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**THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER
DAVID FINCKEL AND WU HAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS**

ANNOUNCES

**DEBUT PERFORMANCES AT
RUSSIA'S FAMED WHITE NIGHTS FESTIVAL**

JUNE 2017

At the invitation of Maestro Valery Gergiev, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) is pleased to announce its first appearance at the prestigious Stars of the White Nights Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia. The three CMS concerts will take place on June 16, 17, and 18, and feature performances by six of the world's finest chamber music players drawn a vast roster of 130 acclaimed artists. They include pianists Orion Weiss and Wu Han, violinists Alexander Sitkovetsky and Arnaud Sussmann, violist Paul Neubauer, and cellist David Finckel. The programs offer a rich and diverse selection of works by mostly American and Russian composers Samuel Barber, Antonín Dvořák, Sergei Taneyev, Igor Stravinsky, Dmitri Shostakovich, Mark O'Connor, George Gershwin, and Sergei Prokofiev. (Please see below for complete concert details.) CMS Artistic Directors commented:

It is with great excitement that the Chamber Music Society prepares for its first series of concerts in St. Petersburg. The artists and programs we have selected for this important project fully represent the Society artistically, while at the same time paying tribute to our host country's rich musical legacy. The home of so many great musicians throughout history, St. Petersburg will be a landmark venue for us as CMS continues to spread its music making around the globe.

Maestro Valery Gergiev added:

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center is known throughout the world for its thrilling performances of the chamber music repertoire. I am honored to welcome Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han, along with a number of their superb musicians, to this year's festival.

Programs and Artists:

June 16

Barber	<i>Souvenirs</i> for Piano, Four Hands, Op. 28 (1951-52)
Dvorák	Sonatina in G major for Violin and Piano, Op. 100 (1893)
Taneyev	Quintet in G minor for Piano, Two Violins, Viola, and Cello, Op. 30 (1910-11)

June 17

Stravinsky	<i>Suite italienne</i> for Violin and Piano (1932)
Shostakovich	Trio No. 2 in E minor for Piano, Violin, and Cello, Op. 67 (1944)
O'Connor	<i>F.C.'s Jig</i> for Violin and Viola (1992-93)
Gershwin	<i>Rhapsody in Blue</i> for Piano, Four Hands, arr. Henry Levine (1924)

June 18

Prokofiev	Sonata in D major for Violin and Piano, Op. 94a (1943, arr. 1944)
Dvorák	Quintet in A major for Piano, Two Violins, Viola, and Cello, B. 155, Op. 81 (1887)

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) is known for the extraordinary quality of its performances, its inspired programming, and for setting the benchmark for chamber music worldwide: no other chamber music organization does more to promote, to educate, and to foster a love of and appreciation for the art form. Whether at its home in Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, on leading stages throughout North America, or at prestigious venues in Europe and Asia, CMS brings together the very best international artists from an ever-expanding roster of more than 150 artists per season, to provide audiences with the kind of exhilarating concert experiences that have led to critics calling CMS “an exploding star in the musical firmament” (*Wall Street Journal*). Many of these extraordinary performances are live-streamed on the CMS website, broadcast on radio and television, or made available on CD and DVD, reaching thousands of listeners around the globe each season.

Education remains at the heart of CMS’ mission. Demonstrating the belief that the future of chamber music lies in engaging and expanding the audience, CMS has created multi-faceted education and audience development programs to bring chamber music to people from a wide range of backgrounds, ages, and levels of musical knowledge. CMS also believes in fostering and supporting the careers of young artists through the CMS Two program, which provides ongoing performance opportunities to a select number of highly gifted young instrumentalists and ensembles. As this venerable institution approaches its 50th anniversary season in 2020, its commitment to artistic excellence and to serving the art of chamber music, in everything that it does, is stronger than ever.

