Virace!

AUGUST 1-11,2024 INTERNATIONAL Júrace. MUSSIC

MARINA LOMAZOV and JOSEPH RACKERS, Artistic Directors











STEINWAY PIANO GALLERY CHARLOTE, NC • GREENVILES COUMBIAS CO- GREENVILES COUMBIAS CO- GREENVILES COUNT, NC COLUMBIAS CO- GREENVILES COUNT, NC











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Welcome from the Founders



Joseph Rackers



Marina Lomazov



John Holloway



Ludovica Punzi

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Vivace International Music Festival!

Created to develop a model for music education that can support talent regardless of the financial resources available, Vivace Music Foundation has established an intense and comprehensive festival, with an emphasis on immersion in music through daily lessons, masterclasses, recitals, courses, and the vibrant cultural life and atmosphere of Wilmington, NC.

The 2024 concert series features 11-time GRAMMY® nominee Marc-André Hamelin, Gramophone 2021 Artist of the Year James Ehnes, world-renowned concert artists Hannah Roberts, Natasha Brofsky, Dmitri Berlinsky, Alexander Kobrin, Angela Cheng, Jerome Lowenthal and Ursula Oppens, and more, performing five dazzling concerts at the Wilson Center and many other events!

Vivace seeks to immerse, inspire and energize our participants, faculty, and the entire Wilmington community. Our more than 100 participants join us from United States, China, Canada, Taiwan, Singapore, Korea, Thailand, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Switzerland, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and will fill the city with music, in a series of free participant showcases in the downtown area and beyond.

Vivace 2024 is thriving and is fulfilling its mission thanks to the support of many, especially Selma

Bornstein, Howard Stein, Robert Morrison, Alice and Robert Gardiner, Sandra and Bruce Swan, and David and Sydney Womack. We are immensely grateful for our institutional partners, including the City of Wilmington, the Wilson Center, Thalian Hall, Hotel Ballast, St. James Episcopal Church, First Baptist Church, Kenan Chapel at Landfall, and our media partner WHQR.

We are looking forward to an exciting festival filled with world-class music and the exceptional energy of the Wilmington community. We can't wait to see you and to make music, friendships and memories that will last far beyond the summer.

Welcome to the 2024 Vivace International Music Festival!

Am Hommy Luclenica Lungs

John Holloway and Ludovica Punzi, Founders

Adam of R.K.

Marina Lomazov and Joseph Rackers, Artistic Directors







July 10, 2024

Wilmington welcomes Vivace as it celebrates the 4th season of its world-class international music festival in southeastern North Carolina.

The Arts Council of Wilmington & New Hanover County is pleased to support Vivace whose 2024 concert season includes five concerts that enrich Wilmington's diverse musical landscape.

Kudos to President John Holloway and Executive Director Ludovica Punzi for curating great programming that resonates with audiences who appreciate elevated musical offerings comparable to cities much larger than ours.

We are deeply appreciative of the robust repertoire of classical music that Wilmington audiences can experience each year as Vivace helps define Wilmington as an international arts destination.

Sincere regards,

Rhonda Bellamy

Rhonda Bellamy President/CEO

Festival at a Glance

Thursday, August 1

9:00-12:00 P.M. Thalian Hall Ballroom	Piano Masterclass with BORIS SLUTSKY
1:00 P.M. Thalian Hall Ballroom	Piano Masterclass with MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN
7:30 P.M. Thalian Hall Ballroom	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

Friday, August 2

1:00 P.M.Vivace CourseThalian Hall BallroomHOW TO BECOME A COMPLETE MUSICIAN with JASON KWAK7:30 P.M.Artist ShowcaseCFCC Wilson CenterMARC-ANDRÉ HAMELINfor the Performing Arts2024 Vivace Opening Concert: Music by Haydn, Zappa, Medtner, Rachmaninoff

Saturday, August 3

9:00 A.M12:00 P.M.	Violin Masterclass with JAMES EHNES
First Baptist Church	
1:00 P.M.	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

7:30 P.M. CFCC Wilson Center for the Performing Arts

Thalian Hall Ballroom

Artist Showcase MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN & JAMES EHNES Music by Szymanowski, Fauré, Beethoven

Sunday, August 4

 9:00-12:00 P.M.
 Piano Masterclass with BORIS SLUTSKY

 Thalian Hall Ballroom
 PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

 1:00 P.M.
 PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

 7:30 P.M.
 PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

 Thalian Hall Ballroom
 PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

Monday, August 5

9:00 A.M12:00 P.M. St. James Lippitt Room	Cello Masterclass with EDWARD ARRON
1:00 P.M. St. James Great Hall	Vivace Course YOU BE THE JUDGE! with MARINA LOMAZOV & JOSEPH RACKERS
7:30 P.M. St. James Sanctuary	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

Festival at a Glance

Tuesday, August 6

9:00AM-12:00 P.M. St. James Sanctuary	Piano Masterclass with JEROME LOWENTHAL
1:00 P.M. WHQR Radio Station	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE
7:30 P.M. Kenan Chapel	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

Wednesday, August 7

9:00AM-12:00 P.M. St. James Sanctuary	Cello Masterclass with NATASHA BROFSKY
7:30 P.M. St. James Episcopal Parish	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

Thursday, August 8

9:00AM-12:00 P.M.	Violin Masterclass with DANIELLE BELEN
St. James Episcopal Church	
1:00 P.M.	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE
St. James Sanctuary	
7:30 PM	Artist Showcaso

7:30 P.M. CFCC Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Artist Showcase CHAMBER MUSIC MASTERPIECES Music by Beach, Chopin, Smetana

Friday August 9

9:00-12:00 P.M.	Violin Masterclass with DMITRI BERLINSKY
St. James Episcopal Church	
1:00 P.M.	PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE
St. James Sanctuary	

