

# PHILLIPS MUSIC

2023/24 Season

The Phillips Collection



# WELCOME

It is tremendously exciting to be the Vradenburg Director & CEO of The Phillips Collection as we begin to imagine the future of the museum in its second century. I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand what makes this institution truly unique to the cultural fabric of Washington, DC. Among the wider circle of devoted supporters of the Phillips, it is inspiring to see the immense love and appreciation our community of music lovers holds for our concert series. Phillips Music, under the excellent leadership of

Senior Director Jeremy Ney, is a place where audience members can encounter the ideals that underpin the fabric of the Phillips as a whole: tradition and experimentation. Much like the often surprising, enlightening juxtapositions of works of art in our intimate galleries, the range of performances in our Music Room are opportunities for intellectual and spiritual nourishment. I am encouraged to see that the founding principles which continue to guide our work today are so manifestly present in the 2023/24 season

of Phillips Music. I would like to express my gratitude to the dedicated supporters who make the Phillips Music series possible, especially our Season Sponsors and members of the Phillips Chamber Society. I want to especially thank all those who contributed to the Centennial Concert endowment campaign. These initiatives enable Phillips Music to remain a vibrant pillar of our cultural offerings.

I look forward to joining you all for many concerts this season.



Jonathan P. Binstock, PhD  
VRADENBURG DIRECTOR & CEO

# CELEBRATE PHILLIPS MUSIC



In the long history of Phillips Music, we can locate two pivotal moments in world history where the music kept playing: through World War II and the recent global pandemic. In both instances, the vitality of musical performance offered a source of inspiration to people through difficult times. As I enter my sixth season leading Phillips Music, I have seen how the Music Room continues to be a space in which we gather around the bonds of live performance.

The concerts and projects that you will read about in the ensuing pages continue to advance the programmatic threads that have made Phillips Music unique: new commissions that explore lively dialogues with the visual arts, a continued emphasis on international excellence in chamber music performance, and richly thematic programs that engage with our exhibitions. I'm especially proud that we will present three projects that explore parallels to our exhibition *African Modernism in America, 1947-67* (on view October 7, 2023-January 7, 2024), including our Leading International Composers series featuring South African composer Andile Khumalo with the outstanding Ensemble Dal Niente.

All 2023/24 season concerts can be experienced either in-person or through high-quality livestreams, and I want to thank the Phillips Music team members who put on many different hats each Sunday to make this possible. It continues to be a huge privilege to extend the rich and storied tradition of music and performance at The Phillips Collection. I hope that you enjoy the 2023/24 season.

Jeremy Ney  
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PHILLIPS MUSIC

## MUSIC STAFF

Thomas Hunter, Concerts and Production Manager

Roberto Alcaraz, Music Operations Assistant

Edward J. Kelly, Recording Engineer

Dominic Mann, Videographer & Director of Photography

# 2023/24 SEASON TICKETS

## EXPERIENCE PHILLIPS MUSIC IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

### In-Person in the Music Room

General	\$45
Members	\$25

*General admission seating is first-come, first-served beginning 30 minutes prior to concert start time. Museum admission for that day is included. Advance reservations are strongly recommended; tickets may be reserved online until 12 hours before each concert.*

### Livestreamed in high-definition audio and video

General	\$15
Members	\$10

*Registered ticket holders will receive a link directing them to a livestream webpage where the performance can be accessed. Ticket holders will be able to watch the performance on demand for 48 hours following the broadcast time.*



**Tickets for the full season go on sale on September 5 at noon.**

**Purchase tickets and explore the season:  
[PhillipsCollection.org/music](https://PhillipsCollection.org/music)**

*Performances are on Sunday and begin promptly at 4 pm unless otherwise specified.  
All artists and programs are subject to change.*

Previous spread: Alexi Kenney, violin, performing at The Phillips Collection, March 5, 2023.; Above: Invoke, string quartet, performing at The Phillips Collection, April 23, 2023.; Michelle Cann, piano, performing at The Phillips Collection, April 30, 2023.