ARTIST BIOS

Co-Artistic Director of the Chamber Music Society, cellist **David Finckel** is a recipient of *Musical America*’s Musician of the Year award, one of the highest music industry honors in the US. He leads a multifaceted career as a concert performer, recording artist, educator,

administrator, and cultural entrepreneur that places him in the ranks of today's most influential classical musicians. He appears extensively with CMS, as recitalist with pianist Wu Han, and in piano trios with violinist Philip Setzer. Along with Wu Han, he is the founder and Artistic Director of Music@Menlo, Silicon Valley's acclaimed chamber music festival and institute; co-founder and Artistic Director of Chamber Music Today in Korea; and co-founder and Artistic Director of the Chamber Music Workshop at the Aspen Music Festival and School. Under the auspices of CMS, David Finckel and Wu Han also lead the LG Chamber Music School. Mr. Finckel is the co-creator of ArtistLed, classical music's first musician-directed and Internet-based recording company, whose 19-album catalogue has won widespread critical praise. The latest release features the Dvorak Cello Concerto and a work written for him by Augusta Read Thomas. *Piano Quartets*, a 2015 Deutsche Grammophon release recorded live at Alice Tully Hall, features David Finckel, Wu Han, violinist Daniel Hope, and violist Paul Neubauer. David Finckel served as cellist of the nine-time Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet for 34 seasons. The first American student of Rostropovich, David Finckel is on the faculty of The Juilliard School and Stony Brook University.

Co-Artistic Director of the Chamber Music Society, pianist **Wu Han** is among the most esteemed and influential classical musicians in the world today. She is a recipient of *Musical America's* Musician of the Year award, one of the highest music industry honors in the US, and has risen to international prominence through her wide-ranging achievements as a concert performer, recording artist, educator, arts administrator, and cultural entrepreneur. Wu Han appears extensively with CMS; as recitalist with cellist David Finckel; and in piano trios with violinist Philip Setzer. Along with David Finckel, she is the founder and Artistic Director of Music@Menlo, Silicon Valley's acclaimed chamber music festival and institute; co-founder and Artistic Director of Chamber Music Today in Korea; and co-founder and Artistic Director of the Chamber Music Workshop at the Aspen Music Festival and School. Under the auspices of CMS, David Finckel and Wu Han also lead the LG Chamber Music School in South Korea. Wu Han is the co-creator of ArtistLed, classical music's first musician-directed and Internet-based recording company, whose 19-album catalogue has won widespread critical praise. Recent recording releases include *Wu Han LIVE* and *Piano Quartets*, a Deutsche Grammophon release recorded live at Alice Tully Hall with cellist David Finckel, violinist Daniel Hope, and violist Paul Neubauer. Wu Han's most recent concerto performances include appearances with the Aspen Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony, and the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Violist **Paul Neubauer's** exceptional musicality and effortless playing led the *New York Times* to call him "a master musician." He is the newly appointed artistic director of the Mostly Music series in New Jersey. In September he was featured in a *Live from Lincoln Center* broadcast with CMS. This season he also performs with his trio with soprano Susanna Phillips and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott, and as soloist with orchestras. His recording of the Aaron Kernis Viola Concerto with the Royal Northern Sinfonia, a work he premiered with the St. Paul Chamber, Los Angeles Chamber, and Idyllwild Arts orchestras and the Chautauqua Symphony, will be released on Signum Records. Appointed principal violist of the New York Philharmonic at age 21, he has appeared as soloist with over 100 orchestras including the New York, Los Angeles, and Helsinki philharmonics; National, St. Louis, Detroit, Dallas, San Francisco, and Bournemouth symphonies; and Santa Cecilia, English Chamber, and Beethovenhalle orchestras. He has

premiered viola concertos by Bartók (revised version of Viola Concerto), Friedman, Glière, Jacob, Kernis, Lazarof, Müller-Siemens, Ott, Penderecki, Picker, Suter, and Tower and has been featured on CBS' *Sunday Morning*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, and in *Strad*, *Strings*, and *People* magazines. A two-time Grammy nominee, he has recorded on numerous labels including Decca, Deutsche Grammophon, RCA Red Seal, and Sony Classical, and in 2016 he released a solo album of music recorded at Music@Menlo. Mr. Neubauer is on the faculty of The Juilliard School and Mannes College.

