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FALL SEASON



We hope you and your loved ones are well and safe during this challenging time! It was our dearest hope that we would be performing in-person for you this fall. We miss the concert stage, and we miss you.

We are excited to bring you six concerts performed live on the beautiful stages of Mechanics Hall and Shapiro Hall at Joy of Music. These concerts will be professionally live-streamed in HD. You will have a front row seat in the comfort and safety of your home.

Settle in with your favorite beverage, a good pair of headphones and be sure to check your internet connection!

In keeping with our commitment to racial diversity and equity in our organization, we are proud to perform the music of two celebrated black composers: Eleanor Alberga and George Walker. Our new Spotlight series shines a light on our amazing core musicians. Finally, we are celebrating Beethoven's 250th this season with his "Ghost" and "Archduke" Piano Trios to honor the great master.

Stay on this journey with us, and together we will experience the beauty and joy of music!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy Kraus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Tracy Kraus
Executive Director

ABOUT US

The experience of live classical music can be powerful and transformative. WCMS is committed to engaging audiences through the highest standard of performance and empowering youth through intensive education programs.

Our unique concert experiences are designed to appeal to diverse audiences. This fall, we are offering an array of live-streamed concerts **performed live on stage**. Our new **Spotlight Concerts** are curated programs by the individual members of our core and shine a light on the world-class musicianship that embodies the essence of WCMS.

WCMS offers three educational programs. **Neighborhood Strings**, an award-winning community-based program that offers free music lessons in violin, viola, and cello to at-risk youth from Worcester's Main South and Downtown neighborhoods. **ChamberFest Music Camp** is an innovative, fun classical chamber music camp for strings, woodwinds and pianists age 12 through adult.

And finally, **Musician as Citizen**, connecting Neighborhood Strings and ChamberFest, seeks to develop mentorship skills that provide leadership opportunities and build community awareness.



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2020-2021 SEASON 15 | FALL CONCERTS

RESONANCE – Tom Keil Memorial Concert

Sunday, September 20 at 4:00 PM

Live-streamed from the stage of Mechanics Hall

Eleanor Alberga, George Walker, and Ludwig van Beethoven

Presenting Sponsor: Nora Keil

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Greater Worcester Community Foundation

THE SPOTLIGHT CONCERTS

Thursdays at 7:30 PM

Live-streamed from the stage of Shapiro Hall, Joy of Music

Concert sponsors: Nora Keil, Lisa Piehler and David Schnare

October 8

Mark Berger, viola | Randall Hodgkinson, piano

Arvo Pärt, Mark Berger, and Johannes Brahms

October 22

Tracy Kraus, flute | Ariana Falk, cello | Randall Hodgkinson, piano

All-Shubert program

November 5

David Russell, cello

Caroline Shaw, David Sanford, Laurie San Martin, Tamar Diesendruck and Roger Zahab

November 19

Krista Buckland Reisner and Rohan Gregory, violins

Bela Bartok, Franz Biber, JS Bach, Andre Myers, and more

BACH AND BRAHMS

Friday, December 11 at 7:30 PM

Live-streamed from the stage of Mechanics Hall

Guest Mark Mummert, harpsichord

Bach, Corelli and Brahms

Concert sponsors: Ruth Westheimer, Richard and Phyllis Whitten

Full program information at worcesterchambermusic.org

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SPOTLIGHT: Krista Buckland Reisner and Rohan Gregory
November 19 | Live-streamed from Shapiro Hall at Joy of Music

Violin Pas de Deux – Dances Through Time and Space

Passacaglia for solo violin
from the “Mystery” Sonatas

Franz Biber
(1644-1704)

Corrente, from the Partita in D minor

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Sarabanda, from the Partita for Solo Violin

Andre Myers
(b. 1973)

Giga, from the Partita in D minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

Duets for Violin, from the 44 Duos, Sz. 98

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

Prelude and Canon
Rumanian Whirling Dance
Serbian Dance
Wallachian Dance
Scherzo
Arabian Song
Pizzicato
Transylvanian Dance

Irish Fiddle

Jigs

Carraroe/ Out on the Ocean
from the playing of Martin Hayes

Slip Jigs The Butterfly/Give us a Drink of Water/
The Kid on the Mountain

from the playing of Kevin Burke, Bothy Band, Tommy Peoples

Reels Darragh's Fancy/Martin Wynne's/The Salamanca/Toss
the Feathers/Craig's Pipes
from the playing of Darragh Curtain, Tommy Peoples, Maurice
Lennon, Kevin Burke, Bothy Band

Yiddish Klezmer

Khosidl Romanian Fantasy from the playing of Alicia Svigals
Moldavian Honga from the playing of The Klezmatics

Appalachian Old Time/Bluegrass

Waltz/Reel/Breakdown Tennessee Waltz/Old Joe Clark/Salt Creek
from the tradition

Greek Folk

Syrto of Leros Kritikos from the tradition
Macedonia Raikos from the tradition

In lieu of program notes, Rohan and Krista will speak about the
program from the stage.

