



STAVROS
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**LIVE FROM LINCOLN CENTER'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTION
ODYSSEY: THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY IN GREECE
AIRS ON PBS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

**PROGRAM INAUGURATES THE CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY'S
50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON, AND INCLUDES PERFORMANCES AT
THE STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CULTURAL CENTER,
ALONG WITH RARELY SEEN HISTORIC SITES**



Pictured: CMS musicians at the Church of Pammegiston Taxiarchon; courtesy of Live From Lincoln Center

NEW YORK, NY (June 20, 2019) — *Live From Lincoln Center* today announced that *Odyssey: The Chamber Music Society in Greece*, will air on PBS Friday, September 6, 2019. In 2015, *Live From Lincoln Center* went on location to Kentucky's Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) to produce the acclaimed *Simple Gifts*, the first program outside of New York City in its series history. The two institutions now reunite once again, traveling abroad for *Live From Lincoln Center*'s first production outside the U.S., with support from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF). The broadcast also contains another milestone – the CMS concert at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) marks the center's first presentation of a U.S. musical organization.

Artists of the Chamber Music Society, led by its artistic directors, David Finckel and Wu Han, embark on this multifaceted, visually striking musical journey to the country where so many of the classical arts were first developed. The core of the adventure is the unique intimacy of chamber music performances in extraordinary places, while highlighting the Greek cultural influences that still resonate within our language, arts, philosophy, and civic life.



Pictured: The Temple of Apollo, Delphi; courtesy of Live From Lincoln Center

Live From Lincoln Center documents the musicians on a contemporary odyssey that culminates in the cosmopolitan hub of Athens, where they perform at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano. Their travels also take them to the remote hills of Pelion, where Jason reputedly set sail with the Argonauts, and where additional concerts are performed in the picturesque and intimate spaces of the 18th-century Church of Taxiarchon in Milies; the Church of St. Constantine and Helen, in Volos; and the magnificent amphitheater tucked away in the heart of the bustling town of Larissa. Pelion is located on a tree-covered mountainous peninsula that faces the sea on both sides. Scattered around the sides of the mountain are old villages that have preserved their unique character and architecture throughout the centuries. Appropriately, the journey ends with a visit to Delphi, the sacred precinct of Apollo, the god of music, poetry, light, and healing. In keeping with its educational mission to foster excellence in the art of chamber music, the Chamber Music Society gave master classes to local music students who also attended its concerts.

The production is made possible in part through a grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and the generosity and expert technical assistance provided by Greek public broadcaster Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation (ERT). Broadcast is planned on Greek public television in the coming months, and the episode will also be available for streaming on [pbs.org](https://www.pbs.org) for 28 days following the U.S. premiere.

The Chamber Music Society is represented by a superb contingent of musicians, including mezzo-soprano Emily D'Angelo; pianist Wu Han; violinists Aaron Boyd, Sean Lee, Arnaud Sussmann, and Danbi Um; violists Matthew Lipman and Paul Neubauer; cellists Dmitri Atapine and David Finckel; and flutist Tara Helen O'Connor. The broadcast will feature classic masterpieces of chamber music by Beethoven, Bach, and Mendelssohn, alongside works highlighting Greek

culture, including Ravel's *Cinq mélodies populaires grecques* (Five Greek Folksongs) and Debussy's *Syrinx*. It will also feature a work by George Tsontakis, a contemporary American composer of Greek descent.

In anticipation of the television broadcast, CMS will release in August 2019 an audio recording of select performances from the trip. The album will be available on the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center label, both as a physical CD and digital download.

The Chamber Music Society's artistic directors, David Finckel and Wu Han, said:

Our trip to the cradle of Western civilization proved to be a musical odyssey like none other we or our fellow musicians had taken. It was with a deep sense of purpose that we ventured there, and with a profound feeling of enlightenment that we returned home. *Live From Lincoln Center's* documentation of this journey was an unprecedented achievement, for CMS and for Lincoln Center as a whole. Sharing this novel artistic adventure with the world at the onset of our 50th anniversary season provides a harbinger of the kind of innovative possibilities that await CMS in its next half-century.

Live From Lincoln Center's executive producer, Andrew C. Wilk, said:

For more than four decades, *Live From Lincoln Center* has brought many of the world's most inspiring artists in music, theater, and dance to the homes of millions of Americans. We have collaborated with the Chamber Music Society on a number of beautiful programs, and we're thrilled to be marking this milestone with them—our first international production. We're also delighted to be partnering for the first time with our good colleagues at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center and ERT.

Please click [here](#) to download high-resolution images and trailer video.

About The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS), celebrating its 50th Anniversary season beginning in fall 2019, is one of eleven constituents of the largest performing arts complex in the world, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, which includes the New York Philharmonic, New York City Ballet, Lincoln Center Theater, and The Metropolitan Opera. With its home in Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, CMS is known for the extraordinary quality of its performances and its programming, and for setting the benchmark for chamber music worldwide. Through its many performance, education, recording, and broadcast activities, it brings the experience of great chamber music to more people than any other organization of its kind. Under the leadership of Co-Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han, CMS presents a wide variety of concert series and educational events for listeners of all ages, appealing to both connoisseurs and newcomers. The performing artists constitute a revolving multi-generational and international roster of the world's finest chamber musicians, enabling CMS to present chamber music of every instrumentation, style, and historical period. Annual activities include a full season in New York, as well as national and international tours. During the 2018-19 season, 130 musicians from 19 countries performed with CMS in 150 performances in NYC, in residencies, and on tour to four continents. CMS continues its leadership position in the digital arena, reaching hundreds of thousands of listeners around the globe each season with live streaming of over 25 concerts and educational events per year, more

than 600 hours of performance and education video available free to the public on its website, a 52-week public radio series across the US, radio programming in Taiwan and Shanghai, appearances on American Public Media, and its performances are featured on SiriusXM's Symphony Hall channel. As CMS approaches its 50th anniversary season in 2019-2020, education and global access remain integral parts of its mission.

