



Very Young People's Concerts

Philharmonic Families: "Strings"

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023 AT 12:00PM AND 3:00PM

Kerry McDermott and **Na Sun** violins

Cong Wu viola

Ru-Pei Yeh cello

Satoshi Okamoto bass

Rebecca Young host

Doug Fitch director / designer

DVOŘÁK Selection from *Allegro con fuoco*, from String Quintet No. 2, Op. 77

RAPOSO "A Bass, A Cello, Two Violins, and VIOLA" ("Peter Pumpkin Eater's Party") (Arr. Rebecca Young and Neal Harnly)

BOCCHERINI Selection from Minuet in E major, G.275 (Rebecca Young, lyrics)

Caroline SHAW *The Orangery*, from *Plan and Elevation* for String Quartet

ANDERSON *Plink, Plank, Plunk!*

Programs are made possible, in part, by the **New York State Council on the Arts** with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

DVOŘÁK Selection from *Finale: Allegro assai*, from String Quintet No. 2, Op. 77

New York Philharmonic violinist **Kerry McDermott** has appeared as a soloist with orchestras throughout the United States and abroad including the Montreal, North Carolina, and Taipei City symphony orchestras, the Moscow Radio and Budapest Chamber Orchestras, and the New York Philharmonic. She won prizes in the Montreal International Competition and the International Tchaikovsky Competition, where she received a special award for Best Artistic Interpretation. McDermott's recital engagements have included performances at Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall, 92nd Street NY, and David Geffen Hall. She has appeared at the Chamber Music Northwest, Bravo! Vail, Newport, Honest Brook, Newport of the Hamptons, and Park City festivals, and has been a frequent guest artist at Caramoor, Marlboro, Tanglewood, Mozart, Bargemusic, Wolftrap, Ravinia, and The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. She has performed with the New York Philharmonic Ensembles on three continents. Kerry McDermott has recorded for Melodiya and New World Records and is a member of the McDermott Trio (with her sisters, Anne-Marie and Maureen). She is an alumna of Yale College and the Manhattan School of Music.

Violinist **Na Sun**, The Gary W. Parr Chair, joined the NY Phil in 2006. A native of China, she began playing the violin at age seven, and at nine she was accepted into the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, from which she received her bachelor's degree with highest honors, and where she won the conservatory violin competition. She has performed with the China Youth Symphony (as concertmaster), Central Conservatory Chamber (principal second violin), Icelandic Symphony, and Icelandic Opera orchestras. Since arriving in the United States in 2003, Sun has given numerous recital and chamber music concerts; received her artist diploma from Boston University's College of Fine Arts, where she was the Grand Prize winner of the Bach competition; and was a fellow with the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, including serving as concertmaster. She was a scholarship student at the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival in Blue Hill, Maine, and the National Orchestra Institute in Maryland.

Cong Wu joined the New York Philharmonic as Assistant Principal Viola, The Norma and Lloyd Chazen Chair, in 2018, while pursuing his doctoral degree at Manhattan School of Music. Winner of the Third Prize and the Chamber Music Prize in the 14th Primrose International Viola Competition, and the Special Prize in the 12th Tertis International Viola Competition, he has performed as a soloist throughout North America and Asia. An avid chamber musician, Wu has collaborated with Christoph Eschenbach, David Finckel, Itzhak Perlman, Peter Wiley, Pinchas Zukerman, the American String Quartet, and many Philharmonic musicians. He has performed at festivals including Marlboro, The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Encounters, Music@Menlo, Perlman Music Program, Lake Champlain Chamber Music, and Schleswig-Holstein Musik. He regularly appears with the Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players, East Coast Chamber Orchestra, and New York Classical Players. Born in Jinan, China, Cong Wu moved to New York in 2010 after graduating from the Beijing Central Conservatory of Music. He holds degrees from The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music.

Cellist **Ru-Pei Yeh**, The Credit Suisse Chair in honor of Paul Calello, joined the NY Phil in 2006. A founding member of the Formosa Quartet, she served as acting principal cello of the San Diego Symphony and the San Diego Opera, in addition to performing with a string quartet of principal players from the San Diego Symphony. She has made solo appearances with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, National Taiwan Symphony, Taiwan's Evergreen Symphony Orchestra, Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, North Carolina School of the Arts's International Music Program Orchestra, and Kuan-Jen School Orchestra. A winner of numerous competitions, she has performed regularly as a recitalist in her native Taiwan and the United States. Yeh, who has been performing professionally since the age of 10, moved to the US at age 13 to study at the Temple Preparatory School. She received her bachelor's degree from New England Conservatory, and her master's degree and artist diploma from The Juilliard School.

Bassist **Satoshi Okamoto** joined the New York Philharmonic in 2003. Previously he was an assistant principal double bassist in the San Antonio Symphony for eight years and a member of the New York City Ballet Orchestra for one year. He received a master's degree from The Juilliard School and a bachelor's degree from Tokyo University of Fine Arts. An eight-time Aspen Music Festival participant, he won the festival's bass competition twice, in 1993 and 1997. He was a finalist at the International Society of Bassists Solo Competition in 1997, and at the Izuminomori International Double Bass Competition in 2001. His teachers have included former Philharmonic Principal Bass Eugene Levinson, Paul Ellison, Al Laszlo, Bruce Bransby, Yoshio Nagashima, and Osamu Yamamoto.

Violist **Rebecca Young** joined the NY Phil in 1986, and in 1991 was named the Orchestra's Associate Principal Viola, The Joan and Joel Smilow Chair. After serving as principal viola of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1992-93, she resumed her Philharmonic Associate Principal position in 1994. She has performed at the Boston Chamber Music Society, Boston Symphony Chamber Players, and The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and recorded Schubert's *Trout* Quintet with Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Pamela Frank, and Edgar Meyer (Sony Classical). Her Philharmonic solo performances include the 1999 World Premiere of Sofia Gubaidulina's *Two Paths*, a concerto for two violas commissioned by the Philharmonic for Young and Philharmonic Principal Viola Cynthia Phelps, who reprised the work with the Philharmonic on several of the Orchestra's tours and in New York in April 2011. A graduate of The Juilliard School, Young has hosted the NY Phil Very Young Peoples Concerts since their inception, a role that garnered her a Ford Musician Award for Excellence in Community Service from the League of American Orchestras.

Stage director and designer **Doug Fitch** has created productions for major opera houses around the world. With the New York Philharmonic he has collaborated on productions of Ligeti's *Le Grand Macabre*, Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, *A Dancer's Dream* (presenting Stravinsky's *The Fairy's Kiss* and *Petrushka*), and HK Gruber's *Gloria — A Pig Tale*, and directed and designed several NY Phil Young People's Concerts and Very Young People's Concerts. He directed Suzanne Farrin's *Dolce la Morte* at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, commissioned by MetLiveArts, and his Tanglewood production of Elliott Carter's *What Next?* was filmed and screened at the Museum of Modern Art. Fitch's production of *Orphic Moments* (comprising works by Matthew Aucoin alongside Gluck) was featured at National Sawdust, Salzburg's State Theater, and The Rose Theater at Jazz at Lincoln Center. *Le Grand Macabre* was remounted at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg. *Punkitititi*, his devised show starring Geoff Sobelle, was commissioned by the Salzburg Marionette Theater and MozartWoche2020, and returned in 2021.