

# MUSIC ON THE STRAIT

The background of the entire page is a dark, textured circular composition. It features concentric rings of varying shades of gray, creating a sense of depth and movement. In the center, there is a complex, geometric pattern resembling a stylized flower or a mandala, composed of overlapping, angular shapes in lighter and darker tones. The overall effect is that of a high-contrast, monochromatic print.

PORT ANGELES

WASHINGTON

2025



# MUSIC *on the* STRAIT

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

**RICHARD O'NEILL & JAMES GARLICK**  
*Artistic Directors*

## FEATURING

Jeremy Denk, piano  
Gabriela Lena Frank, composer-in-residence and piano  
Kristin Lee, violin  
Rachel Lee Priday, violin  
James Garlick, violin  
Noah Geller, viola  
Richard O'Neill, viola  
Ani Aznavoorian, cello  
Efe Baltacıgil, cello

*Our 2025 season is dedicated to the loving memory of  
**Charles Whitney**, who left us unexpectedly on June 21.  
His stewardship of the arts was guided by his love for our  
community: Music on the Strait would not exist without his  
humble and tireless commitment to our mission.*

We gather today on the traditional land of the  
Klallam, Ns'Klallam K (Nəxwsłáyəm') people, which  
means "Strong People"—the people who have stewarded  
and cared for this land through the generations. We  
thank them and we honor their ancestors.

## DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you for joining us for our Music on the Strait summer festival, celebrating chamber music on the beautiful Olympic Peninsula! We are delighted to share four exciting programs as we embark on our *seventh* Music on the Strait season, thanks to your loyal support. This is the community that raised us and made us musicians.

Our world-renowned guest artists love returning to beautiful Port Angeles, and this year is no exception. We welcome back Ani Aznavoorian, Efe Baltacıgil, Noah Geller, and of course Jeremy Denk, who's only missed one Music on the Strait season since our founding in 2018! We're also excited to introduce Rachel Lee Priday and Kristin Lee for their Music on the Strait debuts.

Every season, we bring a leading composer to Port Angeles so you can meet them and learn about what inspires their creativity. This year, we welcome 2025 composer-in-residence Gabriela Lena Frank, who was named by the the Washington Post as one of the top 35 most influential women composers *in history*: an incredible honor.

As Music on the Strait grows, we look forward to expanding our concert programming and educational offerings. Mark your calendars for an exciting program at Field Arts & Events hall on November 25 at 7pm and another on April 4, 2026. Please save these dates!

Thank you for supporting Music on the Strait and the many wonderful arts institutions on our Olympic Peninsula. We hope you return again and again!

Sincerely,



James and Richard

# ART OF THE STRING QUARTET I: LATE BEETHOVEN & ETHEL SMYTH

MAIER HALL AT PENINSULA COLLEGE

Saturday, August 30, 7pm

6:15pm pre-concert talk with Lisa Bergman (on stage)

**KRISTIN LEE, VIOLIN**  
**JAMES GARLICK, VIOLIN**  
**NOAH GELLER, VIOLA**  
**ANI AZNAVOORIAN, CELLO**

**JS BACH**  
**1685-1750**

**Suite No 1 in G major for Solo Cello, BWV 1007 (1717)**  
Prélude  
Allemande  
Courante  
Sarabande  
Minuet I & II  
Gigue

**ETHEL SMYTH**  
**1858-1944**

**String Quartet in E minor (1912)**  
Andante

## INTERMISSION

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**  
**1770-1827**

**String Quartet in A minor, Op 132 (1825)**  
Assai sostenuto — Allegro  
Allegro ma non tanto  
“Heiliger Dankgesang eines Genesenen an die Gottheit, in der Lydischen Tonart”. Molto adagio  
– Andante  
Alla Marcia, assai vivace  
Allegro appassionato

# JEREMY DENK PLAYS BEETHOVEN & HAHN

FIELD ARTS & EVENTS HALL

Monday, September 1, 3pm

2pm pre-concert performance by recipients of the Rapasky Community Music Scholarship and 2:15pm pre-concert talk with Lisa Bergman (Sunset Lounge)

**JEREMY DENK, PIANO**  
**KRISTIN LEE, VIOLIN**  
**JAMES GARLICK, VIOLIN**  
**NOAH GELLER, VIOLA**  
**RICHARD O'NEILL, VIOLA**  
**ANI AZNAVOORIAN, CELLO**

