

HEIGHTSARTS

Close Encounters Chamber Music Series 15th Season

Second live-streamed performance

Florence, George and Amadeus

Sunday, Feb. 28th, 3pm from Cleveland's **Bop Stop**

PROGRAM

Florence Price

String Quartet No. 2 in a-minor (1935)

- I. Moderato
- II. Andante Cantabile
- III. Juba
- IV. Finale

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Quintet for Clarinet and Strings in A-major, KV 581 (1789)

- 1 Allegro
- 2 Larghetto
- 3 Menuetto-TRIO I – TRIO II
- 4 Allegretto con Variazione

George Gershwin

'It Ain't Necessarily So' for Clarinet and Strings, arr. by Alvin Wong

PERFORMERS

Robert Woolfrey, clarinet
Mari Sato and Isabel Trautwein, violins
Eric Wong, viola
Tanya Ell, cello

Isabel Trautwein, Artistic Director

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NEXT UP FOR SEASON 15 OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS...

CONCERT 3: Unfairly Neglected Masters

April 25th, 3 p.m. Live-streamed from The Bop Stop

Performers: UT, Austin professor Patti Wolf-piano, Tanya Ell Woolfrey-cello, Isabel Trautwein-violin, Cleveland Orchestra members. Pianist Patti Wolf travels to Cleveland from her Texas home to perform a dramatic Trio by an unduly neglected Russian romantic Anton Arensky and solo piano works by the innovative Fanny Mendelssohn, who is finally being pulled out of her famous brother Felix's shadows. [PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

HEIGHTSARTS of ART LIVE

Heights Arts announces its 2021 Random Acts of Art LIVE! community music series. These performances originally replaced the well-loved Heights Arts gallery concert series, which was canceled in March in response to the public health crisis.

Outdoor concerts can be booked beginning March 1st for the upcoming season May through October.

Email Arleigh at music@heightsarts.org for more information.



Heights Arts – *connecting arts and community*

2175 Lee Road Cleveland Hts, OH 44118 | www.heightsarts.org | 216.371.3457

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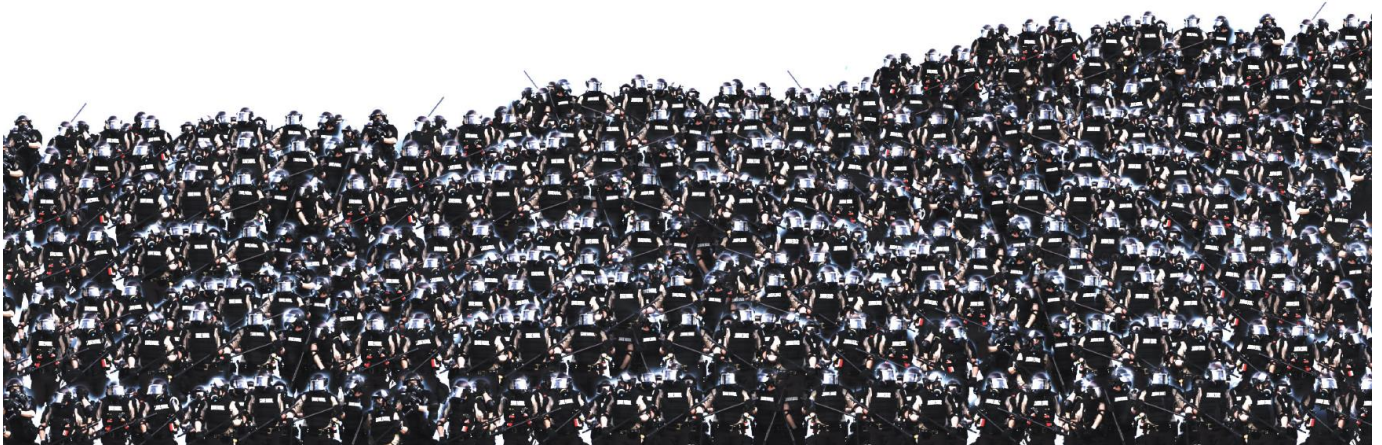
BECOME A HEIGHTS ARTS MEMBER!