7:30 P.M. CFCC Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Artist Showcase ALEXANDER KOBRIN Music by Beethoven, Schubert, Rachmaninoff

Saturday, August 10

9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. St. James Sanctuary

1:00 P.M. St. James Sanctuary

7:30 P.M. CFCC Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Piano Masterclass with ALEXANDER KOBRIN

PARTICIPANT SHOWCASE

Artist Showcase VIVACE EXTRAVAGANZA A dazzling display of multiple chamber music and piano ensembles

2024 Vivace Guest Artists

MARINA LOMAZOV, Artistic Director JOSEPH RACKERS, Artistic Director

RICHARD AARON, Cello EDWARD ARRON, Cello **DANIELLE BELEN**, Violin DMITRI BERLINSKY, Violin NATASHA BROFSKY, Cello MICHELLE CANN, Piano **ANGELA CHENG, Piano** JAMES EHNES, Violin **CHRISTOPHER GUZMAN**, Piano MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN, Piano SIMON JAMES, Violin YAKOV KASMAN, Piano JASON KWAK, Piano **ALEXANDER KOBRIN**, Piano JEROME LOWENTHAL, Piano **URSULA OPPENS**, Piano **GREGG PAULEY,** Piano RACHEL LEE PRIDAY, Violin HANNAH ROBERTS, Cello THOMAS SAUER, Piano BORIS SLUTSKY, Piano **DMITRI VOROBIEV, Piano** KWAN YI, Piano

DINA VAINSHTEIN, Collaborative Pianist

2024 Vivace Participants

TERRY JI CAN JING ARTHUR JOHNSON YUMA KANO AIDAN KAPLAN KATARINA KENNEY JUNE KIM **ANGELA KIM** HANNAH KIM ADAM KREMER JONAH KWEK **CHAERIM LEE MEAGAN LEE** LEVI LI YAN LI **YIMEI LIANG** SHIH-EN LIN

KAI WONG ZACHARY WOOD **QIYAN XING** YUCHENG XU **FRANKLYN XUE** WENQI (VICKY) YANG **YIFAN YING** LAUREN YOON **ADRIAN ZARAGOZA VICTORIA ZENG XIYUAN ZHANG OSCAR HANQI ZHANG ANRU ZHANG XIQIAO ZHANG YANKE ZHAO ENZO ZHAO LERCHEN ZHONG**

CESONIA DA ROSA YUXIN DONG DANIEL DORSEY CLAIRE DRESSELHUIS SOPHIA ECKDALE-DUDLEY **IVY FAN** SHIYANG FAN **THOMAS FILIPIUK MARLON FLOREZ-DOVALES AIDAN FU LAUREL GAGNON** SAMUEL HAN **TERRY HSU** MATT HUFF **ERIK JACOBY JAMIE PHILLIPS-FRIEDMAN YEEUN JANG**

> **ERIC SCHINDLER SOFIA SKOLDBERG CALLIOPE SMITH YANGXIN SONG EDWARD SU** SEAN SUTHERLAND **CHLOE TAN XIAOYU TANG** SEIRAN TOZLIAN **LEONID TSOY** SASHA VARCHENKO **RUNYANG WANG** WILLIAM WANG **RANFEI WANG** HANWEN WANG ZHENGSHUO WANG **STEFAN WESTERBERG**

ANTONIO AJERO JONATHAN ALTER **MEIHUI AN KENNIS ANG BRIANNA AYE AUGUST BAIK** AMY BAO **BENJAMIN BATALLA** HARRISON BENFORD **SELMA BORNSTEIN RITCHIE BUI ERIC CHANG EDDISON CHEN KENNETH CHEN EMILY CHEN** JET STEPHEN CHONG **JOSHUA CISNEROS**

ZINAN LIN MATTHEW LIU CHANG LU **JEREMI LUKANUS EMILIYA LYTVYNOVA** -MULLERMAN **PUI LAM NEAU RUOYU NI** MADISON OH **JUNGMIN PARK JEANNE PARK KRYSTIAN PAWLOWSKI** WANG PEIJUN LUCAS PETERS DARIA PODOROZHNOVA **MEILIN QUAN** NICOLE RAZHANSKIY ANTHONY REZNIKOVSKY

Artist Showcase

MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN

Cape Fear Community College, Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Friday, August 2, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.

This concert is generously sponsored by Selma Bornstein

Sonata in D Major, Hob. XVI: 27 I. Allegro con brio II. Minuet III. Finale. Presto	Frank Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
Ruth is Sleeping	Frank Zappa (1940-1993)
Passacaglia	Stephan Wolpe (1902-1972)
TIP	John Oswald (b. 1953)
Intermission	
Improvisation in B flat minor (in variation form), Op. 31 No. 1	Nikolai Medtner (1880-1951)
Danza Festiva, Op. 38 No. 3	Nikolai Medtner
<i>Etude-Tableau,</i> Op. 39 No. 5	Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
Piano Sonata No. 2, Op. 36 (1931 version) I. Allegro agitato II. Non allegro - Lento III. L'istesso tempo - Allegro molto	Sergei Rachmaninoff

MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN

"A performer of near-superhuman technical prowess." — The New York Times

"A performer of near-superhuman technical prowess" (The New York Times), pianist Marc-André Hamelin is known worldwide for his unrivaled blend of consummate musicianship and brilliant technique in the great works of the established repertoire, as well as for his intrepid exploration of the rarities of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. He regularly performs around the globe with the leading orchestras and conductors of our time, and gives recitals at major concert venues and festivals worldwide.