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**  
**1770-1827**

**Seven Variations on a Theme from the Magic Flute, WoO 45 (1801)**

**Piano Sonata in A-flat major, Op 110 (1821)**  
Moderato cantabile, molto espressivo  
Scherzo: Allegro molto  
Adagio, ma non troppo

## INTERMISSION

**REYNALDO HAHN**  
**1874-1947**

**Piano Quintet in F-sharp minor (1921)**  
Molto agitato e con fuoco  
Andante, non troppo lento  
Allegretto grazioso

# ART OF THE STRING QUARTET II: BACH, FRANK & GLASS

## MAIER HALL AT PENINSULA COLLEGE

Friday, September 5, 7pm

6:15pm pre-concert talk with Lisa Bergman (on stage)

**RACHEL LEE PRIDAY, VIOLIN**  
**JAMES GARLICK, VIOLIN**  
**RICHARD O'NEILL, VIOLA**  
**EFE BALTACIGIL, CELLO**  
**GABRIELA LENA FRANK, COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE**

**JS BACH**  
**1685-1750**

**Art of the Fugue BWV 1080**  
Contrapunctus I-IV

**PHILIP GLASS**  
**BORN 1937**

**String Quartet No 3 "Mishima" (1985)**  
I - 1957: Award Montage  
II - November 25 - Ichigaya  
III - Grandmother and Kimitake  
IV - 1962: Body Building  
V - Blood Oath  
VI - Mishima/Closingo

### INTERMISSION

**GABRIELA LENA FRANK**  
**BORN 1972**

**Leyendas: An Andean Walkabout (2001)**  
Toyos  
Tarqueada  
Himno de Zampoñas  
Chasqui  
Canto de Velorio  
Coquetos

# FESTIVAL FINALE: FRANK & FAURÉ

## FIELD ARTS & EVENTS HALL

Saturday, September 6, 7pm

6 pm pre-concert performance by the PAHS Chamber Orchestra  
and 6:15pm pre-concert talk with Lisa Bergman (Sunset Lounge)

**JEREMY DENK, PIANO**  
**GABRIELA LENA FRANK, COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE & PIANO**  
**JAMES GARLICK, VIOLIN**  
**RICHARD O'NEILL, VIOLA**  
**EFE BALTACIGIL, CELLO**

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**  
**1770-1827**

**Duet with two Obligato Eyeglasses Viola and Cello, WoO 32 (1796)**

**GABRIELA LENA FRANK**  
**BORN 1972**

**Sonata Serrana No 1 for four hands (2012)**  
Allegro Solar  
Scherzo Nocturno  
Adagio para el Anochecer  
Karnavalito

### INTERMISSION

**GABRIEL FAURE**  
**1845-1924**

**Piano Quartet in C minor, Op 15 (1880)**  
Allegro molto moderato  
Scherzo: Allegro vivo  
Adagio  
Allegro molto





## **THE DICK AND ALICE RAPASKY COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP**

Music on the Strait is proud to name our third year of Rapasky Scholarship Winners! Students were chosen through a competitive application process and are awarded \$500 scholarships to support private music study. This year we are thrilled to expand our program to support 22 young musicians!

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 RAPASKY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Cheerish Mai, viola - grade 7 (teacher: Phil Morgan-Ellis)  
Violet Burkhard, violin, grade 7 (teacher: Jory Noble)  
Jazlyn Shideler, violin, grade 7 (teacher: Deborah Morgan-Ellis)  
Amélie Cash, violin, grade 7 (teacher: Deborah Morgan-Ellis)  
Agnes Haxel, violin, grade 7 (teacher: Jory Noble)  
Connor Cammisa, cello, grade 7 (teacher: Traci Winters-Tyson)  
Haverly Herr, violin, grade 8 (teacher: Phil Morgan-Ellis)  
Eve Dry, violin, grade 8, (teacher: Deborah Morgan-Ellis)  
Desirae Benzler, violin, grade 9 (teacher: Nathan Rodahl)  
Avery Cammisa, viola, grade 9 (teacher: Phil Morgan-Ellis)  
Harper Waterkotte, viola, grade 6 (teacher: Phil Morgan-Ellis)  
Cooper Disque, viola, grade 9 (teacher: Anne Burns)  
Braeden Baker-Huff, cello, grade 11 (teacher: Brian Wharton)  
Danielle Woodhouse, violin, grade 10 (teacher: Jory Knoble)  
Travis Baros, cello, grade 8 (teacher: Traci Winters-Tyson)  
Seth Baros, violin, grade 8 (teacher: Traci Winters-Tyson)  
Chloe Fitzsimmons, cello, grade 8 (teacher: Traci Winters-Tyson)  
Olivia Baros, violin, grade 11 (teacher: Nathan Rodahl)  
Beverly Fettermann, violin, grade 6 (teacher: Deborah Morgan-Ellis)  
Diego Waterkotte: cello, grade 9 (teacher: Traci Winters-Tyson)