Violinist **Alexander Sitkovetsky** was praised by *Gramophone* magazine for "his confident, entirely natural musicianship." He has performed with the Netherlands Philharmonic, the Philharmonia, Royal Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony, Brussels Philharmonic, the European Union Chamber Orchestra, Academy of St Martin in the Fields, St. Petersburg Symphony, Moscow Symphony, Welsh National Opera, and the BBC Concert Orchestra. In the 2014-15 season he made his debut with the Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo and with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in Glasgow, as well as with the Riga Sinfonietta, Poznan Philharmonic, and the Orquesta Filarmónica de Bolivia. He was guest soloist in two nationwide tours of the UK with the Brussels Philharmonic and the St. Petersburg Symphony. He toured Australia as guest director with the Australian Chamber Orchestra Collective. He also performed a six-date series of sold-out concerts with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall. Recent performances include his debut with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Munich Chamber Orchestra, and the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra as well as a UK tour with the Tonkünstler Orchestra Vienna. His new recording for CPO of Andrzej Panufnik's Violin Concerto has been critically acclaimed and won the 2015 ICMA Special Achievement Award. A former member of Chamber Music Society Two, he was born in Moscow into a family with an established musical tradition and studied at the Menuhin School.

Winner of a 2009 Avery Fisher Career Grant, **Arnaud Sussmann** has distinguished himself with his unique sound, bravura, and profound musicianship. Minnesota's *Pioneer Press* writes, "Sussmann has an old-school sound reminiscent of what you'll hear on vintage recordings by Jascha Heifetz or Fritz Kreisler, a rare combination of sweet and smooth that can hypnotize a listener." A thrilling young musician capturing the attention of classical critics and audiences around the world, he has appeared on tour in Israel and in concert at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, the Dresden Music Festival in Germany, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC. He has been presented in recital in Omaha on the Tuesday Musical Club series, New Orleans by the Friends of Music, Tel Aviv at the Museum of Art, and at the Louvre Museum in Paris. He has also given concerts at the OK Mozart, Moritzburg, Caramoor, Music@Menlo, La Jolla SummerFest, Mainly Mozart, Seattle Chamber Music, Bridgehampton, and the Moab Music festivals. Mr. Sussmann has performed with many of today's leading artists including Itzhak Perlman, Menahem Pressler, Gary Hoffman, Shmuel Ashkenasi, Wu Han, David Finckel, Jan Vogler, and members of the Emerson String Quartet. A former member of Chamber Music Society Two, he regularly appears with CMS in New York and on tour, including performances at London's Wigmore Hall.

One of the most sought-after soloists in his generation of young American musicians, the pianist **Orion Weiss** has performed with the major American orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony, Boston Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and New York Philharmonic. His

deeply felt and exceptionally crafted performances go far beyond his technical mastery and have won him worldwide acclaim. His 2015-16 season saw him performing with the Iceland Symphony, among others, and in collaborative projects including those with the Pacifica Quartet and with Cho-Liang Lin and the New Orford String Quartet in a performance of the Chausson Concerto. The 2014-15 season featured his third performance with the Chicago Symphony as well as a North American tour with the world-famous Salzburg Marionette Theater in a performance of Debussy's *La Boîte à Joujoux*. In 2015 his recording of Christopher Rouse's *Seeing* was released, and in 2012 he released a recital album of Dvorák, Prokofiev, and Bartók. That same year he spearheaded a recording project of the complete Gershwin works for piano and orchestra with his longtime collaborators the Buffalo Philharmonic and JoAnn Falletta. Named the Classical Recording Foundation's Young Artist of the Year in 2010, Mr. Weiss made his debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood in 2011 as a last-minute replacement for Leon Fleisher. In 2004, he graduated from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Emanuel Ax.

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