## OCTOBER 15 | Isata Kanneh-Mason, solo piano

The 2023/24 season opens with the Phillips debut of internationally renowned pianist **Isata Kanneh-Mason**. As the eldest member of the prodigiously talented Kanneh-Mason family, Isata has blazed a trail as a renowned concerto soloist and chamber musician, often in collaboration with her siblings (who are all musicians). Kanneh-Mason has recorded three solo albums for Decca, including *Childhood Tales*, released in May 2023. **Robert Schumann**'s iconic *Kinderszenen (Scenes from Childhood)* anchors Kanneh-Mason's inventive album of reflections on childhood and is featured in her Phillips program, which also includes a late-keyboard sonata by **Joseph Haydn** (No. 60 in C major, Hob. XVI/50) and **Frédéric Chopin**'s Piano Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Op. 58. Continuing Kanneh-Mason's immersion into the music of women composers overshadowed by history, she performs **Fanny Mendelssohn**'s *Easter Sonata*, a work that was lost for 150 years and then mistakenly attributed to her brother Felix Mendelssohn.

*This performance is made possible by generous underwriting support from Martha R. Johnston and Robert T. Coonrod.*



## OCTOBER 22 | Parker Quartet with Vijay Iyer, piano

Following his performances in the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons, Phillips Music continues the exploration of the creative output of leading pianist, composer, and scholar **Vijay Iyer**, appearing this season in collaboration with the **Parker Quartet**. The group performs Iyer's complex and multi-layered music for piano quintet in works including *Time, Place, Action* (2014) and *Mozart Effects* (2011). Iyer is known for his boundary-crossing work in improvised and notated musical forms in jazz and contemporary classical music. He has shared a productive musical partnership with the Parker Quartet, a Grammy-winning ensemble equally well known for their exploration of the core repertoire and their stalwart commitment to the music of today.

OCTOBER 29 | Christine Lee, cello & Henry Kramer, piano

Cellist **Christine Lee** and pianist **Henry Kramer** return to the Phillips as a duo performing works by romantic-era composers. While the majority of **Frédéric Chopin's** music is for piano solo, he wrote a handful of duos including a pair of works for cello and piano. Lee and Kramer perform both pieces, the *Introduction and Polonaise brillante* in C major, Op. 3, written at the beginning of Chopin's career, and the *Sonata in G minor*, Op. 65, written late in his life. Next, they turn to a pair of works by Czech composers: **Antonín Dvořák's** *Klid (Silent Woods)* and **Leoš Janáček's** *Pohádka (Fairy Tale)*. Lee and Kramer's collaboration is rooted in their prize-winning performances in the Queen Elisabeth Competition: Lee is a laureate of the 2017 competition and Kramer won second prize in 2016. They released their first album together in 2021, titled *Voyage*.



NOVEMBER 5 | Lea Desandre, mezzo-soprano & Thomas Dunford, lute



Following their outstanding performance in the 2021/22 season as members of Ensemble Jupiter, **Lea Desandre** and **Thomas Dunford** return as a duo to perform music for voice and lute. Their selections highlight Italian composers of the 16th and 17th century, including **Claudio Monteverdi**, **Girolamo Frescobaldi**, **Girolamo Kapsberger**, **Joan Ambrosio Dalza**, and **Tarquino Merula**,

alongside a pair of arias by **Georg Friedrich Handel**. Desandre and Dunford are in demand worldwide as soloists and collaborators and have performed at renowned venues including Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, and the Kennedy Center. They have released a number of award-winning albums, including *Amazone*, *Lachrimae*, and *Labirinto d'Amore*.

NOVEMBER 12 | Leading International Composers: Andile Khumalo & Ensemble Dal Niente



For the 2023/24 season of Leading International Composers, Phillips Music presents South African composer **Andile Khumalo**, who has curated a profile performance of his music with Chicago-based new music collective **Ensemble Dal Niente**. Ensemble Dal Niente returns to the Phillips following their 2020 portrait of American composer George Lewis, Khumalo's mentor and teacher at Columbia University.