Highlights of Mr. Hamelin's 2023–2024 season include a vast variety of repertoire performed with the Philharmonisches Orchester Hagen (Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3), Netherlands Radio Philharmonic (Reger's Piano Concerto), and Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra (music by Franck and Boulanger). Recital and chamber music appearances take Mr. Hamelin to Prague, Poland, Oslo, Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie, London's Wigmore Hall, Amsterdam's Muziekgebouw, Portland Piano International, Cleveland Chamber Music Society, Cliburn Concerts and Brevard Music Center with Johannes Moser, and across the U.S. with the Takács Quartet. Festival appearances include Tanglewood, Le Festival de Lanaudière, Grand Teton Music Festival, Tuckamore Festival, Schubertiade, and Rockport Chamber Music Festival.

Mr. Hamelin is an exclusive recording artist for Hyperion Records, where his discography spans more than 70 albums, with notable recordings of a broad range of solo, orchestral, and chamber repertoire. In September 2023, the label releases Mr. Hamelin's recording of Fauré's Nocturnes and Barcarolles, including a short four-hand suite, played with his wife, Cathy Fuller. In 2022, he released both a two-disc set of C. P. E. Bach's sonatas and rondos and a two-disc set of William Bolcom's complete rags that both received wide critical acclaim.

Mr. Hamelin has composed music throughout his career, with over 30 compositions to his name. The majority of those works—including the Etudes and Toccata on "L'homme armé," commissioned by the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition—are published by Edition Peters. Mr. Hamelin performed his Toccata on "L'homme armé" along with music by C.P.E. Bach and William Bolcom on NPR's Tiny Desk in 2023. His most recent work, his Piano Quintet, was premiered in August 2022 by himself and the celebrated Dover Quartet at La Jolla Music Society.

Mr. Hamelin makes his home in the Boston area with his wife, Cathy Fuller, a producer and host at Classical WCRB. Born in Montreal, he is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the German Record Critics' Association, and has received 7 Juno Awards, 11 Grammy nominations, and the 2018 Jean Gimbel Lane Prize in Piano Performance from Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music. In December 2020, he was awarded the Paul de Hueck and Norman Walford Career Achievement Award for Keyboard Artistry from the Ontario Arts Foundation. Mr. Hamelin is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Québec, and a member of the Royal Society of Canada. Artist Showcase

JAMES EHNES & MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN

Cape Fear Community College, Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Saturday, August 3, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.

This concert is generously sponsored by Alice and Bob Gardiner

Myths, Op. 30: The Fount of Arethusa

Violin Sonata No 1 in A, Op. 13 I. Allegro molto II. Andante III. Scherzo. Allegro vivo. IV. Finale. Allegro quasi presto

Intermission

Violin Sonata No 9 in A, Op. 47 Kreutzer I. Adagio sostenuto II. Andante con variazioni III. Finale. Presto Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937)

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827)

The wondrous James Ehnes,

a thinker of the violin as well as a supreme virtuoso of the instrument... an artist of the first order. $\overset{y}{\sim}$

- The Daily Telegraph

JAMES EHNES 2021 Gramophone Artist of the Year

James Ehnes has established himself as one of the most sought-after violinists on the international stage. Gifted with a rare combination of stunning virtuosity, serene lyricism and an unfaltering musicality, Ehnes is a favourite guest of many of the world's most respected conductors including Ashkenazy, Alsop, Sir Andrew Davis, Denève, Elder, Ivan Fischer, Gardner, Paavo Järvi, Mena, Noseda, Robertson and Runnicles. Ehnes's long list of orchestras includes, amongst others, the Boston, Chicago, London, NHK and Vienna Symphony Orchestras, the Los Angeles, New York, Munich and Czech Philharmonic Orchestras, and the Cleveland, Philadelphia, Philharmonia and DSO Berlin orchestras.

Recent orchestral highlights include the MET Orchestra at Carnegie Hall with Noseda, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig with Shelley, San Francisco Symphony with Janowski, Frankfurt Radio Symphony with Orozco-Estrada, London Symphony with Harding, and Munich Philharmonic with van Zweden, as well as his debut with the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Lincoln Center in spring 2019. In 2019/20, Ehnes is Artist in Residence with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, which includes performances of the Elgar Concerto with Luisi, a play/direct programme leg by Ehnes, and a chamber music programme. In 2017, Ehnes premiered the Aaron-Jay Kernis Violin Concerto with the Toronto, Seattle and Dallas Symphony Orchestras, and gave further performances of the piece with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester and Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.

Alongside his concerto work, James Ehnes maintains a busy recital schedule. He performs regularly at the Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall, Symphony Center Chicago, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Ravinia, Montreux, Chaise-Dieu, the White Nights Festival in St Petersburg, Verbier Festival, Festival de Pâques in Aix, and in 2018 he undertook a recital tour to the Far East, including performances in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. As part of the Beethoven celebrations, Ehnes has been invited to perform the complete cycle of Beethoven Sonatas at the Wigmore Hall throughout 2019/20. Elsewhere Ehnes performs the Beethoven Sonatas at Dresden Music Festival, Prague Spring Festival, the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, at Aspen Music Festival (as part of a multi-year residency) and at

Bravo Vail Festival during his residency week also including the Violin Concerto and Triple Concerto with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Runnicles. In 2016, Ehnes undertook a cross-Canada recital tour, performing in each of the country's provinces and territories, to celebrate his 40th birthday.

As a chamber musician, he has collaborated with leading artists such as Andsnes, Capucon, Lortie, Lugansky, Yo-Yo Ma, Tamestit, Vogler and Yuja Wang. In 2010, he formally established the Ehnes Quartet, with whom he has performed in Europe at venues including the Wigmore Hall, Auditorium du Louvre in Paris and Théâtre du Jeu de Paume in Aix, amongst others. Ehnes is the Artistic Director of the Seattle Chamber Music Society.