## **THE RAPASKY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Traci Winters-Tyson, chair  
Vicki Helwick, Administrative Coordinator  
Shirley Anderson  
James Garlick  
Jory Noble  
Phil Morgan-Ellis

# MUSICIANS & PERFORMERS

## MUSIC ON THE STRAIT

Music on the Strait celebrates chamber music in the singularly beautiful environment of the Olympic Peninsula and Salish Sea. Founded in Port Angeles in 2018 by locally-raised musicians James Garlick and Richard O'Neill in partnership with the Port Angeles Symphony, Music on the Strait aims to share chamber music, both its traditions and its emerging voices, through community programming and educational outreach.

## ANI AZNAVOORIAN, CELLO (FIFTH SEASON)

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY DAVID & PILI MEYER*

*The Strad* magazine describes cellist Ani Aznavoorian as having “scorchingly committed performances that wring every last drop of emotion out of the music. Her technique is well-nigh immaculate, she has a natural sense of theater, and her tone is astonishingly responsive.” Ms. Aznavoorian is in demand as a soloist and chamber musician with some of the most recognized ensembles, and she has appeared with many of the world’s leading orchestras including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, the Tokyo Philharmonic, the Helsinki Philharmonic, the Finnish Radio Symphony, the International Sejong Soloists, the Belgrade Philharmonic, the Juilliard Orchestra, and the Edmonton Symphony. This season marks Ms. Aznavoorian’s fifteenth year as Principal Cellist with Camerata Pacifica.

Ms. Aznavoorian received the prestigious Bunkamura Orchard Hall Award for her outstanding cello playing and artistry. Some of her other awards include first prizes in the Illinois Young Performers Competition (televised live on PBS with the Chicago Symphony), the Chicago Cello Society National Competition, the Julius Stulberg Competition, and the American String Teachers Association Competition. She was a top prizewinner in the 1996 International Paulo Competition, held in Helsinki, Finland. As a recipient of the Level I Award in the National Foundation for the Arts Recognition and Talent Search, Ms. Aznavoorian was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts and performed as soloist at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. where she met former U.S. President Bill Clinton.

As a first-year student at The Juilliard School, Ms. Aznavoorian won first prize in the institution’s concerto competition—the youngest cellist in the

history of the school’s cello competitions to do so. As a result, she performed with the Juilliard Orchestra in a concert with conductor Gerard Schwarz at Avery Fisher Hall. With only 12 hours notice, Ms. Aznavoorian stepped in to replace Natalia Gutman in three performances of the Shostakovich Cello Concerto No. 1 with the San Jose Symphony—concerts that were hailed by the San Jose Press. Other notable appearances include concerts at Weill Hall and Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Ravinia’s Bennett Hall, Aspen’s Harris Hall, the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series, WFMT Live from Studio 1, and NPR’s Performance Today. She has been a member of the renowned string ensemble the International Sejong Soloists, and also performs frequently on the Jupiter Chamber Music series in New York. Ms. Aznavoorian received both her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School where she studied with Aldo Parisot.

In addition to performing, teaching plays an important part in Ms. Aznavoorian’s career. She has been a member of the distinguished music faculty at the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana, and in the summers has served on the faculty of the Great Mountains Music Festival in South Korea. Ms. Aznavoorian enjoys performing new music and has made the world premiers of many important pieces in the cello repertoire. Some of these include Ezra Laderman’s Concerto No. 2 with the Colorado Springs Philharmonic under the baton of Lawrence Leighton Smith, Lera Auerbach’s 24 Preludes for Cello and Piano on stage at the Hamburg Staatsoper with the Hamburg State Ballet—choreographed by John Neumeier, and Lera Auerbach’s Dreammusik for Cello and Chamber Orchestra, which was written for her and commissioned by Camerata Pacifica. Ms. Aznavoorian records for Cedille Records, and she proudly performs on a cello made by her father Peter Aznavoorian in Chicago.

