

# NOTATIONS



## Composition/ Conducting

### 1940s

The Seattle Symphony in February released a recording of **George Walker's** (Composition '45) *Lyric for Strings, Lilacs, and Folksongs for Orchestra*, conducted by Roderick Cox, on the Seattle Symphony Media label.

### 1970s

*Goin' Hollywood*, a musical featuring a score by **David Krane** (Composition '74), will receive its world premiere this July at the WaterTower Theatre in Dallas.

### 1980s

In January **Gregory Hall's** (Composition '86) opera *Marvelous* was named a semi-finalist for the American Prize in the composition division.



### 1990s

**Alan Gilbert** (Conducting '92) has extended his contract as chief conductor of Hamburg's NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra through the summer of 2029. He is currently in his fourth season with the orchestra.

### 2000s

Former composition faculty member and chair **David Serkin Ludwig** (Composition '01) received an Arts and Letters Award in Music from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in May. The award, one of four in its category, comes with a \$10,000 cash prize, along with another \$10,000 to be used towards a professional recording.

### 2010s

**Amalia Hall** (Violin '13) and the NZTrio performed *Five Bagatelles* by **Daniel Temkin** (Composition '13) as part of their spring New Zealand tour. Temkin also visited the New Zealand School of Music in Wellington, Tianjin Juilliard in Beijing, and Hong Kong Baptist University as a guest lecturer in the spring.

In February **Rene Orth** (Composition '16) won first prize in the 2023 National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Art Song Composition Award for her song cycle, *Weave Me a Name*, featuring poetry by faculty member Jeanne M. McGinn. Orth receives \$2,000, and her work will be performed at the 2024 NATS National Conference.



## Strings

### 1950s

**Frances Steiner** (Cello '56), music director of the Chamber Orchestra of the South Bay for the past 40 years, will retire at

the end of the 2022–23 season. This 40th anniversary season has featured Curtis alumni **Daniel Hsu** (Piano '19), **Claire Huangci** (Piano '07), and **Ko Ni Choi** (Harp '10) as soloists.

### 1960s

In October **Marcia Peck** (Cello '68) retired from the Minnesota Orchestra, capping a 50-year tenure that is the longest in the ensemble's history. Her first novel, *Water Music*, will be released in June by Sea Crow Press.



### 1970s

**Karen Dreyfus** (Viola '79) was recently named a professor emeritus at the Manhattan School of Music. In March, she was the keynote violist at the SoCal ViolaFest in Azusa, Calif., where she taught a masterclass and performed a recital.

### 1980s

Last September **David Williamson** (Double Bass '81) was appointed professor of double bass at St. Olaf College. In 2023 he marks his 20th season as principal bass at the Oregon Bach Festival.

**Michael Ludwig** (Violin '82) and his wife Rachael Ludwig have established the Stella Schaevitz Concert Series, based in Cherry Hill, N.J. The first season, which launched in January, included several

Curtis alumni as featured artists, including **Benjamin Loeb** (Piano '92), **Alexander Kerr** (Violin '92), **Meng-Chieh Liu** (Piano '93), and **John Koen** (Cello '90).

### 1990s

**Glenn Lewis Gordon** (Double Bass '91) was appointed acting co-principal double bass with the Oslo Philharmonic.

### Heather Miller Lardin

(Double Bass '96) has created an online course in Baroque double bass performance, launched in January on the online platform *Discover Double Bass*.

### 2000s

**Zachary DePue** (Violin '02) in March was named concertmaster of the Naples Philharmonic, in Naples, Fla. DePue has been the orchestra's acting concertmaster since September 2022.

In February Time for Three won a GRAMMY for Best Classical Instrumental Solo for the trio's album *Letters for the Future*. Time for Three contains two Curtis alumni: **Nicholas Kendall** (Violin '01) and **Ranaan Meyer** (Double Bass '03). The album features Kevin Puts's piece *Contact*, which won a GRAMMY for Best Contemporary Classical Composition.

### 2010s

As concertmaster of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, **Nikki Chooi** (Violin '12) performed Lukas Foss's *Three American Pieces* for violin and orchestra at Carnegie Hall in October. The performance, led

## Milestones

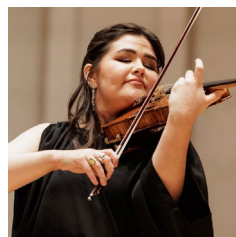
→ On October 22 special assistant to the provost **Mary Ann Hickox** and **Paul Matthew Moon** of the *New York Times* were married in Roxbury, Conn. The Moons say they are "thrilled to be a part of the Curtis family and look forward to many years in the fold."

by JoAnn Falletta, was part of a concert marking Foss's centennial in 2022; a recording of the piece is due out on Naxos this year.