Khumalo, based in Johannesburg, is known for his immersion in the creative ideas of spectralism: the focus on the acoustic properties of sonic phenomena as a primary source of musical material, over more conventional and historically conditioned understandings of Western melody, harmony, and rhythm. Khumalo has employed the tools and relational ideas of spectralism to mine the vast history of African musics, producing works that often challenge the prevalent understanding of "African" music being driven primarily by rhythmic complexity. Ensemble Dal Niente performs Khumalo's *Beyond Her Mask* (2021), *Shades of Words* (2004), *Cry Out* (2009), and *Iso[R]* (2004).



Leading International Composers is presented in partnership with the Howard University Department of Music with additional support from the Washington Arts Ensemble.



Presented in conjunction with the exhibition *African Modernism in America, 1947-67*.

## NOVEMBER 19 | Karim Sulayman, tenor & Sean Shibe, guitar

Two versatile artists renowned for their conceptual programming and innovative approach to the concert repertoire, tenor **Karim Sulayman** returns to the Phillips with guitarist **Sean Shibe**, who makes his Phillips debut. Probing their own identities as Lebanese-American (Sulayman) and British-Japanese (Shibe) musicians, they present an intricately woven suite of music full of dynamic conversations between Eastern and Western traditions. The program brings together English and Italian works from the 16th and 17th centuries; soul-stirring melodies from Sephardic and Arab-Andalusian songs; **Benjamin Britten's** settings of translated poems, *Songs from the Chinese*; music by **Tōru Takemitsu**; and a recent commission by Lebanese composer **Layale Chaker**.



## NOVEMBER 26 | Rebeca Omordia, solo piano



Hailed as an “African classical music pioneer” (*BBC World Service*), London-based pianist and scholar **Rebeca Omordia** has focused her career on championing the music of African composers. Omordia presents *African Pianism*, a deep exploration into the multi-faceted and syncretic musical practices of composers from across the continent. The performance includes music by Nigerian composer **Akin Euba**, who coined the term “African Pianism” to describe

the emergent musical dialogue between African traditional forms and Western notation in the 20th century, as well as Ghanaian composer **Kwabena Nketia**, who extended this dialogue by transcribing African rhythms and melodies. Omordia also presents works by a new generation of African composers: **Fred Onovwerosuoke** from Ghana, who traveled all over Africa gathering musical material; **Christian Onyeji** from Nigeria, who explores the drumming techniques of the piano inspired by the percussion ensembles from Igboland; **Nabil Benabdelljalil** from Morocco; and **David Earl**, who represents the Western classical musical tradition of South Africa.

*Presented in conjunction with the exhibition African Modernism in America, 1947-67.*

## DECEMBER 3 | JACK Quartet

Among today’s most vibrant groups specializing in new and experimental music, the **JACK Quartet** was *Musical America’s* 2018 “Ensemble of the Year.” They have been nominated for several Grammy Awards and received the Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2019. Continuing their mission to introduce audiences to experimental chamber music, their initiative “JACK Studio” funds yearly collaborations with selected artists and composers. The JACK Quartet presents their program *Modern Medieval*, which explores the connections of musicality and thought between European composers of the past and the voices of American music today. Arrangements of early works by **Rodericus**, **Solage**, and **Nicola Vicentino** are interspersed with contemporary pieces, including **Caleb Burhans’s** *Contritrus*, **Gabriella Smith’s** *Carrot Revolution*, and **John Zorn’s** *The Remedy of Fortune*.