Ehnes has an extensive discography and has won many awards for his recordings, including a Grammy Award (2019) for his live recording of Aaron Jay Kernis' Violin Concerto with the Seattle Symphony and Ludovic Morlot, and a Gramophone Award for his live recording of the Elgar Concerto with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Sir Andrew Davis. His recording of the Korngold, Barber and Walton violin concertos won a Grammy Award for 'Best Instrumental Soloist Performance' and a JUNO award for 'Best Classical Album of the Year'. His recording of the Paganini Caprices earned him universal praise, with Diapason writing of the disc, "Ehnes confirms the predictions of Erick Friedman, eminent student of Heifetz: 'there is only one like him born every hundred years'."

Ehnes began violin studies at the age of five, became a protégé of the noted Canadian violinist Francis Chaplin aged nine, and made his orchestra debut with L'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal aged 13. He continued his studies with Sally Thomas at the Meadowmount School of Music and The Juilliard School, winning the Peter Mennin Prize for Outstanding Achievement and Leadership in Music upon his graduation in 1997. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and in 2010 was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada. Ehnes was awarded the 2017 Royal Philharmonic Society Award in the Instrumentalist category.

James Ehnes plays the "Marsick" Stradivarius of 1715.

Artist Showcase

CHAMBER MUSIC MASTERPIECES

Cape Fear Community College, Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Thursday, August 8, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.

This concert is generously sponsored by David and Sydney Womack

Five Pieces for Cello and Piano I. La Captive IV. Dreaming

HANNAH ROBERTS, cello THOMAS SAUER, piano

Cello Sonata in G minor, Op. 65 I. Allegro moderato II. Scherzo

II. Scherzo III. Largo IV. Finale. Allegro

EDWARD ARRON, cello THOMAS SAUER, piano

Intermission

Piano Trio No. 1 in G minor for piano, violin, and cello, Op. 15

I. Moderato assai - Più animato

II. Allegro, ma non agitato

III. Finale. Presto

DMITRI BERLINSKY, violin NATASHA BROFSKY, cello DMITRI VOROBIEV, piano Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

Bedrich Smetana (1824-1884)



A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mr. Arron made his New York recital debut in 2000 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Since that time, he has appeared in recital, as a soloist with major orchestras, and as a chamber musician, throughout North America, Europe and Asia. Mr. Arron tours and records as a member of the renowned Ehnes String Quartet and he is a regular performer at the Boston and Seattle Chamber Music Societies, Bargemusic, Caramoor, CityMusic Cleveland, Bowdoin International Music Festival, Seoul Spring Festival in Korea, Music in the Vineyards Festival, Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival, Manchester Music Festival, and the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival in Finland. He has participated in Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Project as well as

Guest Artist Biographies

ED ARRON

Associate Professor of Cello, University of Massachusettes at Amherst

Isaac Stern's Jerusalem Chamber Music Encounters. Mr. Arron's performances are frequently broadcast on American Public Media's Performance Today. In the May of 2022, Mr. Arron stepped down after 15 years as the artistic director of the acclaimed Musical Masterworks concert series in Old Lyme, Connecticut. In 2013, he completed a ten-year residency as the artistic director of the Metropolitan Museum Artists in Concert, a chamber music series created in 2003 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Museum's prestigious Concerts and Lectures series. In 2016, Mr. Arron joined the faculty at University of Massachusetts Amherst, after having served on the faculty of New York University from 2009 to 2016.



NATASHA BROFSKY

Professor of Cello, The Juilliard School

Natasha Brofsky is cellist of the Naumburg Award-winning Peabody Trio, which has performed on leading chamber music series throughout the U.S., Canada, and the U.K.. The trio has been heard on numerous radio broadcasts, and has recorded on the New World, CRI, and Artek labels. She has performed as a guest artist with numerous ensembles, including the Takacs, Prazak, Cassatt, Norwegian, Jupiter, Ying, and Borromeo quartets. Brofsky has held principal positions in the Norwegian Radio Orchestra and the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra under Iona Brown. She was also a member of the Serapion Ensemble, performing with the group in Germany and Austria, and the string trio Opus 3, which performed throughout Norway for Rikskonsertene, the Norwegian State Concert Agency. She recorded Olav Anton Thommessen's Concerto for Cello and Winds for Aurora Records and was a regular participant at Open Chamber Music in Prussia Cove, England. She has given master classes at many schools, including San Francisco Conservatory, Peabody Conservatory, and Beston University. She has taught at Barratt-Due's Institute in Oslo and at the University of Colorado-Boulder and the Heifetz Institute. She has been on the faculty at the Yellow Barn Festival (Vermont) since 2001; New England Conservatory since 2004, and has been on the faculty at Juilliard since 2012 and of the school's Pre-college faculty since 2016. Brofsky studied with Marion Feldman, Robert Sylvester, Paul Katz, and Timothy Eddy, and on a Fulbright grant with William Pleeth in London, where she was awarded the Muriel Taylor Cello Prize.

Guest Artist Biographies

HANNAH ROBERTS

Jacqueline Du Pre Professor of Cello Royal Academy of Music, London Professor of Cello Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester

Hannah Roberts is one of the outstanding cellists of her generation. She was privileged to have studied extensively with William Pleeth at the Yehudi Menuhin School and Ralph Kirshbaum at the Royal Northern College of Music. Having won prizes in numerous prestigious competitions and awards such as Shell LSO, BBC Young Musician, Jacqueline Du Pre Memorial and Pierre Fournier awards Hannah has gone on to give many concerto performances with leading orchestras, including the London Mozart Players, LSO, BBC Concert Orchestra, and the Halle, also making frequent broadcasts for BBC radio and recoding for ASV. Festival appearances have included Chichester, Malvern, Beverley, Beethovenfest and regular participation in the prestigious Manchester International



Cello Festival where she was invited to lead a world premiere of a cello sextet work by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies and performed on numerous occasions. In addition to her activities as soloist, chamber musician and principal cellist of award winning chamber orchestra Manchester Camerata, Hannah is a committed and sought after teacher. Recently announced as Jacqueline Du Pre Professor of Cello at the RAM in London, she is also professor of cello the RNCM in Manchester, Visiting Artist in Cello at RBC and visiting tutor for the University of Oxford.Her distinguished roster of student alumni include the British cellist Sheku Kanneh Mason, South African artist Abel Selaocoe and some of the most worlds most notable young soloists, chamber musicians and principal cellists.



