

Chamber Music with Jon Kimura Parker and Musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra

Sunday, July 31, 2022, 4 pm | Orchestra Hall

With this concert we gratefully recognize Dr. Jennine and John Speier for their generous contribution to the Minnesota Orchestra's Investing in Inspiration campaign.

William Walton	Suite from <i>Façade</i> Fanfare Scotch Rhapsody Jodelling Song Country Dance Polka Valse Mariner Man Long Steel Grass Popular Song Fox-Trot "Old Sir Faulk" Something Lies Beyond the Scene Tarantella <i>Roma Duncan, flute and piccolo</i> <i>Timothy Zavadil, clarinet and bass clarinet</i> <i>James Romain, alto saxophone Douglas C. Carlsen, trumpet</i> <i>Katja Linfield, cello Kevin Watkins, percussion</i>	ca. 17'
Francis Poulenc	Sextet for Piano and Winds Allegro vivace Divertissement: Andantino Finale: Prestissimo <i>Adam Kuenzel, flute Julie Gramolini Williams, oboe</i> <i>Gabriel Campos Zamora, clarinet</i> <i>J. Christopher Marshall, bassoon</i> <i>Bruce Hudson, horn Jon Kimura Parker, piano</i>	ca. 19'
	I N T E R M I S S I O N	ca. 20'
Jessie Montgomery	<i>Break Away</i> Lilting Songbird Smoke Quick Pass Break Away <i>Sarah Grimes, violin Ben Odhner, violin</i> <i>Jenni Seo, viola Sonia Mantell, cello</i>	ca. 12'
Felix Mendelssohn	Sextet in D major for Piano and Strings, Opus 110 Allegro vivace Adagio Minuetto Allegro vivace <i>Emily Switzer, violin Sifei Cheng, viola</i> <i>Kenneth Freed, viola Erik Wheeler, cello</i> <i>Kathryn Nettleman, bass Jon Kimura Parker, piano</i>	ca. 29'

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Please note the following change in today's program:

William Walton's Suite from *Façade* will not be performed. Instead, the concert begins with Jon Kimura Parker and Erik Wheeler performing Claude Debussy's Sonata for Cello and Piano, which comprises three movements (Prologue, Sérénade and Finale) and is 11 minutes in duration. The remainder of the program is unchanged.

Visit minnesotaorchestra.org/musicians for full profiles of musicians featured at this concert.



Sifei Cheng, viola

Born in Taiwan and raised in California, violist Sifei Cheng joined the Minnesota Orchestra in 1995. He has served as principal viola in the Charleston Symphony, New World Symphony and Juilliard Orchestra, and has led sections under Michael Tilson Thomas, Eiji Oue and Christoph Eschenbach. In summer 2020, he performed chamber works by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky with Orchestra colleagues on Peavey Plaza.



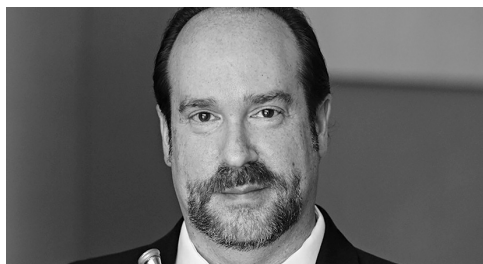
Kenneth Freed, viola

Kenneth Freed has been a member of the Minnesota Orchestra viola section since 1998. He is also a conductor and last month stepped in on short notice to lead a concert with the Orchestra and Indigo Girls. Earlier this year he performed works by Farrenc and Brahms on the Orchestra's chamber series. Before arriving in Minnesota, he played in the internationally-acclaimed Manhattan String Quartet.



Sarah Grimes, violin

Raised in the Twin Cities, Sarah Grimes joined the Minnesota Orchestra in 2016 as a second violinist and won a position the following year in the first violin section. She appeared as a soloist with the Orchestra even earlier, in 2005 and 2010, in concerts spotlighting talented young musicians. Beyond Orchestra Hall, she appeared recently on the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's chamber series and with the Bakken Trio.