The *Washington Post* in January named **Gabriel Cabezas** (Cello '13) one of its "23 for '23: Composers and performers to watch this year."

**Christine Lee** (Cello '13) joined the cello section of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in April. One of three new cellists in the orchestra, she will first perform as a member in August at Tanglewood.

In January **Ethan Jodziewicz** (Double Bass '15) joined singer-songwriter Aoife O'Donovan for television performances on *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, *Rachael Ray Show*, and *CBS Saturday Morning*.



**Alexandra Switala** (Violin '16) was awarded the \$20,000 second prize at the Sphinx Competition in Detroit in January.



## Winds/Brass

### 1980s

**Nadina Mackie** (Bassoon '81) released two recordings last December: *CARNIVAL* by Augusta Read Thomas and *Silver Angel* by Constantine Caravassilis.

**Steven Juliani's** (Horn '82) *Explore* for eight horns received its premiere in March by the horn studio at the Eastman School of Music, led by horn professor Peter Kurau.

**Elizabeth Masoudnia's** (Oboe '84) *English Horn Expressions*, an album of solo English horn works, was released by Navona Records in February. It includes commissions and premieres by a variety of composers.



### 1990s

In February **Mimi Stillman** (Flute '99) appeared with the Allentown Symphony to

perform the Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, written for her by Zhou Tian (Composition '05).

### 2000s

#### Anthony Wise

(Trombone '02) in May was named executive director of the York Symphony Orchestra in York, Penn. He had previously been the orchestra's operations manager and personnel manager.

#### Stanford Thompson

(Trumpet '09) in April was named the first executive director of Equity Arc, a new membership organization that aims to "align, develop, and promote equitable opportunities for musicians of color." Thompson was previously the executive director of Play On, Philly.

### 2010s

#### Catherine Van Handel

(Bassoon '15) is featured on *Bassoon Soirée: From Latin America to Paris*, an album of works for bassoon and piano, released in January by Acis Productions.

### 2020s

**Doron Laznow** (Bassoon '20) joined the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra as its second bassoonist last fall.



## Piano

### 1960s

Sony Classical in November released a recording featuring **Lambert Orkis** (Piano '65)

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alongside longtime collaborator, violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, as well as cellist Pablo Ferrández, in a performance of Clara Schumann's Piano Trio in G minor.

**1970s**

**James Adler** (Piano '73, Composition '76) presented the James Adler Audience Favorite Award at a Weill Recital Hall gala hosted in November by the Sound Espressivo, an online streaming platform.

**1990s**

**Min Kwon** (Piano '90) was a soloist on the New Jersey Symphony's Lunar New Year gala concert in January. She gave the premiere of *Fantasia on Sae Taryung* by **James Ra** (Composition '04).

**2000s**

**Jonathan Biss** (Piano '01) joined the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra in February for the U.S. premiere of Brett Dean's piano concerto, *Gneixendorf Music—A Winter's Journey*.



Voice/Opera

**1970s**

**Osceola Davis-Smith** (Opera '72) was awarded the "Lift Every Voice" Legacy Award by the National Opera Association at their January conference in Houston.

**2010s**

**Kevin Ray** (Opera '12) made his Portland Opera debut appearing as the Prince in a

production of *Rusalka* in April.

**Anthony Reed** (Opera '15) made his European debut as Collatinus in Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*, co-presented by Britten Pears Arts and London's Royal Opera House in November.

In November **Jean-Michel Richter** (Voice '16) performed the role of Larsen in the world premiere of Patrick Burgan's *Enigma* at the Opera-Théâtre de Metz in France.

In January **Johnathan McCullough** (Opera '17) was appointed the opera program director of the National Children's Chorus. The organization comprises 30 choirs based in several chapter cities across the U.S.



**Amanda Lynn Bottoms** (Voice '19) is scheduled to premiere composition faculty member Richard Danielpour's *The Unhealed Wound* in a performance with **Eric Owens** (Voice '95) this September at Skidmore College. This summer she joins the Chautauqua Opera as a festival artist.



Organ

In January **Paolo Bordignon**

(Organ '96) appeared with the American Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Leon Botstein, in a performance of Saint-Saëns' "Organ" Symphony at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York. The next month, he was a soloist with The Philadelphia Orchestra and conductor Tristan Rais-Sherman on Organ Day at the Kimmel Center.