Dmitri Berlinsky was the youngest winner in the history of the Paganini International Violin Competition in Genoa, Italy. Subsequent triumphs at the Montreal International Violin Competition, the International Tchaikovsky Competition, the Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels, and the Young Concert Artists in New York led to appearances with major orchestras in Europe, Russia, the Far East, North and South America. Recent highlights include performances with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Sinfonia Toronto, Montréal Symphony, New York Chamber Symphony, Leipzig Radio Orchestra, Belgian National Orchestra, as well as appearances at the festivals in Italy, Belgium, Germany, Scandinavia, Taiwan and Korea. Mr.

DMITRI BERLINSKY

Professor of Violin, Michigan State University College of Music Artistic Director, International Chamber Soloists

Berlinsky has been recipient of many awards including SONY, Juilliard, YCA and Bagby Foundations. This year Mr. Berlinsky has been invited to serve on the jury of several prestigious competitions including Premio Paganini International Competition in Genoa, Italy, Washington International String Competition, Young Concerts Artists auditions in New York City, Astral Auditions in Philadelphia and Leopold Auer in St. Petersburg. For several years Mr. Berlinsky performed on the "Yusupov" Stradivarius violin from Moscow State Collection - the same instrument David Oistrakh and Leonid Kogan played. Mr. Berlinsky now performs on Carlo Ferdinand Landolfi violin made in 1759 and Jean-Pascal Nehr bow made in 2017.



American pianist 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. Some of his recent solo appearances include concertos with the Quad-City and Tallahassee Symphonies, and recitals at Mannes College, Merkin Concert Hall, Rockefeller University, St. John's College, Oxford, and Vassar College. With his long-time duo partner Colin Carr, he has appeared at the Wigmore Hall (London), Holywell Music Room (Oxford), both the Concertgebouw and Musikgebouw in Amsterdam, Bargemusic (New York

Guest Artist Biographies

THOMAS SAUER

Piano Faculty, Vassar College Piano Faculty, Mannes College

City), the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (Boston), and Princeton University. Other duo recitals include violinists Midori (Berlin Philharmonie and the Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels) and Jennifer Koh (Kennedy Center, Library of Congress). Among his numerous chamber music appearances are performances at the Chamber Music Societies of Lincoln Center, Boston, and Philadelphia; performances with members of the Juilliard String Quartet and numerous concerts with the Brentano String Quartet. A faculty member of Mannes and Vassar Colleges, Sauer was the founder and director of the Mannes Beethoven Institute.

DMITRI VOROBIEV

Professor of Piano at University of North Carolina School of the Arts Artistic Director, UNCSA Chamber Music Festival

Dmitri Vorobiev first came to international attention after winning the Casagrande International Piano Competition in Italy in 1994, followed by performances at the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto and numerous recitals throughout Italy. Mr. Vorobiev has been a major prize-winner in the Busoni, Cincinnati World, Ibla Grand Prize, A.M.A. Calabria, Iowa and Alabama international piano competitions. In 2000, he placed first and also took three special prizes at the UNISA International Piano Competition in Pretoria, South Africa, and in 2003, Dmitri won the first prize in the New Orleans International Piano Competition. He appeared as a soloist with Cape Town Symphony Orchestra, Pretoria Chamber Orchestra, Durban Symphony, Terni Philharmonic,



Manhattan School of Music Symphony, Winston-Salem Symphony and Western Piedmont Symphony. An acclaimed soloist, Dmitri is also an active chamber music player. Some of the highlights include recordings of complete sonatas for violin and piano and complete piano trios by Bohuslav Martinu with Arbor Piano Trio for Naxos label. Mr. Vorobiev's collaborations include frequent performances with violinist Ivan Zenaty as well as performances with Zemlinsky String Quartet and violinist Rodney_Friend. Currently, Dmitri Vorobiev is Professor of Piano at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts where he is also an Artistic Director of the UNCSA Chamber Music Festival in Watson Hall.

ALEXANDER KOBRIN

Cape Fear Community College, Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Friday, August 9, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.

This concert is generously sponsored by Dr Robert Morrison

32 Variations on an Original Theme in C minor, WoO 80

Four Impromptus, D899

I. Allegro molto moderato II. Allegro III. Andante **IV. Allegretto**

Intermission

Etudes-tableaux, Op.39

I. Allegro agitato II. Lento assai III. Allegro molto IV. Allegro assai V. Appassionato VI. Allegro VII. Lento lugubre VIII. Allegro moderato IX. Allegro moderato. Tempo di marcia. Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873 - 1943)

Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770 - 1827)

Franz Schubert

(1797 - 1828)

dynamic fluidity that the modern piano allows, and he gave his sense of fantasy free rein, and creating an almost confessional spirit. $^{\prime\prime}$

- The New York Times

He surrendered neither the smoothness nor the



ALEXANDER Kobrin

Professor of Piano Eastman School of Music

Called the "Van Cliburn of today" by the BBC, pianist Alexander Kobrin has placed himself at the forefront of today's performing musicians. His prize-winning performances have been praised for their brilliant technique, musicality, and emotional engagement with the audience. The New York Times has written that Mr. Kobrin was a "fastidious guide" to Schumann's "otherworldly visions, pointing out hunters, flowers, haunted corners and friendly bowers, all captured in richly characterized vignettes." "This was a performance that will be revered and remembered as a landmark of the regeneration of exceptional classical music in Central New York." -a critic wrote after Mr. Kobrin's performance of the Second Piano Concerto by Johannes Brahms with Syracuse Symphony in Syracuse, NY.

