

#### **Conference Recital:**

# 2023-03-04 – Cello Dayz featuring Norman Fischer and Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir





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### 21st Annual Cello Dayz Concert

featuring Norman Fischer & Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir

Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 7:30pm Voxman Music Building Concert Hall

#### **Cello Dayz Recital**

feat. special guests Norman Fischer, cello Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir, cello

## **PROGRAM**

Neige Eternelle Veronique Vaka

Suite No. 5 in C minor, BWV 1011

Prelude & Fuge

Allemande

Courante

Sarabande Gavotte I & II

Gigue

Saeunn Thorsteindottir, cello

NARRATION (1984) for solo cello

Elizabeth Maconchy

(1907-1994)

J.S. Bach

(1685 - 1750)

Norman Fischer, cello

Ave Maria Wilhelm Fitzenhagen

Norman Fischer, cello I Saeunn Thorsteinsdottir, cello II Anthony Arnone, cello III George Work, cello IV

Over the Rainbow Harold Arlen/Pentatonix

Preucil School Cello Choir

Denmark Gideon Friedman

Vivienne Andersen, Norah Axtell, Talia Bruning, Morgan Cho, Preston Chua, Michelle Davids, Jacob Gasior, MJ Howell, Eva Jungling, Akeelah White

Theme and Variatons Op. 26

Julius Klengel

Iowa State University Cello Choir

What a Wonderful Hallelujah

Cohen/Howland

University of Iowa Cello Choir

Variations on a New World

Blaise Dejardin

Hanna Rumora, cello I Joshua DeVries, cello II Sarah Hansen, cello III Anthony Arnone, cello IV

#### **SHORT INTERMISSION**

Cello Choir Selections Carey Bostian, conductor

Liebesleid Kreisler/Beia

Pizzicato Polka J. Strauss/Seymour

"Nimrod" from Enigma Variations Elgar/Laut

Uptown Funk Ronson/Knapp

## PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

Grammy-award winning cellist **Norman Fischer** has concertized on five continents and in 49 of the 50 United States. His 1983 New York solo debut of the Bach Six Suites in one evening was hailed by New York Times critic John Rockwell as "inspiring". During the 1994 season, Mr. Fischer's recording of William Bolcom's unaccompanied cello score was featured on Broadway as incidental music for Arthur Miller's most recent play, Broken Glass. Mr. Fischer was honored by being invited to open the 1995 Tanglewood Music Center season with a performance of Henri Dutilleux's Trois Strophes sur le nom Sacher, and during the 1996 Tanglewood season was similarly honored in presenting the world premiere of Mr. Bolcom's Suite in C Minor He has performed the standard concerto classics with conductors such as Lukas Foss, Robert Spano, Larry Rachleff and Efrain Guigui. He has also championed new works for the genre, such as the Robert Sirota Cello Concerto (Tanglewood 1985), the Augusta Read Thomas Vigil (Cleveland Chamber Symphony, recorded on the GM label), Steven Stucky Voyages (recorded for Opus One in 1991), and Ross Lee Finney's Narrative (with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony, recorded for New World Records).

Mr. Fischer was cellist with the Concord String Quartet through its 16-year career and winner of the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, two Grammy nominations and an Emmy. In over 1000 concerts the quartet performed 18 Bartok cycles, 36 Beethoven cycles and premiered 50 works. They also recorded 40 works for RCA Red Seal, Vox, Nonesuch and CRI. Mr. Fischer's chamber music expertise has led to performances with the American, Audubon, Axelrod, Blair, Cavani, Chester, Chiara, Ciompi, Cleveland, Dover, Ensō, Emerson, Jasper, Juilliard, Mendelssohn, Schoenberg and Telegraph string quartets, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Banff, Chamber Music International, Context (including a complete Beethoven piano trio cycle on period instruments), and Houston's Da Camera Society. He has also served on many competition juries including the Premio Paolo Borciani, Naumburg, M-Prize, Fischoff, and Banff International String Quartet competitions.

Mr. Fischer is the cellist with the Fischer Duo, a group with pianist Jeanne Kierman that was founded over 50 years ago in 1971. The Duo specializes in both the classical masterworks of Beethoven, Brahms and Schumann as well as music of our own time. They have over a dozen recordings, with a new CD coming out in 2022 of new music celebrating their 50 years together (featuring new scores by William Bolcom Second Cello Sonata, Robert Sirota Family Portraits, Theo Chandler Studies in Change, Hilary Tann On Ear and Ear..., Michael Cohen A Song for Silenced Voices, and Preston Stahly Corona Blue.. Most notable of the earlier recordings are: Imaginées: Music of French Masters, American Music in the 1990s, Born in America in 1938, Complete Cello Music of Robert Sirota, Complete Music for Cello and Piano of Chopin and Liszt, and Complete Cello Music of William Bolcom. The Beethoven Cello and Piano Complete on the Centaur label is the most comprehensive collection of Beethoven's music for the two instruments. November 2018 saw the release on Centaur of Brahms: Complete Sonatas and Op. 91 Songs, which received select designations in Gramophone and The Strad. August 2022 saw the release of the latest CD 2020 Visions on PARMA with 50th anniversary commissions included. The Duo has premiered over 30 new scores by composers such as George Rochberg, Augusta Read Thomas, William Bolcom, Robert Sirota, Pierre Jalbert, and Richard Wilson. They continue to actively perform throughout the United States and twice have served as Artistic Ambassadors for the USIA with tours to South America and South Africa. They have also been hosted by the China Conservatory in Beijing and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater "Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy" in Leipzig for week long residencies.

