

## Guest Ensemble Concert:

2022-03-09 – Jupiter Quartet with Thomas Sauer, piano



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## UI STRING QUARTET RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Elizabeth Oakes, *director*

### **Jupiter Quartet**

Thomas Sauer, *piano*

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Voxman Music Building Concert Hall

**Jupiter Quartet**  
Thomas Sauer, *piano*

**PROGRAM**

**Five Folksongs in Counterpoint** (1951) Florence Price (1887-1953)  
*I. Calvary. Adagio vigoroso*  
*III. Drink to me only with Thine eyes. Andante cantabile*  
*IV. Shortnin' Bread. Allegro*

**In Memory** (2002) Joan Tower (b. 1938)

**To Unpathed Waters, Undreamed Shores** (2020) Michi Wiancko (1976)  
*I. Pelagic Within*  
*II. Dream of the Xerces Blue*  
*III. Central Park Microbial*  
*IV. Invisible Eviction*  
*V. Crying, Together*  
*VI. Follow the Water*  
*VII. Rise Up*

**- INTERMISSION -**

**Piano Quintet** (1907) Amy Beach (1867-1944)  
*I. Adagio - Allegro moderato*  
*II, Adagio espressivo*  
*III. Allegro agitato - Adagio come prima - Presto*  
Thomas Sauer, *piano*

*The Jupiter Quartet concert and residency with Thomas Sauer is supported in part by funding from the Linda and Rick Maxson Chamber Music Support Fund and the Richard M. Caplan and Fredda Ellen Caplan Director's Fund.*

# BIOGRAPHIES & PROGRAM NOTES



**The Jupiter String Quartet** is a particularly intimate group, consisting of violinists Nelson Lee and Meg Freivogel, violist Liz Freivogel (Meg's older sister), and cellist Daniel McDonough (Meg's husband, Liz's brother-in-law). Now enjoying their 20th year together, this tight-knit ensemble is firmly established as an important voice in the world of chamber music.

The quartet has performed in some of the world's finest halls, including New York City's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, London's Wigmore Hall, Boston's Jordan Hall, Mexico City's Palacio de Bellas Artes, Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center and Library of Congress, Austria's Esterhazy Palace, and Seoul's Sejong Chamber Hall. Their major music festival appearances include the Aspen Music Festival and School, Bowdoin International Music Festival, Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival, Rockport Music Festival, Music at Menlo, the Seoul Spring Festival, and many others. In addition to their performing career, they have been artists-in-residence at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana since 2012, where they maintain private studios and direct the chamber music program.

Their chamber music honors and awards include the grand prizes in the Banff International String Quartet Competition and the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition; the Young Concert Artists International auditions in New York City; the Cleveland Quartet Award from Chamber Music America; an Avery Fisher Career Grant; and a grant from the Fromm Foundation. From 2007-2010, they were in residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Two.

The quartet's latest album is a collaboration with the Jasper String Quartet (Marquis Classics, 2021), produced by Grammy-winner Judith Sherman. This collaborative album features the world premiere recording of Dan Visconti's *Eternal Breath*, Felix

Mendelssohn's *Octet in E-flat, Op. 20*, and Osvaldo Golijov's *Last Round*. The quartet's discography also includes numerous recordings on labels including Azica Records and Deutsche Grammophon.

The quartet chose its name because Jupiter was the most prominent planet in the night sky at the time of its formation and the astrological symbol for Jupiter resembles the number four.

For more information, visit [www.jupiterquartet.com](http://www.jupiterquartet.com). American pianist and Iowa native



**Thomas Sauer** performs regularly as soloist, chamber musician, and recital partner. His large and varied repertoire encompasses Bach to the present day and includes both staples and neglected masterworks. Audiences and critics alike praise his playing for its clarity, expressivity, and assured stylistic sense. Some of Mr. Sauer's recent solo appearances include

concertos with the Quad-City and Tallahassee Symphonies and the Greenwich Village Orchestra, and recitals at Mannes College, Merkin Concert Hall, Rockefeller University, St. John's College, Oxford, and Vassar College. With his long-time duo partner, English cellist Colin Carr, Mr. Sauer has appeared at the Wigmore Hall (London), Holywell Music Room (Oxford), the Amsterdam Concertgebouw and Musikgebouw, Bargemusic (New York City), and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston), among many other venues. Other duo recitals include violinists Midori (Berlin Philharmonie, Palais des Beaux Arts/Brussels) and Jennifer Koh (Kennedy Center, McCarter Theater/Princeton University). Chamber-music appearances include performances at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society; performances with members of the Juilliard String Quartet at the Library of Congress; and numerous concerts with the Brentano String Quartet (including piano quintets by Schumann, Brahms, Franck, Bacewicz, and Carter). Mr. Sauer has performed at many of the leading festivals in the United States and abroad, including Marlboro, Caramoor, Music@Menlo, Chamber Music Northwest, El Paso Pro Musica, and the Chamber Music Festivals of Seattle, Taos, Four Seasons (North Carolina), Portland, and Salt Bay (Maine); as well as Lake District Summer Music (England) and Festival

des Consonances (France). A committed teacher, with students at Mannes College, Vassar College, and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, Mr. Sauer was the founder and director of the Mannes Beethoven Institute, a highly-regarded week-long summer training program in New York.

**To Unpathed Waters, Undreamed Shores (2020)**  
by Michi Wiancko

*Movement 1: Pelagic Within*

Our journey begins on the water, as we travel from shoreline to open sea.

*Movement 2: Dream of the Xerces Blue*

Dedicated to the magic of pollinators specifically to the gossamer-winged butterfly, Xerces Blue, which became extinct after loss of its coastal sand dune habitat in San Francisco's Sunset District. It was last spotted in the Bay area in 1943.

*Movement 3: Central Park Microbial*

A tribute to the microbiome of the soil beneath New York City's Central Park, discovered only in recent years to be shockingly diverse and resilient. The vast majority of the park's microbes have yet to be studied or even named.

*Movement 4: Invisible Eviction*

The world is on fire.

*Movement 5: Crying, Together*

A song of mourning dedicated to our most vulnerable populations.

*Movement 6: Follow the Water*

A return to the ocean, and the rivers that flow into it.

*Movement 7: Rise Up*

A celebration, a call to action, and a meditation on our collective humanity.

*To Unpathed Waters, Undreamed Shores*, a multi-movement work for string quartet, celebrates the beauty and vitality of the natural world, suggesting hope and inspiration as humanity addresses fears and worries for our planet. The central themes of regeneration and resilience highlight the need to help protect each other and our most vulnerable populations.

This work was written for the Jupiter Quartet, and commissioned by Bay Chamber Concerts in celebration of the organization's 60th anniversary, in partnership with the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

**In Memory (2002)** by Joan Tower

"The Tokyo String Quartet commissioned this string quartet composition in 2001. This one-movement piece about death and loss was written in memory of one of my friends, and later, of those who died in the September 11th terrorist attacks." - Joan Tower

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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