## DECEMBER 10 | Inon Barnatan, solo piano



Acclaimed pianist **Inon Barnatan** has performed as a soloist with leading orchestras and was the inaugural Artist-in-Association of the New York Philharmonic. He presents a program of *Moments Musicaux* (*Musical Moments*) by **Franz Schubert**, **Sergei Rachmaninoff**, and **Avner Dorman**. Schubert’s six-piece set, written between 1823 and 1828, was the first to use the title and exhibits Schubert’s penchant for mode mixture, improvisation, and harmonic twists. Inspired by these, Rachmaninoff wrote his own set 70 years later which displays his maturing technique for piano composition. Similarly inspired by Schubert’s example, Dorman wrote a pair of *Moments Musicaux* in 2003 which makes use of mathematical models, polytonality, and diverse stylistic influences.

*This performance is made possible by generous underwriting support from Martha R. Johnston and Robert T. Coonrod.*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6:30 PM | Richard Bona & Asante Trio



Cameroonian multi-instrumentalist **Richard Bona** is an internationally lauded ambassador for global music and culture. A Grammy-winner who has worked with the likes of Bobby McFerrin, Wynton Marsalis, and Pat Metheny, Bona possesses an unparalleled versatility across multiple musical styles. His knowledge of African musical traditions inflects much of his work, and his parallel interest in European musical history allows him to seamlessly blend disparate elements together—in his words to “combine everything with everything.” Bona’s new group, **Asante Trio**, is testament to his philosophy of cultural collaboration. Joining Bona is pianist **Osmany Paredes**, who pays tribute to the “piano Cubano” style and its vibrant Afro-Cuban rhythmic and melodic heritage. Fellow Cuban percussionist **Hilario Bell** provides the groove

and layered rhythmic complexity inherent to the many styles that influence the group’s sound. In their collective fusion of jazz, Afro-Cuban, and African styles, Asante Trio embodies the transatlantic musical affinities that trace their roots back to the African continent.

*Presented in conjunction with the exhibition African Modernism in America, 1947–67.*

JANUARY 14, 1 PM & 4 PM | Christopher Costanza, solo cello

Phillips Music starts 2024 with a special performance of all Six Solo Cello Suites by **J.S. Bach**, performed across two concerts by leading American cellist **Christopher Costanza**, a member of the legendary St. Lawrence String Quartet. Costanza recorded the Suites in 2012, setting down his personal account of music that was largely forgotten in Bach’s own time until the 1890s when a young Pablo Casals discovered the manuscript in a second-hand music shop in Barcelona. The Suites have since become a towering pinnacle of Western music. Costanza approaches the Cello Suites from Baroque conceptions of gesture, dance, and idiomatic writing, and considers the ways in which musical and physical gestures may have converged in Bach’s mind when composing the Suites. Costanza’s first concert (at 1 pm) features Suites Nos. 3, 4, and 5, the second (at 4 pm) Suites Nos. 1, 2, and 6.

*This performance is made possible by generous underwriting support from Martha R. Johnston and Robert T. Coonrod.*



JANUARY 21 | Charlotte Saluste-Bridoux, violin & Evren Ozel, piano



French Violinist **Charlotte Saluste-Bridoux** is joined by American pianist **Evren Ozel** for an exemplary program of demanding duos beginning with **Franz Schubert’s Rondeau brillant** in B minor, a rare occurrence of virtuosity from this frequently subdued composer. The remainder of the program features a variety of compositional

influences, including jazz in **Maurice Ravel’s** Violin Sonata No. 2, spiky modernism in **Grażyna Bacewicz’s** Violin Sonata No. 2, Greek mythology and impressionism in **Karol Szymanowski’s Myths**, and Hungarian folk music in **Béla Bartók’s** Rhapsody No. 1. Saluste-Bridoux is the 2021 grand-prize winner of the Young Classical Artists Trust and Concert Guild International Competition and recently appeared at Wigmore Hall and the BBC Proms. Ozel made his debut at age 11 with the Minnesota Orchestra and is the recent recipient of a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant and a 2022 Salon de Virtuosi Career Grant.

