

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Alexis Kerschner Tappan: 505-933-9258; akt@aktfast.com

Festival graphics, images available: <https://bit.ly/2wnHEOC>

See page 4 for Week 3 at a Glance, a chronological list of all Week 3 concerts.

A complete list of performers and repertoire, as well as a chronological list of all Festival concerts, can be found at SantaFeChamberMusic.com.

A Complete Performance of Schubert's Song Cycle *Die Winterreise*, a Solo Piano Recital, and Four World Premieres Highlight Week 3 of the 2019 Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival

- As part of its brand-new Music at Noon Wednesday Series, the Festival presents the second of three piano-vocal recitals this season, with bass-baritone Philippe Sly and pianist Michael McMahon (both in their Festival debuts) performing Schubert's song cycle *Die Winterreise*.
- Pianist Haochen Zhang gives a solo recital featuring works by Debussy and Schumann.
- The FLUX Quartet premieres three string quartets commissioned by the Festival from Grammy-nominated composer Michael Gandolfi and the two participants in the Festival's Young Composers String Quartet Project: Matthew Ricketts and Alex Stephenson.
- Wei Luo premieres the solo piano piece *Poems*, written for her by the Festival's Artistic Director, Marc Neikrug.

For Immediate Release—July 18, 2019

SANTA FE, NM—It's another exciting week at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, which presents its 2019 season from Sunday, July 14, through Monday, August 19.

Week 3 (Sunday, July 28–Saturday, August 3) includes four world premieres (three of which are Festival commissions), a solo piano recital by a Festival-audience favorite, and the second of the Festival's three piano-vocal recitals, which are part of the brand-new Music at Noon Wednesday Series.

All nine of Week 3's concerts are held in St. Francis Auditorium at the New Mexico Museum of Art, which is one of the Festival's longtime Santa Fe venues.

MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND FEATURED ARTISTS

On July 31, two acclaimed Canadian artists—bass-baritone **Philippe Sly** and pianist **Michael McMahon**—make their Festival debuts on the Festival's brand-new Music at Noon Wednesday Series with a complete performance of Schubert's song cycle *Die Winterreise*, a crown jewel in the art-song repertoire. The work's 24 songs, which Schubert wrote in 1827 (the year before he died at the age of 31), are based on poems about lost or unrequited love by one of Schubert's contemporaries, the German poet Wilhelm Müller. The *Winterreise* recital runs approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes instead of the usual 1 hour for concerts on the Music at Noon Series.

-more-

Philippe Sly earned a bachelor of music degree in voice performance from the Schulich School of Music at McGill University in Montreal. He won a grand prize at The Metropolitan Opera's 2011 National Council Auditions, first prize at the Concours musical international de Montréal, and Concert of the Year in Romantic, Post-Romantic, and Impressionist Music at the Prix Opus in Quebec. After winning The Met auditions, he became a member of the ensemble at the Canadian Opera Company and then a member of San Francisco Opera's Merola Program, where he was selected to be an Adler Fellow. Highlights of his 2018–19 season include singing the role of Leporello in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at the Paris Opera, conducted by Philippe Jordan; Handel's *Messiah* with both The Philadelphia Orchestra and the Handel & Haydn Society, conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Bernard Labadie, respectively; Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* and Mozart's Requiem with Mr. Labadie and the Orchestra of St. Luke's; and Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, conducted by Trevor Pinnock.

Michael McMahon has performed around the world with many acclaimed singers. He studied at McGill University in Montreal and completed his musical education in Vienna at both the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst and the Franz Schubert Institute as well as in Salzburg at the Mozarteum. Currently, he's a professor at McGill's Schulich School of Music and a resident artist at the Franz Schubert Institute; he also gives master classes for singers and pianists. Mr. McMahon has had long associations with L'Atelier lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal, Opera NUOVA, COSI, the Orford Arts Centre, and the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, where he's worked regularly as a vocal coach. In 2012, Opera Canada honored him with the Ruby Award for his contribution to music in Canada.

On August 2, the FLUX Quartet premieres three string quartets commissioned by the Festival. The works were written by Grammy-nominated composer **Michael Gandolfi** (*String Quartet: Disassembling the Essential*) and the two participants in the Festival's **Young Composers String Quartet Project: Matthew Ricketts** (*Ember*) and **Alex Stephenson** (*Bloom*).

Michael Gandolfi dedicated his new string quartet to the memory of his "teacher and dear friend" Oliver Knussen, who died in 2018 at the age of 66. In a program note, he explains that the title "is derived from a phrase that I came upon while reading various works on the topic of temporality."