In 2005, Mr. Kobrin was awarded the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Gold Medal at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Fort Worth, TX. His numerous successes in competitions also include top prizes at the Busoni International Piano Competition (First Prize), Hamamatsu International Piano Competition (Top Prize), Scottish International Piano Competition in Glasgow (First Prize)

Mr. Kobrin has performed with many of the world's great orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Russian National Orchestra, Belgrade Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Verdi, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Moscow Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, Berliner Symphony, Chicago Sinfonietta, Swedish Radio Symphony, Birmingham Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic, and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He has collaborated with such conductors as Mikhail Pletnev, Mikhail Jurovsky, Mark Elder, Vassiliy Sinaisky, James Conlon, Claus Peter Flor, Alexander Lazarev, Vassiliy Petrenko and Bramwell Tovey.

He has appeared in recital at major halls worldwide, including Carnegie Zankel Hall and Avery Fisher Hall in New York, the Kennedy Centre in Washington, Albert Hall and Wigmore Hall in London, Louvre Auditorium, Salle Gaveau and Salle Cortot in Paris, Munich Herkulesaal and Berliner Filarmonia Hall in Germany, the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire, Sheung Wan Civic Centre in Hong Kong, as well as

Sala Verdi in Milan and many others. Other past performances have included recitals at Bass Hall for the Cliburn Series, the Washington Performing Arts Society, La Roque d'Antheron, the Ravinia Festival, the Beethoven Easter Festival, Busoni Festival, the renowned Klavier-Festival Ruhr, the Festival Musique dans le Grésivaudan, the International Keyboard Institute & Festival, annual concert tours in Japan, China, and Taiwan.

Though widely acclaimed as a performer, Mr. Kobrin's teaching has been an inspiration to many students through his passion for music. From 2003 to 2010 he served on the faculty of the Russian State Gnessin's Academy of Music. In 2010 Alexander Kobrin was named the L. Rexford Distinguished Chair in Piano at the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University, and from 2013 until 2017 has been a member of the celebrated Artist Faculty of New York University's Steinhardt School. In July 2017, Mr. Kobrin has joined the faculty of the renowned Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. Mr. Kobrin has also given masterclasses in Europe and Asia, the International Piano Series, and at the Conservatories of Japan and China. In 2020, he became co-director of Hiumaa Homecoming Festival in Estonia.

Mr. Kobrin has released recordings on the Harmonia Mundi, Quartz, and Centaur labels, covering a wide swath of the piano literature to critical acclaim. His Schumann album, released on Centaur Records has been included into the top-5 albums of the year in 2015 by Fanfare Magazine. Gramophone Magazine raved about his Cliburn Competition release on Harmonia Mundi, writing that "in [Rachmaninoff's] Second Sonata (played in the 1931 revision), despite fire-storms of virtuosity, there is always room for everything to tell and Kobrin achieves a hypnotic sense of the music's dark necromancy."

Mr. Kobrin was born in 1980 in Moscow. At the age of five, he was enrolled in the world-famous Gnessin Special School of Music after which he attended the prestigious Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatoire. His teachers have included renowned professors Tatiana Zelikman and Lev Naumov. Mr. Kobrin immigrated to the United States in 2010 and became its citizen in 2015. Mr. Kobrin is a Shigeru Kawai artist.

Artist Showcase

VIVACE EXTRAVAGANZA

Cape Fear Community College, Wilson Center for the Performing Arts Saturday, August 10, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.

This concert is generously sponsored by Howard Stein

Thème varié, Op.89

ANGELA CHENG, piano

3 Easy Pieces, K021

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Cécile Chaminade

(1857 - 1944)

URSULA OPPENS & JEROME LOWENTHAL, piano

Variations on a theme of Paganini

XIAOYU TANG AND RUOYU NI, pianos

Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74, "Pathétique" for 2 Pianos March

YAKOV KASMAN & DINA KASMAN, pianos

Intermission

Le Carnaval des animaux

I. Introduction et marche royale du lion (Introduction and Royal March of the Lion) (1835-1921) II. Poules et cogs (Hens and Roosters) III. Hémiones (animaux véloces) (Swift Animals) IV. Tortues (Tortoises) V. L'Éléphant (The Elephant) VI. Kangourous (Kangaroos) VII. Aquarium VIII. Personnages à longues oreilles (Characters with Long Ears) IX. Le Coucou au fond des bois (The Cuckoo in the Depths of the Woods) X. Volière (Aviary) XI. *Pianistes* (Pianists) XII. Fossiles (Fossils) XIII. Le cygne (The Swan) XIV. Final (Finale)

MARINA LOMAZOV & JOSEPH RACKERS, pianos

ERIN MUNNELLY, flute; KEVIN STREICH, clarinet; QUINTIN MALLETTE, percussion JORGE RICHTER, viola; CHRIS BUDDO, bass

Witold Lutosławski (1913 - 1994)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 - 1893)

Camille Saint-Saëns

MARINA LOMAZOV & JOSEPH RACKERS

Professors of Piano, Eastman School of Music Artistic Directors, Vivace Music Foundation

Praised for "demon precision and complete dedication" (Audio Society), the Lomazov/Rackers Piano Duo garnered wide attention as the Second Prize Winners of the Sixth Biennial Ellis Duo Piano Competition, the only national competition for piano duo in the United States at that time. Since then, they have performed as recitalists and in concert with orchestras throughout the United States and Europe, including performances at the Kiev International Music Festival, Gina Bachauer International Piano Festival, Indiana University Piano Festival, Seoul International Piano Festival, American Liszt Society Festival, Perugia International Music Festival, Varna International Piano Festival, Moulin d'Andé Arts Festival, Burgos International Music Festival and Infiorata di Genzano. in addition to appearances in every region of the United States. Fanfare praises the duo for "a superb demonstration of piano playing" and American Record Guides writes "the ensemble between Lomazov and Rackers is dead on".