## EFE BALTACIGIL, CELLO (THIRD SEASON)

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY MARTIN GREENE  
& KATHLEEN WRIGHT*

Turkish cellist Efe Baltacigil, winner of the 2005 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, was also awarded The Peter Jay Sharp Prize, the Washington Performing Arts Society Prize, and is the recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant. He debuted with the Berlin Philharmonic under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle, and with the Philadelphia Orchestra. He appeared at Carnegie’s Zankel Hall in Richard Goode’s Perspectives series and gave performances at the Philadelphia Academy of Music, The Curtis Institute of Music, and the Buffalo Chamber Music Society. Baltacigil has performed the Brahms Sextet with Pinchas Zukerman, Midori and Yo-Yo Ma at Carnegie Hall

for Isaac Stern's memorial, and participated in Ma's Silk Road Project. He has toured with Musicians from Marlboro and is a member of Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Society. A native of Istanbul, Turkey, he received his Bachelor's degree from Mimar Sinan University Conservatory in Istanbul in 1998 and an Artist Diploma from The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia in 2002, and currently serves as the principal cellist of the Seattle Symphony.

## **LISA BERGMAN, PRE-CONCERT LECTURER (SEVENTH SEASON)**

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY BARBARA & BOB PAPPAS*

A passionate promoter of classical music, Lisa Bergman is a national Gracie Award-winning radio announcer on Classical KING 98.1, streaming worldwide. A concert pianist specializing in collaborative piano and chamber music, she is a graduate of the Juilliard School, Stony Brook University and the University of Washington, cum laude. She served on the University of Washington Music Faculty and her discography includes six CDs. As an American Artistic Ambassador she toured the Pacific Rim. Bergman is founder of the Mostly Nordic Chamber Music Series; Co-founder of Northwest Opera in Schools and served for seven years as the Executive Director of the Icicle Creek Center for the Arts in Leavenworth, Washington. As a recording artist her discography includes six chamber music albums and one solo CD. She is the president of the board of directors of the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival. Bergman is a member of the Hall of Fame for the Washington State Music Teachers Association for "extraordinary service, outstanding musicianship, dedication and leadership which have significantly contributed to the development and growth of music education in the State of Washington."

## **JEREMY DENK, PIANO (SIXTH SEASON)**

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY TOM & TERRI SUTRO*

Jeremy Denk is one of America's foremost pianists, proclaimed by the New York Times 'a pianist you want to hear no matter what he performs.' Denk is also a New York Times bestselling author, winner of both the MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship and the Avery Fisher Prize, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

In the 2023-24 season, Denk premieres a new concerto written for him by Anna Clyne, co-commissioned and performed by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra led by Fabio Luisi, the City of Birmingham Symphony led by Kazuki Yamada, and the New Jersey Symphony led by Markus Stenz. He also returns to London's Wigmore Hall for a three-concert residency, performing Bach's Solo Partitas,

as well as collaborating with the Danish String Quartet, and performing works by Charles Ives with violinist Maria Włoszczowska. He further reunites with Krzysztof Urbanski to perform with the Antwerp Symphony and again with the Danish String Quartet in Copenhagen at their festival Series of Four.

In the US, he performs a program focusing on female composers, and continues his exploration of Bach with multiple performances of the Partitas. His collaborations include performances with violinist Maria Włoszczowska in Philadelphia and New York, and, in the Summer, returning to perform with his longtime collaborators Steven Isserlis and Joshua Bell. He closes the season with the San Diego Symphony and Rafael Payare with Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4.

Denk is also known for his original and insightful writing on music, which Alex Ross praises for its "arresting sensitivity and wit." His New York Times Bestselling memoir *Every Good Boy Does Fine* was published to universal acclaim by Random House in 2022, with features on CBS Sunday Morning, NPR's Fresh Air, The New York Times, and The Guardian. Denk also wrote the libretto for a comic opera presented by Carnegie Hall, Cal Performances, and the Aspen Festival, and his writing has appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *New Republic*, *The Guardian*, *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and on the front page of *The New York Times Book Review*.