## JANUARY 28 | Eric Lu, solo piano



Since winning first prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition in 2018 at age 20 and his prize-winning finish at the 2015 Chopin International Competition in Warsaw at 17, **Eric Lu** has thrilled audiences in some of the world's most celebrated venues. His Phillips program begins with **J.S. Bach's** *Capriccio on the Departure of a Beloved Brother*, BWV 992.

Written when the composer was still a teenager, this piece is Bach's only surviving example of programmatic instrumental music and is thought to tell the story of when his brother joined the army band of Sweden. Lu continues with music by treasured 19th-century composers, including **Franz Schubert's** *Impromptu* Op. 90 and selections from **Felix Mendelssohn's** *Songs without Words*.

## FEBRUARY 4 | Jordan Bak, viola, Adam Sadberry, flute & Ashley Jackson, harp

Three inspiring young performers—violinist **Jordan Bak**, flutist **Adam Sadberry**, and harpist **Ashley Jackson**—make their Phillips debut with a thought-provoking program that mixes 20th-century chamber works with new music, including the world premiere of a new work for viola and harp by Washington, DC, composer **Jeffrey Mumford**. The sonic combination of flute, viola, and harp was first explored by **Claude Debussy**, who was drawn to new possibilities of timbre and instrumental color. The trio performs Debussy's *Sonata for Flute, Viola, and Harp*, in conversation with an arrangement of **Maurice Ravel's** *Sonatine*. Bak takes the stage for three solo viola works: **Elliot Carter's** pointillistic *Figment IV* (2007), Mumford's rhapsodic *Wending* (2001), and a work by young composer **Tyson Davis**, *Tableaux XII* (2021).



## FEBRUARY 11 | Joyce Yang, solo piano

One of the brightest stars of her generation, **Joyce Yang** has been delivering electrifying performances on the international stage since her silver-medal finish at the 2005 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, garnering numerous commendations along the way, including a Grammy nomination. Her debut performance at the Phillips will include **Guido Agosti's** transcription of **Igor Stravinsky's** *Firebird Suite*, as well as selections from **Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's** *The Seasons* and **Sergei Rachmaninoff's** *Preludes*. Yang will also perform **Aaron Jay Kernin's** *Un Bacio: A Kiss* (Romance and Transfiguration on themes by John Corigliano and Mark Adamo), which was written for Corigliano and Adamo as a present for their 25th anniversary.



## FEBRUARY 18 | Natalie Clein, cello & Qing Jiang, piano



Since being named the “BBC Young Musician of the Year” at age 16, cellist **Natalie Clein** has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in the world's most celebrated venues. She is also a recording artist of the highest caliber with recent records on the Hyperion label. She is joined by critically acclaimed pianist **Qing Jiang**, who is well known for her passionate performances at

top chamber music festivals including Kneisel Hall, Yellow Barn, Music@Menlo, Britten-Pears, and the Aspen Music Festival, where she won the concerto competition. Their program at the Phillips is a blend of beloved pieces by **Ernest Bloch**, **Franz Schubert**, and **Johannes Brahms** with a pair of recent works including **Brian Elias's** *L'innomina*, a work Clein premiered in 2018. The duo completes their program with a set of *Bagatelles* by **Elisabeth Lutyens**.



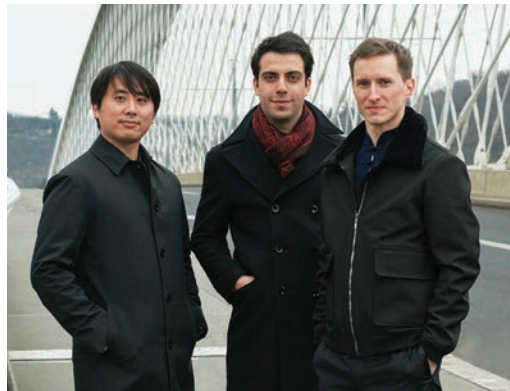
**FEBRUARY 25** | Jeanine De Bique, soprano  
& Warren Jones, piano

