instrumental coach at the Idyllwild Arts Summer Academy in California. In the summer of 2011, she joined the faculty at the Luzerne International Music festival in New York State and returned as Chair of the Piano program (first session) in 2012.

Dr. Thomas joined Chapman University in 2001 as Director of Keyboard Collaborative Arts. In June 2014, she was named Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Performing Arts at Chapman.

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