## **GABRIELLA LENA FRANK, COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE & PIANO (FIRST SEASON)**

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY BILL KINDLER IN HONOR OF CHUCK WHITNEY*

Currently serving as composer-in-residence with the storied Philadelphia Orchestra and included in the Washington Post's list of the 35 most significant women composers in history (August, 2017), identity has always been at the center of composer/pianist Gabriela Lena Frank's music. Born in Berkeley, California (September 1972), to a mother of mixed Peruvian/Chinese ancestry and a father of Lithuanian/Jewish descent, Frank explores her multicultural American heritage through her compositions. Winner of a Latin Grammy and nominated for Grammys as both composer and pianist, Frank also holds a Guggenheim Fellowship and a USA Artist Fellowship given each year to fifty of the country's finest artists. Her work has been described as "crafted with unself-conscious mastery" (Washington Post), "brilliantly effective" (New York Times), "a knockout" (Chicago Tribune) and "glorious" (Los Angeles Times). She has received orchestral commissions and performances from leading American orchestras including the Chicago Symphony, the Boston Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra and the San

San Francisco Symphony. In the season of 2021-22, San Diego Opera will premiere Frank's first opera, *The Last Dream of Frida*, utilizing words by her frequent collaborator Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Nilo Cruz.

Frank is the subject of scholarly books including the W.W. Norton Anthology: *The Musics of Latin America*; *Women of Influence in Contemporary Music: Nine American Composers* (Scarecrow Press) and *In her Own Words* (University of Illinois Press). She is also the subject of several PBS documentaries including the Emmy-nominated *Música Mestiza*, regarding a workshop she led at the University of Michigan, composing for a classical string quartet plus trio of Andean panpipe players.

In 2017, Frank founded the award-winning Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music, a non-profit training institution held on her two rural properties in Boonville, CA for emerging composers from a vast array of demographics and aesthetics. Closing on its third year, GLFCAM will have worked with nearly seventy composers and thirty-five performer mentors, sponsoring and brokering commissions for its alums with such institutions as the Orchestra of St. Luke's, 45th Parallel Universe Chamber Orchestra, and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Civic outreach is an essential part of Frank's work. She has volunteered extensively in hospitals and prisons, with her current focus on developing the music school program at Anderson Valley High School, a rural public school of modest means with a large Latino population in Boonville, CA.

Frank attended Rice University in Houston, Texas, where she earned a B.A. (1994) and M.A. (1996). She studied composition with Sam Jones, and piano with Jeanne Kierman Fischer. At the University of Michigan, where she received a D.M.A. in composition in 2001, Frank studied with William Albright, William Bolcom, Leslie Bassett and Michael Daugherty, and piano with Logan Skelton. She currently resides in Boonville, a small rural town in the Anderson Valley, with her husband Jeremy on their mountain farm. She has a second home in her native Berkeley in the San Francisco Bay Area and has traveled extensively in Andean South America.

Frank is a member of G. Schirmer's prestigious roster of artists, exclusively managed and published

## **JAMES GARLICK, VIOLIN (CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR)**

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY DENNY EVANS*

James Garlick teaches violin and chamber music at Macalester College and performs with the Minnesota Orchestra. He has performed concerti from Tchaikovsky to Piazzolla with orchestras including the Northwest Sinfonietta,

Everett Philharmonic, Seattle Baroque Orchestra, Cascade Symphony, and Philharmonia Northwest. He recently returned to Medellín's Orquesta Sinfónica EAFIT performance to perform the Barber Violin Concerto, and made his third visit to Cuba to teach and perform with American and Cuban musicians.

James attributes his love of music to his many teachers and mentors in Port Angeles. He began lessons with JoDee Ahmann at age five and also worked closely with local music educators Phil and Deborah Morgan-Ellis, Nico Snel, Helena Emery, and Ron Jones. As a proud graduate of the strings program in Port Angeles, James believes in encouraging and fostering music in public schools—not only to nurture young musicians but also to enrich the entire community.