Spotlight Concert technical crew:
Nabil Kapasi, videographer
Brad Pierce/StarFleet Audio, audio engineer

Thank you to the Joy of Music Program for hosting our live-stream
Spotlight Concerts!

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SEASON 15 GUEST ARTISTS



Aaron Engebretth, baritone, enjoys a varied solo career in opera, oratorio, recital and devotes considerable energy to the performance of established music and contemporary premieres, frequently collaborating with many of today's preeminent composers. He has been featured as a guest soloist on stages from Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and Boston's Symphony Hall, to international appearances from Sapporo Japan's Kitara Hall

to Le Theatre de la Ville in Paris and the AmBul festival in Bulgaria. He has been a guest of the Tanglewood, Ravinia, Rockport and Monadnock Music Festivals as well as many of the country's fine symphonies, among them Portland, Virginia, San Diego, Charlotte and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Engebretth's work with composer and conductor Lukas Foss cultivated a passion for premiering new works: he has since collaborated with composers Harbison, Larsen, Musgrave, Rorem and Pinkham, among many others.

As an interpreter of early music, he is a frequent soloist with organizations including American Bach Soloists, Handel and Haydn Society, Miami Bach Society, Boston Baroque, Boston Camerata and Santa Fe Pro Musica. Nominated for two Grammy Awards for Best Operatic Recording for his work with the Boston Early Music Festival and Radio Bremen (*Thésée* and *Psyché*, by Lully), he is in high demand as a recording artist.

He produced and recorded *The Complete Songs of Virgil Thomson* with Florestan Recital Project and New World Records, which is garnering international acclaim. With Gil Rose and BMOP and Odyssey Opera, Mr. Engebretth is featured on numerous recordings, among them Thomson's *Four Saints in Three Acts* and Argento's *A Waterbird Talk*.



Mark Mummert, harpsichord, is Cantor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Worcester and Assistant Director / Accompanist for the Worcester Chorus. He was Director of Worship at Christ the King Lutheran Church (Houston), the home of *Bach Society Houston* (2008-2015) and Seminary Musician at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (1990-2008). His many musical compositions for worship are published by *Augsburg*

Fortress. Mark was the resident continuo artist at *Bach Society Houston*, playing in seven years all of the major passions and oratorios and many cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach. Mark performs on his Zeidler & Quagliata harpsichord, built on a Portuguese model. Mark serves on the faculty at the Hanover Theater and Conservatory for the Performing Arts.

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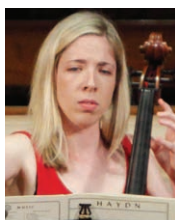
Violist and composer **Mark Berger** has toured throughout the United States and internationally as a member of the Lydian String Quartet. In addition to his work with the quartet, Berger frequently performs with many of Boston's finest orchestras and chamber ensembles including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Pops, Emmanuel Music, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Worcester Chamber Music Society, and

Music at Eden's Edge. He has recently appeared as a guest artist with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players, Boston Musica Viva, Chameleon Arts ensemble, and Radius Ensemble. Strongly devoted to the performance of new music, Berger has performed with many of Boston's new music ensembles including Sound Icon, Dinosaur Annex, Ludovico Ensemble, and ALEA III. He has recorded solo and chamber works for Albany, Bridge and Innova records. An acclaimed composer, Berger's works have been presented by many of the leading contemporary ensembles in the Boston area. His compositions have received awards and recognition from the League of Composers/ISCM, ASCAP, and the Rapido! Composition Competition. Berger is currently chair of the music department at Brandeis University, where he is also Associate Professor of the Practice.