Soprano **Jeanine De Bique** has performed on the world's most prestigious operatic stages, including Opéra National de Paris, the Metropolitan Opera in New York, and the Royal Opera House in London. Her 2021 recording, *Mirrors*, with Concerto Köln earned the Opus Klassik Award and Edison Klassiek Award, as well as *Gramophone's* Editor's Choice Award. De Bique makes her Phillips-debut with pianist **Warren Jones** for a varied song recital that features **Benjamin Britten's** *Les Illuminations*, based on a collection of poems by French poet Arthur Rimbaud. De Bique also performs **Henry Thacker Burleigh's** *Five Songs on Poems by Laurence Hope*, drawn from a collection of poems by English poet Adela Florence Nicolson (who wrote under the pseudonym Laurence Hope to gain acceptance in 19th century England). De Bique completes the program with mélodies by **Reynaldo Hahn** and a selection of Caribbean folk and calypso songs, reflecting her recent exploration of the music of her native Trinidad and Tobago.



**MARCH 3** | Trio Zimbalist

Pianist **George Xiaoyuan Fu** appears with violinist **Josef Špaček** and cellist **Timotheos Gavrilidis-Petrin** as the critically acclaimed **Trio Zimbalist**, named in homage to Efreim Zimbalist, violinist and former director of the Curtis Institute of Music. Trio Zimbalist brings an expertly balanced program to the Phillips beginning with **Joseph Haydn's** Piano Trio No. 39 in G major, sometimes called "Gypsy Rondo" as a nod to its Hungarian-sounding finale. They continue with **Mieczysław Weinberg's** fervent Piano Trio, composed in 1945 in reaction to the terrors of World War II. **Antonín Dvořák's** beloved Piano Trio No. 4 in E minor concludes the program, a piece better known by its subtitle "Dumky," which references a form of Ukrainian sung poem called a *duma*.



*This performance is made possible by generous underwriting support from Martha R. Johnston and Robert T. Coonrod.*

**MARCH 10** | Centennial Concert: Steven Hough, piano  
& Castalian String Quartet



The 2023/24 Centennial Concert features a special performance by British pianist, composer, and polymath **Sir Steven Hough**, with the dynamic **Castalian Quartet** who made their US debut at the Phillips in 2019. The ensemble forms a powerhouse of chamber music excellence, combining the extraordinary musical command and refinement of Hough, who has spent decades at the top of the pianistic echelons, with the sophistication and spontaneity of the Castalian Quartet, who have rapidly risen to international acclaim. The Castalian Quartet begins the program with **Joseph Haydn's** String Quartet in F minor, No. 5 from the groundbreaking set of Six String Quartets, Op. 20, written when the composer was at the height of

his fame. The group then turns to Sir Steven Hough's own String Quartet No. 1, composed as a companion piece to Maurice Ravel's String Quartet and Henri Dutilleux's *Ainsi la nuit* (*Thus the Night*). To complete the program, Hough joins the Castalian Quartet for **Johannes Brahms's** Quintet for Piano and Strings in F minor, Op. 34, one of chamber music's most dramatic and totemic works.

*The Phillips Collection gratefully acknowledges those who generously endowed the annual Centennial Concert, established in 2022.*

**MARCH 17** | Khari Joyner, cello  
& Llewellyn Sanchez-Werner, piano



Cellist **Khari Joyner** and pianist **Llewellyn Sanchez-Werner** make a formidable duo with international reputations as leading soloists and chamber musicians. Joyner is a passionate advocate for new music and was recently awarded the Leonore Annenberg Fellowship career grant. Sanchez-Werner received the Atlantic Council's Young Global Citizen Award for his dedication to social action and was the first-prize winner of the 2022

Concert Artists Guild International Competition. Their diverse program at the Phillips features **Ludwig van Beethoven's** Cello Sonata No.5, Op. 102, No. 2. They continue with a selection from the Cello Sonata Op. 17 by often overlooked composer **Luise Adolpha Le Beau**. Rounding out the concert is **George Walker's** Sonata for Cello and Piano and **Arvo Pärt's** versatile *Fratres*.