James earned degrees in violin performance from Oberlin Conservatory and neuroscience from Oberlin College as well as a Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School. He's currently completing his sixth season as a full-time member of the violin section of the Minnesota Orchestra and also performs regularly with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Seattle Symphony. As concertmaster, James has led Orchestra Prometheus Chicago, the Amarillo Symphony, Juilliard Orchestra, Northwest Sinfonietta, Cascade Symphony, Bellevue Philharmonic, and others. He performs on a 1991 Samuel Zygmuntowicz violin.

## **NOAH GELLER, VIOLA (SECOND SEASON)**

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY SUZIE NUNLEY*

Noah Geller was appointed to the position of concertmaster of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra by Music Director Emeritus Ludovic Morlot in September 2018. Mr. Geller came to Seattle from the Kansas City Symphony, where he was concertmaster from 2012-18. He appeared frequently as soloist with the Kansas City Symphony, and made his solo recording debut on their recent release with Reference Recordings featuring music by Saint-Saëns.

Mr. Geller began his professional career in the first violin section of the Philadelphia Orchestra in 2007 while still pursuing his master's degree. He served as acting assistant concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra for the 2010 and 2011 seasons. Mr. Geller also has performed as guest concertmaster with the Symphony Orchestras of Boston, Pittsburgh, Houston, and Beijing (China National Symphony). In addition to his large-scale orchestral activities, he has performed frequently with the dynamic and spirited conductor-less group, East Coast Chamber Orchestra (ECCO). An active chamber musician, Mr. Geller is a regular at the Kingston Chamber Music Festival in Rhode Island. Summer 2025 brings return performances at the Seattle Chamber Music Society and Music on the Strait in Port Angeles. He is very happy to be on the roster of the Seattle Series, a local concert society in downtown Seattle. Mr. Geller is an original member of Shir Ami, an ensemble



dedicated to the music of composers whose lives were adversely affected by the Holocaust.

Mr. Geller grew up in the Chicago area, studying privately with Jennifer Cappelli. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from The Juilliard School where he studied with Hyo Kang, Donald Weilerstein and Cho-Liang Lin. Mr. Geller currently lives in Seattle with his wife, percussionist Mari Yoshinaga, son Jonah, and their dog, Monkey. He performs on a violin made by Justin Hess in 2023.

## KRISTIN LEE, VIOLIN (FIRST SEASON)

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY JOHN ROBINSON*

Kristin Lee is a violinist of remarkable versatility and impeccable technique who enjoys a vibrant career as a soloist, chamber musician, educator, and artistic director. "Her technique is flawless, and she has a sense of melodic shaping that reflects an artistic maturity," writes the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and *The Strad* reports, "She seems entirely comfortable with stylistic diversity, which is one criterion that separates the run-of-the-mill instrumentalists from true artists."

As a soloist, Lee has appeared with leading orchestras including The Philadelphia Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, Hawai'i Symphony, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Ural Philharmonic of Russia, Korean Broadcasting Symphony, Guiyang Symphony Orchestra of China, and Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional of Dominican Republic. She has performed on the world's finest concert stages, including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, the Kennedy Center, Kimmel Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Ravinia Festival, the Louvre Museum, the Phillips Collection, and Korea's Kumho Art Gallery. An accomplished chamber musician, Kristin Lee became a member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center after winning The Bowers Program audition and completing the program's three-year residency. In addition to her prolific performance career, Lee is a devoted educator. She is on the faculty of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music as an Assistant Professor of Violin. Lee is also the founding artistic director of Emerald City Music (ECM), a chamber music series that presents authentically unique concert experiences and bridges the divide between the highest caliber classical music and the many diverse communities of the Puget Sound region of Washington State.

Kristin Lee's honors include an Avery Fisher Career Grant, top prizes in the Walter W. Naumburg Competition and the Astral Artists National Auditions, and awards from the Trondheim Chamber Music Competition, Trio di Trieste Premio International Competition, the SYLFF Fellowship, Dorothy DeLay Scholarship, the Aspen Music Festival's Violin Competition,

the New Jersey Young Artists' Competition, and the Salon de Virtuosi Scholarship Foundation.

Born in Seoul, Lee moved to the United States and studied under prestigious teachers including Sonja Foster, Catherine Cho, Dorothy DeLay, Donald Weilerstein, and Itzhak Perlman. Lee holds a Master's degree from The Juilliard School. Lee's violin was crafted in Naples, Italy in 1759 by Gennaro Gagliano and is generously loaned to her by Paul & Linda Gridley.