"Things done right.."(Boston Globe), "...Excellent left hand.."(Toronto Star), and "...lovely tonal bloom..."(LeDROIT), describe performances of violinist **Krista Buckland Reisner**. Over the past 25 years, she has performed with well-known and diverse musicians from Leonard Bernstein to John Williams, Anton Kuerti, Plácido Domingo, Brian Wilson, Smokey Robinson, and Diana Krall. Krista has performed across North

America, Europe, Russian and New Zealand, including performances at Carnegie Hall, La Scala, and the Boston Esplanade on July 4th with the Boston Pops. Krista's early career was opera-focused; she served as Principal Second Violin of the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra, Concertmaster of Opera Boston, performed Wagner's "Ring Cycle" with the Arizona Opera and played in the Santa Fe Opera Orchestra. Also an early music aficionado, Krista performed with Canada's Aradia, Boston Baroque, and is currently a tenured member of the Handel and Haydn Society. Krista's love of chamber music led her to join WCMS nine years ago, after playing in the QX string quartet for many years prior with fellow WCMSers Peter Sulski and Rohan Gregory. Her commitment to bringing this art form to the Worcester community also included taking on administrative roles within WCMS as the organization grew. These included acting as General Manager and managing the Summer Festival and Music Camp for six years.



Ariana Falk, cello, serves as Education Director for the Worcester Chamber Music Society, and is a founding director of Neighborhood Strings, an intensive music and social justice program for youth from Worcester's underserved communities. She serves on the faculty of Clark University, and is a former faculty coach at Boston University Tanglewood Institute and Brown University. She was a Fulbright Scholar in Germany,

where she performed with the Heidelberger Symphoniker, and now serves as music director of the Massachusetts Fulbright Association. She appeared as a guest artist on the Marlboro College and Longy Faculty Artist series, live on WGBH Boston, and at Al Kamanjaddi festival in the West Bank. She has appeared as soloist with the Columbia and Olympia Symphonies, and is an alumna Fellow at Community MusicWorks in Providence. Ariana has performed at the Juilliard, Norfolk, Banff, Great Lakes, and Deer Valley summer festivals, and collaborated with artists including Menahem Pressler and Paul Katz. She received her doctorate from Boston University and M.M. and Artist Diploma degrees from the Yale School of Music, where she was recipient of the Aldo Parisot Prize, and played with the Grammy-nominated Yale Cellos, including performances at Weill Hall, Europe, and Asia.



WCMS cellist **Joshua Gordon** is equally at home whether performing on stage in famous concert halls around the world, in an Australian limestone arch cave, or with dancers on a Boston housing project basketball court. He joined the Lydian String Quartet and the music faculty of Brandeis University in 2002, and has been resident cellist at the annual Wellesley Composers Conference since 1989. He has been a guest of many ensembles

including the Apple Hill, Cassatt, DaPonte, Juilliard, and Ying Quartets, Boston Baroque, Boston Chamber Music Society, Chameleon Arts Ensemble, Emmanuel Music, Fromm Players at Harvard University, North Country Chamber Players, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Portland Chamber Music Festival, Rockport Chamber Music Festival, and Speculum Musicae. Joshua Gordon's duo with pianist Randall Hodgkinson has been described as "insightful and impassioned" by *The New Yorker*, and their New World recording Leo Ornstein: Complete Works For Cello and Piano was named one of the top 10 classical recordings of 2007 by the *All Music Guide*.



Rohan Gregory is a violinist that has cultivated wide-ranging expertise in chamber music, new music, and world music. He has played with the Apple Hill Chamber Players, the Ancora Ensemble and award-winning Boccherini Ensemble and was also a founding member for ten years of the Arden String Quartet, performing new music concerts in New York, Boston, Amsterdam and St. Petersburg, Russia. On the world music scene, Rohan

has toured extensively. His travels have taken him to Europe with the Klezmatics, to Thailand with multi-ethnic flute player Abbie Rabinowitz, to India with the Indo-jazz group Natraj and to the U.S. west coast with Sophia Bilides Greek Folk Ensemble. Recently he has played nationally and internationally with the flamenco guitarist Juanito Pascual. Locally, Rohan is a member of the Lyric Opera Company and the Pedroia Quartet.



“The finest performance I have ever heard of this very difficult piece. It was as if he was reading my mind...” Aaron Copland on hearing pianist **Randall Hodgkinson** performing his Piano Fantasy in Jordan Hall. While a student at the New England Conservatory Hodgkinson became grand prizewinner of the International American Music Competition sponsored by Carnegie Hall and the Rockefeller Foundation. He has performed

with orchestras in Atlanta, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Boston, Cleveland and abroad in Italy and Iceland, and also numerous recital programs spanning the repertoire from J.S. Bach to Mark Berger. A frequent guest of the Boston Symphony Chamber Players, he also performs the four-hand and two-piano repertoire with his wife, Leslie Amper. Festival appearances include Ravinia, Bargemusic, Chestnut Hill Concerts in Madison Connecticut, Seattle Chamber Music Festival, and Chamber Music Northwest (Portland, OR). Solo recordings on the Ongaku, New World, and Albany labels have garnered much critical acclaim. Mr. Hodgkinson is on the faculties of the New England Conservatory of Music and Wellesley College and is currently studying to become a certified Feldenkrais Practitioner™.