**MARCH 24** | Isidore Quartet

Since their inception in 2019, the **Isidore Quartet** has won the 2022 Banff International String Quartet Competition, had residencies at Southern Methodist University, and performed across the US and Europe. They recently received the Avery Fisher Career Grant, cementing their place as a young quartet on the rise. They are named after the renowned violinist Isidore Cohen, who was a member of the Juilliard Quartet and later the Beaux Arts Trio. Continuing the charge of the Juilliard Quartet, the Isidore Quartet's program at the Phillips reflects their shared mission of "approaching the established as if it were new, and the new as if it were firmly established." They begin with **Henri Dutilleux's** *Ainsi la nuit* (*Thus the Night*), a work commissioned for the Juilliard Quartet. They continue with another critical work of the 20th century, **Benjamin Britten's** String Quartet No. 2, and conclude with **Felix Mendelssohn's** inventive String Quartet No.5 in E-flat major.



**APRIL 7** | Musicians from the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel

Continuing one of our longest-standing partnerships, Phillips Music presents cellist **Gary Hoffman**, violinist **Karen Su**, and pianist **Henry Kramer** in collaboration with the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Waterloo, Belgium. Founded in 1939, the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel provides training, performance opportunities, and career guidance to young talents from around the globe. A rarity among training institutions, masters-in-residence at the QEMC such as Hoffman do not just teach and mentor young artists, they perform with them in professional engagements around the world. The ensemble's program begins with **Claude Debussy's** coloristic Cello Sonata, the first of six planned sonatas for different combinations of instruments, although only three were ever completed. They continue with **Ludwig van Beethoven's** beguiling Piano Trio, Op. 70, No. 1, usually referred to as the "Ghost," a nod to the eerie fluttering figures in the second movement. The group also performs **Bedřich Smetana's** immensely popular Trio in G minor, Op. 15 (1855), a work born out of great personal tragedy: the death of Smetana's eldest daughter.

*Presented in partnership with the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel.*



APRIL 14 | Anthony Roth Costanzo, countertenor & Shanghai Quartet, performing Centennial Commission by Marcos Balter



Superstar countertenor **Anthony Roth Costanzo** returns to the Phillips to perform with the world-renowned **Shanghai Quartet**. Anchoring the program is the world premiere of a new large-scale work for string quartet and countertenor by Brazilian-American composer **Marcos Balter**, co-commissioned by The Phillips Collection and Chamber Music America. Following the effects of the global pandemic, Balter focused his new work—titled *Therapy*—on concepts of catharsis and the healing potential of creativity, with fragmented text drawn from **Gertrude Stein's** *Tender Buttons*. Balter chose **Alfonso Ossorio's** *Recovery Drawings* from the Phillips's permanent collection as inspiration. Ossorio sketched the 42 *Recovery Drawings* while in the hospital recovering from heart failure. The wildly evocative set of drawings proves that physical restrictions need not constrain imagination, and that limitations can be both generative and transformative.

*Funding for this commission was generously provided by the Sachiko Kuno Philanthropic Fund. Funding for the performance was generously provided by an anonymous donation.*

APRIL 21 | USC Thornton Chamber Virtuosi, chamber ensemble



The **USC Thornton Chamber Virtuosi**, the premier chamber music ensemble of the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, features USC students and emerging professional artists **Sarah Beth Overcash**, violin, **Nico Valencia**, viola, and **Cameron Akioka**, piano, performing alongside faculty members **Lina Bahn**, violin, and **Seth Parker Woods**, cello. Steeped in the distinguished history of artistic and innovative excellence at USC Thornton, this touring ensemble provides valuable experience for emerging artists to perform ambitious programs of new works and

beloved chamber repertoire alongside established musicians. Their exemplary program at the Phillips includes **Florence Price's** Piano Quintet in A minor, **Krzysztof Penderecki's** *Ciaccona* for violin and viola, **Jeffrey Mumford's** *Four Dances for Boris* for solo piano, **Zoltán Kodály's** Duo for violin and cello, and **Errollyn Wallen's** *Five Postcards* for violin and viola.