## RICHARD O'NEILL, VIOLA (CO-ARTSTIC DIRECTOR)

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY SHIRLEY ANDERSON AND ANN & MARTIN GELFAND*

Violist of the Takács Quartet Richard O'Neill has distinguished himself as one of the great instrumentalists of his generation.

GRAMMY Award winner for Best Classical Instrumental Solo Performance in 2021, O'Neill is only the second person to receive an award for a viola performance in the history of this category. Following two previous GRAMMY nominations, O'Neill's recent win for his recording of Christopher Theofanidis' "Concerto for Viola and Chamber Orchestra" also spotlights conductor David Alan Miller and the Albany Symphony. Theofanidis' composition was inspired by Navajo poetry and the composer's psychological response to the September 11 attacks.

Also an EMMY Award winner and Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, O'Neill has appeared as soloist with the world's top orchestras including the London, Los Angeles, Seoul Philharmonics, the BBC, Hiroshima, Korean Symphonies, the Kremerata Baltica, Moscow, Vienna and Wurtemberg Chamber Orchestras, Alte Musik Koln, and has worked with distinguished musicians and conductors including Andrew Davis, Vladimir Jurowski, Francois Xavier Roth and Yannick Nezet-Seguin. An Artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Principal Violist of Camerata Pacifica, for thirteen seasons he served as Artistic Director of DITTO, his South Korean chamber music project, leading the ensemble on international tours to China and Japan and introducing tens of thousands to music.

A Universal Music/Deutsche Grammophon recording artist, he has made 10 solo albums and many other chamber music recordings, earning multiple platinum discs. Composers Lera Auerbach, Elliott Carter, Paul Chihara, John Harbison and Huang Ruo have written works for him. He has appeared on major TV networks in South Korea and enjoyed huge success with his 2004 KBS documentary 'Human Theater' which was viewed by over 12 million

people, and his 2013 series 'Hello?! Orchestra' which featured his work with a multicultural youth orchestra for MBC and led to an International Emmy in Arts Programming and a feature length film.

He serves as Goodwill Ambassador for the Korean Red Cross, The Special Olympics, UNICEF and OXFAM and serves on the faculty of the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara.

## **RACHEL LEE PRIDAY, VIOLIN (FIRST SEASON)**

*GENEROUSLY SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF CHUCK WHITNEY*

Known for spectacular technique, sumptuous sound, and deeply probing musicianship, alongside “irresistible panache” (Chicago Tribune), violinist Rachel Lee Priday is passionately committed to new music and creating enriching community and global connections through wide-ranging repertoire and multidisciplinary collaborations that reflect a deep fascination with literary and cultural narratives.

Priday has appeared as soloist with major international orchestras including the Chicago, Saint Louis, Houston, Seattle, and National Symphony Orchestras, the Boston Pops, and the Berlin Staatskapelle. Her distinguished recital appearances have brought her to eminent venues such as Lincoln Center’s Mostly Mozart Festival, Chicago’s Ravinia Festival and Dame Myra Hess Memorial Series, Paris’s Musée du Louvre, Germany’s Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Festival and Switzerland’s Verbier Festival. She has premiered and commissioned works by composers including Matthew Aucoin, Christopher Cerrone, Gabriella Smith, Timo Andres, Leilehua Lanzilotti, Cristina Spinei, Melia Watras, Paul Wiancko and many more.

Priday began her violin studies at the age of four in Chicago, after she saw the puppet Lamb Chop pretend to play the violin, and shortly after moved to New York City to study with iconic pedagogues Dorothy DeLay and Itzhak Perlman at The Juilliard School. She holds degrees from Harvard and the New England Conservatory, and has served on the faculty of the University of Washington since 2019. She performs on a Giuseppe Guarneri violin (“filius Andreae”).



# 2025 SUPPORTERS OF MUSIC ON THE STRAIT

## **ELWHA RIVER (\$5,000 AND UP)**

Denny Evans  
Tom and Terry Sutro

## **DUNGENESS RIVER (\$2,000 TO \$4,999)**

Shirley Anderson  
Anonymous  
Martin and Ann Gelfand  
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