As advocates for modern music for piano duo, they have premiered numerous works across the United States, including several compositions written specifically for them. Their broad repertoire ranges from important works by Bach, Brahms, Mozart and Schubert, to wide-ranging performances of Stravinsky's Rite of Spring and Petrushka, leading one critic to write that the duo "really lit up the audience....demonstrating that nearly 100 years after it was written, this modernist touchstone can still sound modern" (Columbia Free Times).

Praised as a "diva of the piano" (Salt Lake City Tribune), Marina Lomazov has performed throughout the United States, Europe, South America and China. She has won prizes in the Gina Bachauer, Cleveland, William Kapell and Hilton Head International piano competitions, and was the first pianist to be awarded the Artist Diploma at the Eastman School of Music in nearly two decades. She has performed as soloist with the Boston Pops, Rochester Philharmonic, Eastman Philharmonia, Chernigov Philharmonic (Ukraine), KUG Orchester Graz (Austria), Bollington Festival Orchestra (England), Piccolo Spoleto Festival Orchestra, Brevard Festival Orchestra and South Carolina Philharmonic, to name a few. New York Times chief music critic Anthony Tommasini describes a recent New York performance as "dazzling" and Talk Magazine Shanghai describes her performances as "a dramatic blend of boldness and wit".

Lauded for "unflappable virtuosity" (American Record Guide), Joseph Rackers has appeared throughout the United States, Bulgaria, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Ukraine at venues including the Shanghai and Sichuan Conservatories of Music, Dame Myra Hess Concert Series. Banff Center for the Arts and Yantai International Music Festival, among others. He is the recipient of the Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. A devoted teacher, Rackers has given masterclasses at Indiana University, University of Michigan, Boston University, Gina Bachauer International Piano Festival, UCLA, UNLV, Vanderbilt, and at conservatories and music festivals across Europe, China, and South Korea. He is in demand as a jury member for national and international piano competitions and his students have earned dozens of national and international awards including the MTNA National Competition, Minnesota International E-Piano Competition, Washington D.C., Seattle, Steinway, YoungArts, IIYM, Blount-Slawson, Liszt-Garrison, and numerous others.

Ms. Lomazov and Mr. Rackers met at the Eastman School of Music where they earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance. After serving on the faculty of the University of South Carolina for nearly twenty years, they joined the faculty of Eastman School of Music as Professors of Piano. They are Founders of the Southeastern Piano Festival and Artistic Directors of the Vivace Music Foundation.

Lomazov and Rackers are Steinway Artists.

Guest Artist Biographies

ANGELA CHENG

Professor of Piano, Oberlin Conservatory of Music

Consistently praised for her brilliant technique and superb musicianship, Canadian pianist Angela Cheng is one of her country's national treasures. In addition to regular guest appearances with virtually every orchestra in Canada, she has performed with Saint Louis, Houston, Indianapolis, Colorado, Utah, San Diego, Jacksonville, and the philharmonic orchestras of Buffalo, Louisiana, Rhode Island, London, Israel, and Minas Gerais in Brazil. As a recitalist and chamber musician, Cheng has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., New York's 92nd Street Y, and Wigmore Hall in London. A member of the Zukerman Trio and Chamber Players, she has also appeared at Vienna's Musikverein, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Buenos Aires' Teatro Colon, Mariinsky Concert



Hall in St. Petersburg and the Sydney Opera House. Festival appearances include Verbier, Edinburgh, Miyazaki, Stars of the White Nights in St. Petersburg. She has served on the jury of many competitions, including the Cleveland, Esther Honens, Montreal and the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competitions. Cheng was awarded the Gold Medal at the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Masters Competition and was the first Canadian to win the prestigious Montreal International Piano Competition. She has also been honored with the Canada Council's coveted Career Development Grant and the Medal of Excellence for outstanding interpretations of Mozart from the Mozarteum in Salzburg. She is currently on the artist faculty of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where she was honored with the Excellence in Teaching Award.



Ursula Oppens, a legend among American pianists, is widely admired particularly for her original and perceptive readings of new music, but also for her knowing interpretations of the standard repertoire. No other artist alive today has commissioned and premiered more new works for the piano that have entered the permanent repertoire. A prolific and critically acclaimed recording artist with five Grammy nominations, on February 2, 2019, Ms. Oppens performed a recital at Merkin Concert Hall for a celebration of her 75th birthday, inaugurating the Kaufman Music Center's newest series, *Only at Merkin with Terrance McKnight*. Her program showcased all works written for her by Elliott Carter and John Corigliano, and gave the world premiere of a piano quintet by Laura Kaminsky—commissioned by the pianist for the

URSULA OPPENS

Distinguished Professor of Music, Brooklyn College

Piano Faculty, Mannes College

occasion with production support from the Newburgh Institute for The Arts & Ideas. As an orchestral guest soloist, Ms. Oppens has performed with virtually all of the world's major orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the American Composers Orchestra, the Boston Modern Orchestra Project (BMOP), and the orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, and Milwaukee. Abroad, she has appeared with such ensembles as the Berlin Symphony, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Deutsche Symphonie, the Scottish BBC, and the London Philharmonic Orchestras. Ms. Oppens is also an avid chamber musician and has performed with the Arditti, Cassatt, JACK, Juilliard, and Pacifica quartets, among other chamber ensembles.