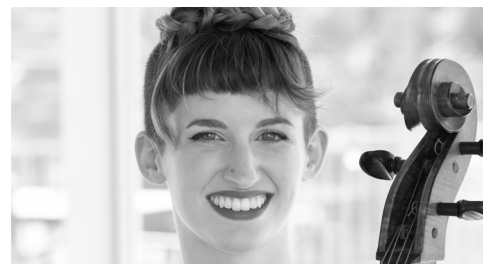
Bruce Hudson, horn

After serving in the Los Angeles Philharmonic from 2000 to 2011, Bruce Hudson joined the Minnesota Orchestra in 2011. He has performed, recorded and toured with the Cleveland Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Seattle Symphony and Seattle Opera. He has consistently brought his talents to the Orchestra's chamber music concerts, presenting music from Mozart and Ballard, among others.



Adam Kuenzel, flute

Adam Kuenzel, the Minnesota Orchestra's principal flute since 1990, was featured as a soloist most recently in Carl Nielsen's Flute Concerto in May 2022. He has premiered major works for flute and orchestra by Stanislaw Skrowaczewski and Manuel Sosa. At a chamber music concert last February he made a guest appearance as a percussionist in Steve Reich's Music for Pieces of Wood.



Sonia Mantell, cello

A recent addition to the Minnesota Orchestra's cello section, Sonia Mantell joined the ensemble in 2020. She has been an active performer in Chicago, where she was a substitute player with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and played with both that orchestra and on its MusicNow contemporary music series. This performance marks her first chamber music concert with the Minnesota Orchestra.



J. Christopher Marshall, bassoon

Texas native J. Christopher Marshall, a member of the Minnesota Orchestra since 1999, appeared as a soloist with the Orchestra in performances of Dieter's Concerto for Two Bassoons in 2008 and 2014. An active chamber musician, he also performs regularly on the Orchestra's chamber music concerts. He was a recipient of a McKnight Fellowship for Performing Musicians in 2009.



Kathryn Nettleman, bass

Before joining the Orchestra in 2009, Kathryn Nettleman worked as principal bass of the Hong Kong Philharmonic under Edo de Waart, a former music director of the Minnesota Orchestra. Earlier this year, she was appointed to the position of associate principal bass. She has made numerous chamber music appearances during her tenure, including performances of Rossini's Duo for Cello and Bass.



Ben Odhner, violin

Ben Odhner, who joined the Minnesota Orchestra's second violin section in 2017, recently won an audition to join the first violin section. Previously he was a member of the Colorado Symphony for four seasons. He has been concertmaster of the Aspen Sinfonia and the Aspen Concert Orchestra and was a member of the inaugural YouTube Symphony Orchestra, which performed at Carnegie Hall in 2009.



Jon Kimura Parker, piano

Pianist Jon Kimura Parker, whose role as creative partner for Summer at Orchestra Hall was recently extended to 2024, serves as a creative force behind the Minnesota Orchestra's summer festival. This month he performed several Beethoven works and was featured at a Grand Piano Spectacular as both pianist and arranger. A complete profile appears on page 8 of summer *Showcase* magazine.



Jenni Seo, viola

Korean-born violist Jenni Seo became the Minnesota Orchestra's assistant principal viola in fall 2018, joining the ensemble after one season in the Baltimore Symphony's viola section. She appears frequently at Orchestra Hall as a chamber musician and was a featured performer on the Yoga Class at Orchestra Hall series this past March. In 2011 she was the winner of the ASTA National Solo Competition.



Emily Switzer, violin

Emily Switzer joined the Minnesota Orchestra's section violin section in September 2019, the same year she graduated from the Yale School of Music, where she was co-concertmaster of the Yale Symphony Orchestra. In November 2020 she appeared as a chamber musician on the *This Is Minnesota Orchestra* digital concert series, playing Mendelssohn's Octet. This past April she was a soloist on the Music & Mindfulness series.



Erik Wheeler, cello

Houston-born cellist Erik Wheeler, who joined the Minnesota Orchestra in fall 2018, is a rare second-generation member of the ensemble; his father Lawrence was co-principal viola in the 1970s. He last appeared on the Orchestra's chamber music series in May 2022, playing Farrenc's Nonet. He has performed as a soloist with numerous orchestras, including the Houston Symphony.