Mr. Fischer is currently Herbert S. Autrey Professor of Cello and Director of Chamber Music at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston. Before accepting this position in 1992 he held

positions at Dartmouth College and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Mr. Fischer also holds the Charles E. Culpepper Foundation Master Teacher Chair and is Head of Chamber Music at the Tanglewood Music Center, where he has been on the summer faculty since 1985. Mr. Fischer performs on a cello made for him by Sergio Peresson in 1972, and bows made for him by David Hawthorne. He is also a Larsen Performing Artist and uses "Il Cannone" strings.

Icelandic-American cellist **Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir** enjoys a varied career as a performer, collaborator and teaching artist. She has appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchester, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Iceland Symphony, among others, and her recital and chamber music performances have taken her across the US, Europe and Asia. Sæunn has performed in many of the world's prestigious venues including Carnegie Hall, Suntory Hall, Elbphilharmonie, Barbican Center and Disney Hall and the Los Angeles Times praised her performances for their "emotional intensity".

In the 2018-2019 season, Sæunn made her debut with the BBC and Seattle Symphonies performing the award-winning cello concerto, *Quake*, written for her by Páll Ragnar Pálsson. Chamber music appearances took her to Carnegie Hall in New York City, Glasgow, and Los Angeles, as well as recitals in Reykjavík, Seattle, San Francisco and Chicago following the Spring 2019 release of *Vernacular*, her recording of Icelandic solo cello music on the Sono Luminus label.

Highlights of the 2017-2018 season include the US premiere of Betsy Jolas' Wanderlied and the Hong Kong premiere of Sofia Gubaidulina's Canticle of the Sun, as well as recitals and chamber music appearances in New York City, San Francisco, Seattle, Glasgow, London and Reykjavík. In addition to collaborating with Daníel Bjarnason on his award-winning composition Bow to String, Sæunn enjoys working with composers of our time such as Páll Ragnar Pálsson, Halldór Smárason, Þuríður Jónsdóttir and Melia Watras.

An avid chamber musician, she has collaborated in performance with Itzhak Perlman, Mitsuko Uchida, Richard Goode and members of the Emerson, Guarneri and Cavani Quartets and has participated in numerous chamber music festivals, including Prussia Cove and Marlboro, with whom she has toured. Formerly Artist-in-Residence at Green Music Center's Weill Hall in Sonoma as well as cellist of the Manhattan Piano Trio, she is currently cellist of the Seattle-based chamber music group, Frequency, and cellist and Co-Artistic Director of Decoda, The Affiliate Ensemble of Carnegie Hall.

Sæunn has garnered numerous prizes in international competitions, including the Naumburg Competition in New York and the Antonio Janigro Competition in Zagreb, Croatia. She received a Bachelor of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music, a Master of Music from The Juilliard School and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from SUNY Stony Brook. Her principal teachers include Richard Aaron, Tanya L. Carey, Colin Carr and Joel Krosnick.

Sæunn is an alum of Ensemble ACJW (now known as Ensemble Connect)— a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the New York City Department of Education—performing chamber music at Carnegie Hall and bringing classical music to students in the New York City Public Schools.

Cellist and conductor **Carey Bostian** is the Artistic Director of Red Cedar Chamber Music. As an educator and performer, he sees himself as a storyteller, and presents music – new and old – in an innovative cultural and historical context whenever possible. Having premiered and commissioned hundreds of new works, he is committed to promoting the music of living composers. Carey has a DMA in cello performance and an MFA in orchestral conducting from the University of Iowa. For two decades, he was

Principal Cellist of Orchestra Iowa, leaving the position in 2015 to become Artistic Director of RCCM. He has been conductor of the Iowa City Community String Orchestra, an all-amateur string orchestra since 1998, and teaches a small private cello studio. He also serves on the conducting faculty at the Preucil School of Music.

Called "a cellist with rich tonal resources, fine subtlety and a keen sense of phrasing" (*Gramophone*), cellist **Anthony Arnone** enjoys a varied career as a soloist, chamber musician, conductor, recording artist, composer, and teacher throughout the country and around the world. Mr. Arnone is associate professor of cello at the University of Iowa School of Music, and is also on the faculty of the Preucil School of Music in Iowa City, where he teaches and conducts.