Jerome Lowenthal, born in 1932, continues to fascinate audiences, who find in his playing a youthful intensity and an eloquence born of life-experience. Mr. Lowenthal studied in his native Philadelphia with Olga Samaroff-Stokowski, in New York with William Kapell and Edward Steuermann, and in Paris with Alfred Cortot, meanwhile traveling annually to Los Angeles for coachings with Artur Rubinstein. After winning prizes in three international competitions (Bolzano, Darmstadt, and Brussels), he moved to Jerusalem where, for three years, he played, taught and lectured. Returning to America, he made his debut with the New York Philharmonic playing Bartok's Concerto no. 2 in 1963. Since then, he has performed everywhere, from the Aleutians to Zagreb. Conductors with whom he has appeared as soloist

YAKOV KASMAN

Distinguished Professor of Piano University of Alabama, Birmingham

Yakov Kasman's debut in America in 1997 as Silver Medalist in the Tenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Fort Worth was the culmination of several competition triumphs and tours in Europe and the Middle East, including prizes at the 1991 Valentino Bucchi Competition in Rome, the 1991 London World Piano Competition, the 1992 Artur Rubinstein International Competition in Tel Aviv, and the 1995 International Prokofiev Competition at St. Petersburg. Since his American debut, he has given concerts in the United States, South America, Europe, and Asia, including recitals in New York City, Boston, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Cleveland, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Paul, Atlanta, and Birmingham. He has appeared as soloist with more than seventy orchestras including the Buffalo, Oregon, Pacific, Syracuse, Memphis, Miami, Ft. Worth,

Guest Artists Biographies

JEROME LOWENTHAL

Professor of Piano, The Juilliard School

include Barenboim, Ozawa, Tilson Thomas, Temirkanov, and Slatkin, as well as such giants of the past as Leonard Bernstein, Eugene Ormandy, Pierre Monteux and Leopold Stokowski. He has played sonatas with Itzhak Perlman, piano duos with Ronit Amir (his late wife), Carmel Lowenthal (his daughter), and Ursula Oppens, as well as quintets with the Lark, Avalon and Shanghai Quartets. Teaching, too, is an important part of Mr. Lowenthal's musical life. For twentythree years at the Juilliard School and for forty-five summers at the Music Academy of the West, he has worked with an extraordinary number of gifted pianists, whom he encourages to understand the music they play in a wide aesthetic and cultural perspective and to project it with the freedom which that perspective allows.



Nashville and Alabama symphonies, Athens State Orchestra, the Orchestre de Lille and Orchestre Philharmonique de Montpellier in France, the Singapore Symphony, and more. Kasman is also active as a teacher and adjudicator. He was a jury member of the Busoni International Piano Competition (Bolzano), International Piano Competition in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz (Kyiv), the Corpus Christi International Competition, "Merzlyakovka invites friends" All-Russian Piano Competition in Moscow, Kalinnikov International Piano Competition in Orel to name a few. A graduate of the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and previously a professor of piano at the Music College of the Conservatory, he is now the Distinguished Professor of Piano and Artist-in-Residence at the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Guest Artist Biographies

DINA KASMAN

D.M.A. in Piano Performance, Peabody Conservatory

Vivace Festival Associate

Pianist Dina Kasman is a multifaceted musician, comfortable as a soloist, chamber partner, teacher, and in arts leadership roles. Dina recently won Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music concerto competition with Tchaikovsky's Concerto No. 1 and performed it with the JSoM Concert Orchestra. Additionally, Dina has captured top prizes in the Lima, Alabama, LaGrange, and Southern Adventist University concerto competitions. She made her debut with orchestra at age thirteen and has since performed concertos by Beethoven, Liszt, Rachmaninoff, and Prokofiev with the National Symphony of Ukraine and Alabama and SAU Symphony Orchestras. Dina's accolades also include being a three-time First Prize recipient of the Gulf Coast Steinway Society Competition and top prizes at multiple MTNA competitions, including winning most recently 2023 Indiana MTNA Young Artist Competition and being a finalist at the MTNA National Chamber Music Competition. In Spring 2024, Dina graduated



Indiana University with a master's degree under the guidance of Norman Krieger, where she frequently collaborated and taught piano as an Associate Instructor. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she was a University Honors Program student and received minors in French and Business Administration in addition to her major in Music as a student of her father and duo partner Yakov Kasman. Dina served as an associate of the Southeastern Piano Festival in Columbia, SC, and an administrative associate at the 2023 Vivace International Music Festival, and she is so happy to be back this year! Dina's teaching career began 9 years ago. Her students have won local, state, and regional competitions. In Summer 2023 and 2024, she was invited as guest artist and faculty at the Utah State University Piano Festival. In Fall 2024, Dina will begin her doctorate studies with Professor Boris Slutsky and as a graduate assistant at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University.



CHRIS BUDDO

Distinguished Professor of String Pedagogy and Double Bass, East Carolina University

Double bassist, J. Christopher Buddo has performed with orchestras in the South and Mid-West including: the Fort Worth Symphony, the Waco Symphony (Principal Bass), the Des Moines Symphony, the Quad-City Symphony (Assistant Principal Bass), and the Roanoke Symphony. He has appeared with festivals in Door County, Wisconsin and Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania. As a conductor he has led numerous university opera productions, he was the director of the Iowa City Youth Orchestra, and he was the founding conductor of the Waco Symphony Youth Orchestra. He has held faculty and administrative positions at Baylor University and is currently on the faculty at East Carolina University. At ECU he served as Director of the School of Music then Dean of the Cottege of Fine Arts and Communication before becoming the Hardy Distinguished Professor of String Pedagogy and Double Bass.



Erin Munnelly Denning is the Principal Flutist of the Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle and a flutist with the New Carolina Sinfonia. She is also a substitute with the North Carolina Symphony on both flute and piccolo. Erin earned her Master of Music degree in flute performance from the College Conservatory

Guest Artist Biographies

ERIN MUNNELLY

Principal Flutist, Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle

of Music at the University of Cincinnati and her Bachelor of Music Degree in flute performance from East Carolina University. In addition to her performance career, Erin is Personnel Manager of the Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle and maintains a private studio of flute students of all ages and levels.



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Photo by Jenna Poppe

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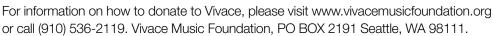
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