Faculty/Staff

**Gordana-Dana Grozdanic** has translated the novel *Der Weg ins Freie* by Arthur Schnitzler from German into Croatian (as *Put u otvoreno*). It was published in November by the Croatian publisher Gymnasium.

**Katelyn Bouska** in February released *Women and War and Peace* (Yarlung Records), an album of piano works by women composers, including Caroline Shaw, Maria Szymanowska, and Ludmila Yurina. It follows the January release of *Štěpán Filípek & Katelyn Bouska: Vol. II* (Český Rozhlas), an album of works for cello and piano by Voříšek, Dvořák, Kaprálová, and other composers.

**Ed Gazouleas** was named the interim director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Tanglewood Music Center for the 2023 season. He assumes the post while maintaining his current roles at Curtis. Gazouleas was a violist in the Boston Symphony for 24 years.

Students



**Dillon Scott** (Viola) won the \$10,000 third prize at the Sphinx Competition in Detroit in January.



**Anastasia Samsel** (Flute) won first place in the Flute Society of Greater Philadelphia's Young Artist Competition in March.

**Alistair Coleman** (Composition) has been named the 2023 composer in residence for Young Concert Artists. He was selected out of 150 applicants. The position comes with a three-year management contract and an \$18,000 fee for three YCA commissions to be premiered in upcoming debut concerts.

Soprano **Emily Damasco** (Voice) won the \$10,000 first prize in Opera Grand Rapids's VanderLaan Prize competition, which concluded on April 1.

## Those We Have Lost



**Michaela Paetsch** (Violin '84), who rose from a large

string-playing family to pursue a wide-ranging career as violin soloist, died of cancer on January 20 at age 61. She lived in Bern, Switzerland, for much of the past 30 years. Ms. Paetsch came to Curtis as a student of Szymon Goldberg, with whom she had previously studied at Yale University. In 1985, Ms. Paetsch won the bronze medal at the Queen Elisabeth Competition; the next year, she participated in the International Tchaikovsky Competition. By the late 1980s, her career was increasingly centered in Europe, where she appeared

with the Leipzig Gewandhaus, Bergen Philharmonic, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, and BBC Symphony Orchestra. Her recordings included a noted set of Paganini's 24 Caprices in 1987 and a collection of works by Daron Hagen (Composition '84) in 2015. Ms. Paetsch was born in Colorado Springs, Colo., the second oldest of seven children, to parents who performed in the Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra. After teaching their children string instruments, they formed the Paetsch Family Chamber Music Ensemble, which toured the region in the 1970s. Ms. Paetsch is survived by her husband and daughter.



**Charles Wetherbee** (Violin '88), a founding member of the

Carpe Diem String Quartet and a longtime concertmaster of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, died of cancer on January 9. He was 56 years old. Mr. Wetherbee, who was known as "Chas," studied at Curtis with the late Aaron Rosand ('48). His orchestral career began when he was appointed principal second violin of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C. Five years later, he moved to Ohio to join the Columbus Symphony as concertmaster, a post he held from 1994 to 2011. An active chamber musician, in 2005, he co-founded the Carpe

Diem String Quartet, an ensemble with an eclectic repertoire that includes folk arrangements as well as five volumes of Tanejev string quartets. For the past decade, Mr. Wetherbee lived in Boulder, Colo., where he taught violin at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and served as concertmaster of the Boulder Philharmonic. A native of Buffalo, N.Y., Mr. Wetherbee debuted at age six with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and later appeared internationally with the Japan Philharmonic, Philharmonic Orchestra of Bogota, and Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Mexico, among other ensembles. Mr. Wetherbee is survived by his wife and three children.

## Curtis Mourns Death of Chris Hodges, Curtis's Longtime Director of Admissions

Chris Hodges, Curtis's longtime director of admissions, passed away on February 12, at age 66. Mr. Hodges joined the Curtis staff in 1995 and was an integral part of the school for 25 years. When he arrived in the mid-nineties, he carved out the admissions office and made it his own. He welcomed countless prospective students and their families to Curtis each year, gave knowledgeable and memorable campus tours, and supported our faculty throughout the audition process. He was often spotted running between the campus buildings, ensuring that everyone felt welcome and positioned for success.

Supportive, funny, and always a generous colleague, Mr. Hodges was the first to offer his assistance or a shoulder to lean on. Above all, we remember how he genuinely cared for Curtis's students. He supported and rooted for them throughout their journeys, from potential applicants to students to alumni and beyond. Chris loved Curtis and our community. And we loved him in return.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to his brothers, Bruce and John; to his sister, Susan; to his mother, Barbara; and to all his friends, family, and colleagues. He will be deeply missed.



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