Mr. Arnone has collaborated with many of today's great chamber ensembles and artists including members of the Pro Arte Quartet, Cypress Quartet, Fry Street Quartet, and Arianna Quartet. Performances have taken him around the United States, Europe, and Asia to many of the leading concert venues as soloist, chamber musician, and conductor. Mr. Arnone's recordings with Albany and VAI have received acclaimed reviews in prominent music journals and online classical sights. An avid performer of the Bach Suites, Mr. Arnone wrote and self-published his own edition of the 6 Cello Suites with a composed second cello "Continuo" part to aid in teaching and performance.

As a cello soloist and chamber musician, Mr. Arnone was a founding member of the Meridien Trio and the Sedgewick String Quartet, which performed regularly at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston. He was also part of the Matisse Trio, a faculty trio at The University of Iowa, which played throughout the United States. Mr. Arnone is also regularly featured as soloist with orchestras including performances with the Madison Symphony, Dubuque Symphony, Orchestra Iowa, Knox/Galesburg Symphony and the Kamuela Philharmonic among others.

Mr. Arnone's love of teaching has taken him throughout the country to give master classes, including Oberlin College, Eastman School, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and San Francisco Conservatory. At home, Mr. Arnone brings celebrated teachers and performers to The University of Iowa for the annual "Cello Daze," a weekend of lectures, concerts, and master classes. Past guests include Richard Aaron, Colin Carr, Steven Doane, Hans Jensen, Paul Katz, Bonnie Hampton, Joel Krosnick, Norman Fischer, Marc Johnson, Anthony Ross, and Robert DeMaine as well as non classical guests including Mark Summer, Natalie Haas and Alastair's Fraser, German Marcano, and Matt Turner.

Mr. Arnone is also due to release a book titled *The Art of Listening-Conversations with Cellists* (Peter Lang Publishing). The detailed book of interviews with 14 of the great cello teachers in the US and UK will be due out in the Fall of 2020.

A native of Honolulu, Mr. Arnone received his bachelor of music degree from the New England Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Colin Carr. He left graduate studies with Bonnie Hampton at the San Francisco Conservatory to accept a position with the Orchestré Philharmonique de Nice, France, where he remained for two years, continuing his studies with Paul and Maude Tortelier. He later returned to the United States to complete his master's degree in conducting at Wichita State University.

Before coming to the University of Iowa, Mr. Arnone was principal cellist of the Madison Symphony, and taught at Ripon College in Wisconsin. He has also taught and performed at the Madeline Island Music Camp, Eastern Music Festival, the Stonybrook Music Camp, the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC. and the Festival Dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy where he was co-principal cellist for seven years.

## **CELLO DAYZ PARTICIPANTS**

Lucas Ralston Cece Brown Lucy Fasano Memphis Howell Raphael Policeni Xavier Quinn Sophia Castro Kate Cannon David Hitchman Joshua DeVries Hanna Rumora Kim Hanks Dean Wibe Joseph Winland Vivienne Andersen Susan Brigham Nathan Evans AJ Tobey

Keira Cromwell Allyson Liu Henry Smith

Yves Terlouw-Ndikumana

Yuzuka Fujikawa Jacob Gasior Kieran Walsh Eli Lawrence Adrian Bostian Natalie Krzeski Adam Zeithamel Marcia Zeithamel Madison Brady Jacob Thompson Morgan Cho Ryan Doerr Timothy Gibson Annika Shaw Norah Axtell Marina Escandell

Ed Laut

Andrew Mord Celia Phillips Laura Shaw Preston Martens Miranda Victor Akeelah White Preston Chua

Tessera Rippentrop

Sarah Hansen Rocco Arnone Michelle Davids Preston Martens Timothy Gibson Isabelle Appel Michael Center

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

For the most up to date listing of concerts and recitals, please visit **arts.uiowa.edu**.

All events are FREE unless otherwise indicated \$=

Performances that are being livestreamed are marked with **?** View livestreamed concerts at <u>music.uiowa.edu/livestream</u>.

MARCH 2023			
7	7:30pm	Guest Chamber Concert: Gotham Winds	Recital Hall
7	7:30pm	Faculty/Guest Artist Recital: Avita Duo - Ksenia Nosikova, <i>piano</i> & Katya Moeller, <i>violin</i> 🄝	Concert Hall
8	7:30pm	Guest Artist Recital: Kadisha Onalbayeva, piano	Concert Hall
8	7:30pm	Guest Artist Recital: Jean-Yves Fourmeau, saxophone	Concert Hall
9	1:30pm	UI Lab Ensemble	Concert Hall
9	7:30pm	Guest Chamber Recital: LIGAMENT 🙃	Recital Hall
10	1:30pm	Guest Artist Masterclass: Kadisha Onalbayeva, piano	Recital Hall
20	7:30pm	Guest Chamber Recital: Rawlins Piano Trio	Recital Hall

