New York, New York, March 17, 2020—As concert halls over the world are shut down, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) is committed to bringing great chamber music to audiences all over the globe. For the next eight weeks, while concerts are cancelled in New York in accordance with the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), CMS will help create a community of music organizations worldwide who are lifting the spirits of humanity when all around seems challenging. In the words of Henry David Thoreau, “When I hear music, I do not feel danger.”

**From the Archives:** Every day at 12:30 PM chamber music concerts and events, drawn from the 1,000+ works in the CMS archive, will be released on the CMS website (https://chambermusicsociety.org) Performances, lectures, and family programs will be included. A different theme each week will guide listeners through some of the masterworks of the chamber music repertoire. The theme of the first week’s playlist, to be announced on March 17, is Transcendence. Listeners are invited to explore how music expands one’s sense of time, evokes the imagination, and brings us to an elevated sense of existence. One example is Mendelssohn’s Piano Trio No. 2 in C minor, performed by CMS Co-Artistic Directors cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han along with violinist Arnaud Sussmann, is a work of great drama and lyricism. Another example, Messiaen’s Quartet for the End of Time, was written in a prisoner of war camp during World War II, exemplifying how great beauty could be born out of horrific circumstances. And as a celebration of Beethoven’s 250th year, lectures by David Finckel on the complete cycle of Beethoven’s string quartets will also be available. There will be supplemental articles, interviews with artists, and lectures accompanying each playlist to enhance one’s listening.

**Online Learning** resources to assist teachers with online curriculum development and provide students of all ages with the opportunity to learn about the rich history of chamber music making through CMS concerts, lectures, and family programming in the CMS archive. Video content will be supplemented by suggestions for online assignments and activities developed in consultations with partnering schools. This resource will be freely available via the CMS website to teachers and students around the globe.
**Meet the Music! Inspector Pulse Pops a String**, a family program designed for children 6 through 12, will be **streamed on Sunday, April 5**, at 2:00 PM, EST. Inspector Pulse, the greatest and only private ear in the world, will show how so much music can be made with just stretched strings and the help of the Amphion String Quartet. (This program was originally performed in March 2015.) In addition to the streaming it will also be available from the online education resources pages on the CMS website.

"Faced with a particular challenge that targets our ability to be together – the very essence of chamber music – we turn to sharing our art through the extensive audio and video library we have amassed during our fifty years. We are more than grateful to all those who have made this possible, from musicians to generous donors to diligent staff. The music will continue, please join us online, and we look forward to seeing everyone face-to-face as soon as it’s safe and possible,” said David Finckel and Wu Han, Co-Artistic Directors of CMS.

The new initiatives join with the following efforts that CMS already has in place to bring chamber music to an ever-widening audience, and all for free:

- Hosted by Elliott Forrest and with commentary by CMS Co-Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han, the **CMS National Radio Series** features 52 one-hour programs, new every Wednesday, drawn from CMS’s live performances. The CMS Radio Series is syndicated nationally by WFMT Radio Network and it reaches more than 8 million listeners on more than sixty commercial and non-commercial stations across the U.S. (In the New York City metro area it is carried on WQXR-FM on Saturday evenings at 10 PM.) New episodes are available for streaming on the CMS website [https://chambermusicsociety.org/watch-and-listen/national-radio-series-2019-20](https://chambermusicsociety.org/watch-and-listen/national-radio-series-2019-20)

- **Phenomenal 50 podcast**: In celebration of CMS’s 50th Anniversary season, CMS is providing 50 free podcasts of some of the finest performances from the past 50 years, each with an introduction by David Finckel. Each new podcast comes out on Mondays throughout the current season. [https://chambermusicsociety.org/about/50](https://chambermusicsociety.org/about/50)

  CMS’s resident lecturer, Bruce Adolphe, offers investigations and insights into chamber music milestones in the **Inside Chamber Music podcast**. Selections from the **Inside Chamber Music archive** are available bi-weekly, and they are available on iTunes, Google Play, and [www.chambermusicsociety.org](http://www.chambermusicsociety.org).

In accordance with the guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), CMS has cancelled the remainder of its live concerts in NYC through May 10, 2020. A list of the cancelled live concerts and events:

**CANCELLED CONCERTS IN ALICE TULLY HALL**

1940: *Messiaen’s Quartet for the End of Time* – Friday, 3/20/20, 7:30 PM


1785: *Mozart’s Piano Quartet in G minor* – Friday, 4/3/20, 7:30 PM

*Meet the Music!: Inspector Pulse and the Case of the Mozart Cookie Mystery* – Sunday, 4/5/20, 2 PM

1924: *Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue* – Sunday, 4/19/20, 5 PM

1940: *Shostakovich’s Piano Quintet* – Friday, 4/24/20, 7:30 PM
Young Musicians Annual Concert - Thursday, 4/30/20, 11 AM

1899: Schoenberg’s Verklärte Nacht – Sunday, 5/3/20, 5 PM

CANCELLED CONCERTS IN THE ROSE STUDIO

Rose Studio and Late Night Rose - Thursday, 4/23/20, 6:30 PM and 9 PM

NEW MILESTONES: String Quartet Evolution: Gubaidulina’s String Quartet No. 4 – Thursday, 4/30/20, 7:30 PM

Inside Chamber Music with Bruce Adolphe:

- Messiaen Quartet for the End of Time (1940-41) – Wednesday, 3/18/20, 6:30 PM
- Beethoven Trio in E-flat major (1793) – Wednesday, 3/25/20, 6:30 PM
- Mozart Quartet in G minor for Piano, Violin, Viola, and Cello, K. 478 (1785) – Wednesday, 4/1/20, 6:30 PM
- Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue for Piano, Four Hands (1924) – Wednesday, 4/15/20, 6:30 PM
- Shostakovich Quintet in G minor for Piano, Two Violins, Viola, and Cello, Op. 57 (1940) – Wednesday, 4/22/20, 6:30 PM
- Schoenberg Verklärte Nacht (Transfigured Night) for Two Violins, Two Violas, and Two Cellos, Op. 4 (1899) – Wednesday, 4/29/20, 6:30 PM

CMS Kids: Masterwork: Brahms’s Rondo alla Zingarese, Op. 25 - Sunday, 4/26/20, 11 AM and 3 PM (all performances)

CANCELLED CONCERTS ON TOUR

- Drew University, Madison, NJ – 3/21/20, 8 PM
- Vancouver Playhouse, Vancouver, BC, Canada – 3/22/20, 3 PM
- Harris Theater, Chicago, IL – 3/26/20, 7:30 PM
- Melbourne Chamber Music Society, Melbourne, FL – 3/27/20, 7:30 PM
- University of Georgia, Athens, GA – 3/29/20, 3 PM
- SUNY Purchase, Purchase, NY – 4/25/20, 5 PM
For detailed information on the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's 2019-20 season, click [here]; learn more about CMS artists of the season [here].

**About The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center**
The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS), 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 on national and international tours. During the 2019-20 season, over 120 musicians will perform with CMS in more than 130 performances and events in NYC, on tour in the US, and internationally. 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 30 concerts and educational events, more than 750 hours of performance and education videos free to the public on its website, a 52-week public radio series across the US, radio programming in Hong Kong, and mainland China, appearances on American Public Media, the new monthly program *In Concert with CMS* on the ALL ARTS broadcast channel, Tencent for the Chinese-language audience, and performances featured on Medici.tv and SiriusXM’s Symphony Hall channel. As CMS celebrates its 50th anniversary season in 2019-2020, education and global access remain integral parts of its mission.

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