“Supple and riveting.... elegant and adroit playing...dazzling” (Worcester Telegram) eloquently describes the playing of Executive Director and flutist **Tracy Kraus**. She has performed throughout Europe and the United States, at the Tanglewood and Aspen Music Festivals, at Carnegie Hall, and appeared live on WGBH radio. Her love of the Northern California coast led her to her current orchestral tenure with the Mendocino Music

Festival. In 1982, Ms. Kraus founded the Abbot Chamber Players and quickly discovered her passion for the genre as well as for organization. Ms. Kraus is a co-founder, and the Executive Director of the Worcester Chamber Music Society, leading the organization through a significant stage of growth and success. Ms. Kraus is a recent Katherine Erskine Award recipient, presented by the YWCA, for her leadership and significant contribution to the community.



Hailed as “superb”, “incisive” and “sonorous and panoramic” (Boston Globe), **David Russell** maintains a vigorous schedule both as a soloist and as a collaborator in the U.S. and Europe. He was appointed to the teaching faculty of Wellesley College in 2005 and currently serves as Lecturer and Director of Chamber Music. He has served as Principal cello of the orchestras of Odyssey Opera and Opera Boston since 2010 and performs

regularly with many ensembles based in New England such as Cantata Singers and Ensemble, the Worcester Chamber Music Society and Emmanuel Music. A strong advocate of new music, Russell has performed and recorded with contemporary ensembles such as Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Firebird Ensemble, Ludovico Ensemble, Callithumpian Consort, Music on the Edge, Dinosaur Annex, Collage, the Fromm Players at Harvard, and entelechron. Recent projects include recordings of cello concertos by Chen Yi and Lukas Foss, recordings of solo and chamber works by Lee Hyla, Eric Moe, Tamar Diesendruck, Donald Crockett, Andrew Rindfleisch and Roger Zahab as well as premieres of music by David Lang, Barbara White, Marti Epstein, Daron Hagen, José-Luis Hurtado, Robert Carl, Gilda Lyons, and Jorge Martin. Russell has also recently premiered works for cello and orchestra by Laurie San Martin and Samuel Nichols, as well as works for solo cello by Tamar Diesendruck, Andrew Rindfleisch, and John Mallia. Russell has recorded for the Tzaddik, Albany, BMOPSound, CRI, Centaur and New World Records labels.



Peter Sulski, viola, has performed in over 30 countries as a member of the Apple Hill Chamber Players, London Symphony Orchestra, Academy of St.-Martin-in-the-Fields, Cyprus Chamber Orchestra, and Al Kamandjati Baroque Ensemble (Palestine). He returned to his native Worcester in 2002, after holding the position of Head of Strings of the Edward Said National Palestinian Conservatory. Mr. Sulski is a co-founder

of the Worcester Chamber Music Society and an educator with the society's Neighborhood Strings, a free program for disadvantaged youth. He currently appears as principal violist with Odyssey Opera, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, and the Orchestra of Indian Hill. Other chamber music activities include the Pedroia quartet, duo partnerships with pianists Randall Hodgkinson and Yelena Beriyeva, Clark 2021 Contemporary Ensemble, and the Al Kamandjati Baroque Ensemble. Mr. Sulski is a United States Cultural Envoy to Jerusalem for his work bringing music to young Palestinians living in refugee camps. He is also a solo recording artist for Parma Records.



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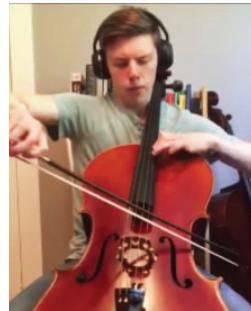
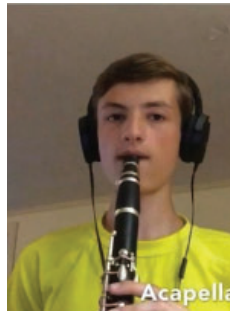
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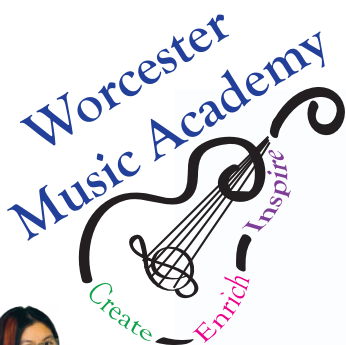
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