Mr. Gandolfi was born in Melrose, Massachusetts, in 1956. He studied at Boston's Berklee College of Music from 1974 to 1976 before transferring to the New England Conservatory, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees and currently serves as chair of the Composition Department. Mr. Gandolfi is also head of the composition program at the Tanglewood Music Center; previously, he served on the faculties of Harvard, Boston, and Indiana universities.

Throughout his career, Mr. Gandolfi has developed important relationships with several ensembles, including Boston Musica Viva and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, New England Philharmonic, Concord Orchestra, Grant Park Orchestra, and Boston Modern Orchestra Project. His works have also been performed by the San Francisco Symphony; BBC Symphony Orchestra; Nieuw Sinfonietta Amsterdam; and Los Angeles, Saint Paul, and Orpheus chamber orchestras, among other ensembles. His numerous honors include a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, two National Endowment for the Arts Consortium Commission Grants, and a 2009 Grammy nomination for his orchestral work *The Garden of Cosmic Speculation*.

-more-

Matthew Ricketts was born in British Columbia in 1986 and is currently based in New York City. He earned his bachelor's degree from the Schulich School of Music at McGill University and his doctorate from Columbia University. His numerous honors include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and MacDowell Colony and an ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Award.

Alex Stephenson was born in Philadelphia in 1990 and is completing his doctoral degree at the University of California, San Diego. Previously, he studied at The University of Chicago and the Eastman School of Music, and he was a Fulbright Scholar at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. His works have been performed at Tanglewood, the New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival, and several other prestigious festivals and events.

Earlier in Week 3, on July 28 & 29, **Wei Luo** gives the world premiere of the solo piano piece *Poems*, which was written for her by the Festival's Artistic Director, Marc Neikrug. Ms. Luo commissioned *Poems* with assistance from the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival.

Wei Luo made her orchestral debut in 2010, with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra. Recent recital appearances include Sonoma State University, the Herbst Theatre (presented by San Francisco Performances), and Festival Napa Valley; concerto appearances include the Kansas City Symphony and the Denver Philharmonic Orchestra. In August 2017, Ms. Luo made her debut in Lincoln Center's David Geffen Hall playing a pre-concert recital at the Mostly Mozart Festival. She attends the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studies with Gary Graffman and Robert McDonald. Her honors include first prize in the eleventh Chopin International Competition for Young Pianists in Poland and the second Rachmaninov International Piano Competition for Young Pianists in Germany. In 2018, she was named a Gilmore Young Artist.

Another highlight of Week 3 is the return of pianist **Haochen Zhang**, who performs on three programs—one of which is a solo recital at noon on August 1 that features two evocative and enduringly popular works: Debussy's *Images* Series I & II and Schumann's *Fantasie in C Major*, Op. 17.

Haochen Zhang is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied under Gary Graffman. He won a gold medal at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2009, and in 2017 he received an Avery Fisher Career Grant. Highlights of his 2018–19 season include his debut with the Lucerne Festival Orchestra; a tour of Asia with The Philadelphia Orchestra; recitals in Berlin, Brussels, Lucerne, Madrid, and Paris; and performances with the China, Hong Kong, and National philharmonic orchestras and the Guangzhou, San Angelo, Shanghai, and Spokane symphony orchestras. Previous engagements include the London and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras; London, Los Angeles, and Munich philharmonic orchestras; Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival; Moscow Easter Festival; Wolf Trap Discovery Series; and La Jolla Music Society's SummerFest. In October 2017, he gave a concerto performance at Carnegie Hall with the NCPA Orchestra, and the following month, he made his recital debut at Carnegie's Zankel Hall.

Throughout the season, the Festival presents four free, family-friendly **Youth Concerts**, which feature Festival artists engaging in musical storytelling and performing excerpts of repertoire drawn directly from the Festival's regular programming. The third 2019 Youth Concert is on Monday, July 29, 10 a.m., at the New Mexico Museum of Art, and features pianist **Wei Luo** and the **Escher String Quartet** (Adam Barnett-Hart, violin; Danbi Um, violin; Pierre Lapointe, viola; Brook Speltz, cello).

-more-

For a complete list of concerts, repertoire, and artists featured during Week 3, see the At a Glance section below or go to SantaFeChamberMusic.com.

TICKET INFORMATION

Festival tickets are available in a variety of options and may be purchased with any major credit card by calling 505-982-1890 (or toll free at 888-221-9836, ext. 102); visiting SantaFeChamberMusic.com, where seat selection is available; emailing tickets@sfcmf.org; or stopping by the Festival Ticket Office in the lobby of the New Mexico Museum of Art at 107 West Palace Avenue in Santa Fe. The Ticket Office is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets are nonrefundable; however, if you're unable to use your tickets, prior to the performance, you can donate them to the Festival or exchange them in person, via email at info@sfcmf.org, or online at SantaFeChamberMusic.com. Ticket exchanges are subject to fees and restrictions.