For complete information on the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, click [here](#).

About the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF)

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) is one of the world's leading private, international philanthropic organizations, making grants in the areas of arts and culture, education, health and sports, and social welfare. Since 1996, the Foundation has committed more than \$2.7 billion, through more than 4,500 grants to nonprofit organizations in 124 nations around the world.

The SNF funds organizations and projects worldwide that aim to achieve a broad, lasting, and positive impact for society at large and exhibit strong leadership and sound management. The Foundation also supports projects that facilitate the formation of public-private partnerships as an effective means for serving public welfare.

About the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC)

Designed by architectural firm Renzo Piano Building Workshop, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) is an award-winning, sustainable world-class cultural, learning, and recreational urban complex that includes the new homes of the National Library of Greece and the Greek National Opera, located within the Stavros Niarchos Park, one of the largest green spaces in Athens and the largest public Mediterranean garden in the world.

The Cultural Center was constructed through a grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation; it opened its doors in August 2016 and was donated to the Greek State in February 2017.

A global architectural landmark, a paradigm in sustainability, and a metropolitan cultural destination, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center aims to become common ground, a place for all people to have access to learning, the arts, and events that stimulate, engage, and inspire. To date, more than eleven million people have visited the SNFCC.

Thanks to an exclusive grant by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, more than 7,000 free and open-to-all events were organized by the SNFCC so far. The Chamber Music Society's performance at the SNFCC is a co-production of the SNFCC and the SNF and was also free of charge. For additional information, visit www.snfcc.org/.

About the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation

ERT, Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation, is the Hellenic public service broadcaster. Its mission is to provide radio, television and web services free of charge, that aim to inform, educate, and entertain a wide range of Greek audiences in Greece and all over the world.

The story of the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation begins in 1938 with the launching of the Athens Radio Station, which developed a full range of activities through three national overseas radio programs for the benefit of the Greek Diaspora. In 1965 the first pilot television program was broadcast from a studio in Zappeion, Athens. In 1994 a regional radio-television station was established in Northern Greece, with headquarters in Thessaloniki.

Today, ERT is the largest radio-television broadcasting organization in Greece, with extensive investments in real estate, powerful and state-of-the-art technical infrastructure, as well as the largest sound and image historical archive in Greece. ERT is comprised of 4 Television Channels, a Hybrid platform, 19 Regional Radio Stations, 5 Nationwide Radio Stations, the Voice of Greece in Short Waves, a website, (web TV and radio), the “RadioTelevision” magazine, and Music Ensembles (a National Symphony Orchestra, a Modern Music Orchestra and a Choir).

Its revenue is drawn from a license fee, advertising, sponsorships, program sales, and the rendering of services to third parties.

About *Live From Lincoln Center*

Live From Lincoln Center is a cornerstone of performing arts broadcasting, presenting the world’s greatest artists and performances in music, dance, and theater from Lincoln Center’s renowned stages. Now entering its 44th season on PBS, the pioneering series—produced by Lincoln Center—has been seen by hundreds of millions of viewers since its debut and celebrated by 17 Emmy Awards and other honors for its broadcasting excellence. Additional *Live From Lincoln Center* content is accessible online at [PBS.org](https://www.pbs.org).

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA) serves three primary roles: presenter of artistic programming, national leader in arts and education and community engagement, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. A presenter of thousands of free and ticketed events, performances, tours, and educational activities annually, LCPA offers a variety of festivals and programs, including American Songbook, Avery Fisher Career Grants and Artist program, David Rubenstein Atrium programming, Great Performers, Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Awards, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Lincoln Center Vera List Art Project, LC Kids, Midsummer Night Swing, Mostly Mozart Festival, White Light Festival, the Emmy Award–winning *Live From Lincoln Center*, which airs nationally on PBS, and Lincoln Center Education, which is celebrating more than four decades enriching the lives of students, educators, and lifelong learners. As manager of the Lincoln Center campus, LCPA provides support and services for the Lincoln Center complex and the 11 resident organizations: The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Film at Lincoln Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, The Juilliard School, Lincoln Center Theater, The Metropolitan Opera, New York City Ballet, New York Philharmonic, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, School of American Ballet, and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

Lincoln Center is committed to providing and improving accessibility for people with disabilities. For information, contact Accessibility at Lincoln Center at access@lincolncenter.org or 212.875.5375.

Live From Lincoln Center is made possible by The family of Robert Wood Johnson III, The Robert and Renée Belfer Family Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

NewYork-Presbyterian is the Official Hospital of Lincoln Center

Travel arrangements for the Chamber Music Society’s trip to Greece were handled by Thalassa Journeys of New York.

Live From Lincoln Center online

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<http://www.pbs.org/live-from-lincoln-center/home/>

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#LFLC **#LiveFromLincolnCenter**

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