APRIL 28 | Dame Imogen Cooper, solo piano

**Dame Imogen Cooper** is considered legendary for her consummate interpretation of classical and romantic repertoire. She has performed with revered orchestras, including the London Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, and Berliner Philharmoniker, and has appeared in the world's most famous venues as a soloist, lieder partner, and chamber musician. She is also invested in nurturing future talent and founded the Imogen Cooper Music Trust in 2015 to mentor young pianists. Her program at the Phillips begins with two arrangements of chorales by **J.S. Bach**, one by the great 20th-century pianist **Wilhelm Kempf** and the other by the late romantic Italian composer, pianist, and teacher **Ferruccio Busoni**. These are followed by **Franz Schubert's** intriguing Sonata D. 840, *Reliquie*, one of the composer's unfinished works. Cooper continues with **Thomas Ades's** *Darknesse Visible* and concludes with **Ludwig van Beethoven's** enduring Piano Sonata No. 31 in A-flat major, Op. 110.





**MAY 5** | Livia Sohn, violin & Pedja Mužijević, piano  
with Ayane Kozasa, viola & Gabriel Cabezas, cello

The 2023/24 season closes with a special performance by a group of elite chamber musicians, led by violinist **Livia Sohn** and pianist **Pedja Mužijević**, regular performers at the prestigious Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina. Sohn and Mužijević begin the program with **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's** refined Sonata for Violin and Piano in D major, K 306. Anchoring the program is the world premiere of a new piece for violin and piano by Stanford-based composer **Jonathan Berger** titled *Nach Rechts, Nach Links*, inspired by **Paul Klee's** painting of the same name in the Phillips's permanent collection that serves as our season-wide visual theme. Klee's influence as a painter, teacher, and theorist is as pronounced in music as it has been in the visual arts, and Berger's new work for violin and piano extends the tradition of many direct musical responses to Klee's art and legacy. To conclude the performance, Sohn and Mužijević are joined by violist **Ayane Kozasa** and cellist **Gabriel Cabezas**, members of the Owls string quartet. The ensemble presents **Robert Schumann's** Piano Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 47 (1842), a work of subtlety and bravura with romantic sweep and deep wells of emotion.

*This performance is made possible by generous underwriting support from Martha R. Johnston and Robert T. Coonrod.*



Danbi Um, violin, and Amy Yang, piano, performing at The Phillips Collection, March 26, 2023.

# SUPPORT PHILLIPS MUSIC

For over 80 years, Phillips Music has been a highlight of Washington's cultural life, presenting exceptional young musicians alongside a roster of acclaimed performers in both the intimate, art-filled setting of The Phillips Collection's Music Room and now to a growing international online audience.

Ticket income alone does not cover the cost of a season. Phillips Music relies on the generosity of our valued Music Endowment donors, Season Sponsors, and the Phillips Chamber Society members to ensure the success of our concerts. We are grateful for our music supporters' passion and commitment to this rich tradition, and invite you to join them in celebrating our 83rd season by making a gift in one of the following ways:

## UNDERWRITE A CONCERT

**\$10,000+**

Under the leadership of Jeremy Ney, Senior Director of Phillips Music, the Phillips attracts world-renowned artists to our Phillips Music Series. Bringing these musicians to Washington, DC, comprises the bulk of Phillips Music's budget, covering performance fees, travel costs, hotel stays, and other related expenses. Select one or more concerts from our expertly curated season to underwrite and be recognized as a concert underwriter for that performance and receive the benefits associated with Season Sponsorship for the full season.

## BECOME A SEASON SPONSOR

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Jay Campbell, cello, and Conrad Tao, piano, performing at The Phillips Collection, April 8, 2023.

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