WEEK 3 AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 6 P.M.

MONDAY, JULY 29, 6 P.M.

MOZART & DVOŘÁK

St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

MARC NEIKRUG *Poems* for Solo Piano (world premiere)

Wei Luo, piano

MOZART String Quintet in C Major, K. 515

Adam Barnett-Hart, violin

Danbi Um, violin

Pierre Lapointe, viola

Paul Neubauer, viola

Brook Speltz, cello

DVOŘÁK Piano Quintet in A Major, Op. 81

Wei Luo, piano

Adam Barnett-Hart, violin

Danbi Um, violin

Pierre Lapointe, viola

Brook Speltz, cello

-more-

MONDAY, JULY 29, 10 A.M.

YOUTH CONCERT

St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

Wei Luo, piano

Escher String Quartet

Adam Barnett-Hart, violin

Danbi Um, violin

Pierre Lapointe, viola

Brook Speltz, cello

TUESDAY, JULY 30, NOON

SCHUBERT “ARPEGGIONE”

St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

RACHMANINOFF *Trio élégiaque* in G Minor

Wei Luo, piano

Jennifer Gilbert, violin

Mark Kosower, cello

SCHUBERT Sonata in A Minor for Viola & Piano, D. 821, “Arpeggione”

Paul Neubauer, viola

Haochen Zhang, piano

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, NOON

SLY & McMAHON—WINTERREISE

St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

SCHUBERT *Die Winterreise (The Winter Journey)*, D. 911

Philippe Sly, bass-baritone*

Michael McMahan, piano*

This recital runs approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes instead of the usual 1 hour for concerts in the Music at Noon Series.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 6 P.M.

KORNGOLD PIANO QUINTET

St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

SCHNITTKE *Moz-Art* for Two Violins, after Mozart K. 416d

Jennifer Gilbert, violin

Harvey de Souza, violin

SHOSTAKOVICH Sonata for Viola & Piano, Op. 147

Paul Neubauer, viola

Gilles Vonsattel, piano

-more-

KORNGOLD Piano Quintet in E Major, Op. 15
Haochen Zhang, piano
Harvey de Souza, violin
Jennifer Gilbert, violin
Paul Neubauer, viola
Mark Kosower, cello

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, NOON
HAOCHEN ZHANG PIANO RECITAL
St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

DEBUSSY *Images* Series I & II

SCHUMANN Fantasie in C Major, Op. 17
Haochen Zhang, piano

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 6 P.M.
NEW MUSIC WITH FLUX QUARTET
St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

MATTHEW RICKETTS *Ember* (2019 Festival commission, world premiere)
FLUX Quartet
Tom Chiu, violin
Conrad Harris, violin
Max Mandel, viola
Felix Fan, cello

TOM CHIU *RETROCON*
FLUX Quartet
Tom Chiu, violin
Conrad Harris, violin
Max Mandel, viola
Felix Fan, cello

ALEX STEPHENSON *Bloom* (2019 Festival commission, world premiere)
FLUX Quartet
Tom Chiu, violin
Conrad Harris, violin
Max Mandel, viola
Felix Fan, cello

-more-

MICHAEL GANDOLFI *String Quartet: Disassembling the Essential* (2019 Festival commission, world premiere)

FLUX Quartet

Tom Chiu, violin

Conrad Harris, violin

Max Mandel, viola

Felix Fan, cello

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 5 P.M.

ALL BACH

St. Francis Auditorium, New Mexico Museum of Art

J. S. BACH Sonata in D Major for Viola da Gamba & Keyboard, BWV 1028

Choong-Jin Chang, viola

Gilles Vonsattel, piano

J. S. BACH Sonata in G Minor for Viola da Gamba & Keyboard, BWV 1029

Choong-Jin Chang, viola

Gilles Vonsattel, piano

J. S. BACH Suite No. 3 in C Major for Cello, BWV 1009

Mark Kosower, cello

*Festival debut

ABOUT THE SANTA FE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Founded in 1972, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival has become one of the world's preeminent music festivals, guided by a visionary spirit and dedicated to artistic excellence and innovation. Contributing to its magical feeling is the Festival's unique setting amid the timeless splendors of Santa Fe and New Mexico's Sangre de Cristo Mountains. For information on Santa Fe, visit santafe.org.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Steven Ovitsky and Artistic Director Marc Neikrug, the Festival invites both distinguished seasoned musicians and acclaimed emerging artists to perform during its six-week season every summer. Patrons return year after year to enjoy the Festival's many chamber music concerts, solo recitals, and open rehearsals. Throughout the year, the Festival reaches out to local students in pre-K and grades K–6 with its innovative and inspiring music education programs.

For more information about the Festival, visit SantaFeChamberMusic.com.