Julie Gramolini Williams, oboe

Julie Gramolini Williams joined the Minnesota Orchestra in 2007 after two seasons as a member of the Omaha Symphony. During the Orchestra's 2021-22 season she has served as acting associate principal oboe. She is one of the ensemble's two U.S. Armed Forces veterans, previously holding the principal oboe post with the United States Air Force Band of the West, stationed in San Antonio, Texas.



Gabriel Campos Zamora, clarinet

Costa Rica native Gabriel Campos Zamora became principal clarinet of the Minnesota Orchestra in 2016 after holding titled posts with the Kansas City Symphony and Virginia Symphony. He has been featured with the Orchestra in clarinet concertos by Aaron Copland and Artie Shaw. Early in the pandemic he and Principal Cello Anthony Ross hosted the Sound Check interactive online music and conversation series.

profile Jon Kimura Parker, creative partner for Summer at Orchestra Hall

Known for his passionate artistry and engaging stage presence, pianist Jon Kimura Parker has performed regularly at the Berlin Philharmonie, Carnegie Hall, London's South Bank, the Sydney Opera House and the Beijing Concert Hall. In 2019 he was appointed the Minnesota Orchestra's first-ever creative partner for Summer at Orchestra Hall, a new role in which he is serving as a creative force behind the Orchestra's summer festival and appearing each summer as a host, performer and personality. He is also artistic director of the Honens International Piano Competition and artistic advisor for the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival.

Highlights of Parker's 2021-22 season included concerto appearances with the Phoenix, Peninsula, San Antonio, Rhode Island and Kansas City orchestras, a special appearance with the Galilee Chamber Orchestra in Toronto, recitals including Portland Piano International, and performances with Cho-Liang Lin at Chamber Music International in Dallas and with Paul Huang at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York. He also tours as a member of the Montrose Trio, which he founded with Martin Beaver and Clive Greensmith. Following their first tour in 2015, *The Washington Post* described them as "poised to become one of the top piano trios in the world."

A collaborator in a wide variety of styles, Parker has performed with Doc Severinsen, Audra McDonald, Bobby McFerrin, Pablo Ziegler and Sanjaya Malakar, among many others. As a founding member of Off the Score, he also performed with Stewart Copeland—the legendary drummer of The Police—for the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival's 20th Anniversary Season, featuring his own arrangements of music by Prokofiev, Ravel and Stravinsky. He has accompanied Frederica von Stade, Susan Graham and Luca Pisaroni in recital.

A committed educator, Parker is professor of piano at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. His students have won prizes in major competitions internationally and given concerto performances in the U.S., Europe, Russia and China. He has also lectured at the Juilliard School and given master classes at Yale. This season he chaired the jury of the Hilton Head International Piano Competition.

Parker's discography of a dozen albums features music ranging from Mozart and Chopin to Barber, Stravinsky and John Adams. His most recent recording *Fantasy*, built around William Hirtz's *Wizard of Oz Fantasy*, was described by *Musical Toronto* as giving "a big, clear picture window of a rich soul and great artistic depth." His YouTube channel features a series of *Concerto Chat* videos that explore the piano concerto repertoire. In addition, his *Whole Notes* series, featuring performances of great composers, is available on Amazon Prime Video. He is now



Tara McMullen

recording master class videos for Tonebase on major works of the piano concerto repertoire.

Parker studied with Edward Parker and Keiko Parker, Lee Kum-Sing at the Vancouver Academy of Music and the University of British Columbia, Marek Jablonski at the Banff Centre and Adele Marcus at the Juilliard School. Winner of the Gold Medal at the 1984 Leeds International Piano Competition, Parker is an Officer of The Order of Canada and has received honorary doctorates from the University of British Columbia and the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto.

Known to friends—new and old—as “Jackie,” Parker is married to violinist/violist Aloysia Friedmann, and their daughter Sophie graduated from Rice University in 2021. For more information, visit jonkimuraparker.com.

Jon Kimura Parker, creative partner for Summer at Orchestra Hall, holds the Marilyn and Glen Nelson Chair.