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the arts, and now more than ever we appreciate your consideration to give to Heights Arts by becoming a member. As a member of Heights Arts, you receive discounts, special invitations, members-only events plus perks from our community partners.

Your membership is tax-deductible and you have the opportunity to brag that you are helping support local artists, musicians, creative writers, and public art in the community. You'll have your finger on the pulse of all things Heights Arts. What are you waiting for? Join us today! Membership information can be found on our [website](#).

Visit our current exhibition, *Posing the Question* on view through March 14th. Our accompanying Artist talk and Poetry reading, Ekphrastacy, will take place online and feature Cleveland Heights Poet Laureate Ray McNiece, Kisha Nicole Foster, Josiah Quarles, and Michelle Smith

See our website for more information.



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ROBERT WOOLFREY

Robert Woolfrey joined the clarinet section of The Cleveland Orchestra in November 2008. Prior to his appointment, he was the principal clarinet of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra from 2007 to 2008, as well as a member of the IRIS Chamber Orchestra.

As a chamber musician, Mr. Woolfrey has collaborated with Michael Tilson Thomas, Dawn Upshaw, and musicians of The Cleveland Orchestra. In recent summers, he has participated in a variety of music festivals, including Tanglewood Music Center and the Aspen Music Festival.

Performances by Mr. Woolfrey have been heard on National Public Radio's Performance Today, classical music station WQXR, and Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Radio Two.

Born and raised in Toronto, Canada, Mr. Woolfrey studied with Joaquin Valdepeñas and at Yale University with David Shifrin, where he received a master's degree in music. Mr. Woolfrey is also an alumnus of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida, where he performed as a soloist in Nielsen's Clarinet Concerto.

Close Encounters was made possible through the generosity of the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation, Cuyahoga Arts and Culture, Ohio Arts Council, and the many other funders, donors and audience members who support our programs.



Mari Sato-Violin. Photo by Lisa-Marie Mazzucco

MARI SATO

Violinist Mari Sato has enjoyed a rich and varied career as a chamber musician based in Cleveland. For twenty-four years, she was the second violinist of the award-winning Cavani String Quartet. During her tenure with the Cavani Quartet, Mari gave concerts on major series, including Carnegie Hall, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Festival de L'Epau in France, and the Honolulu Chamber Music Society.

Ms. Sato is honored to have collaborated with many distinguished artists including members of the Cleveland, Juilliard, Miami, Ying, Emerson, Borodin, Amadeus, St. Lawrence and Colorado String Quartets, the Weilerstein Trio, Itzhak Perlman, Robert Mann, Anton Nel, Stephanie Blythe and Charles Neidich. Music Festival appearances and residencies include The Aspen Music Festival, The New World Symphony, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, Interlochen Center for the Arts, The Perlman Music Program, ChamberFest Cleveland, and Encore Chamber Music.

Formerly on faculty at the Cleveland Institute of Music 1995-2018, Mari Sato and her colleagues coached many outstanding young musicians in the Intensive Quartet Seminar and the Apprentice Quartet Seminar. Former chamber music students include members of the Jupiter, Daedalus, Aeolus, Miró, Fry Street and Afiara Quartets, as well as members of the Cleveland, St. Paul, Minnesota, Chicago, Detroit, and New York Philharmonic Orchestras. Since 2018, Ms. Sato has worked with students at the Oberlin Conservatory and the MYCO chamber music program in North Carolina. She continues to play chamber music with her colleagues in CityMusic Cleveland, Heights Arts, and the Bluestreak Ensemble.

Ms. Sato received her musical training at the Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Michigan. Her mentors include David Cerone, Paul Kantor, and Peter Sala



TANYA ELL

Cellist Tanya Ell, enjoys a varied career as a chamber musician, soloist, and member of The Cleveland Orchestra. Since winning the position in 2006, she has been privileged to tour the world's greatest concert halls with the orchestra, including Carnegie Hall, Vienna's Musikverein, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Royal Albert Hall, and Avery Fisher Hall. With TCO, she has also taken part in many prestigious festivals, including the BBC Proms, the Salzburg Festival, the Lucerne Festival, and the Edinburgh Festival.

Tanya is a founding member of the Omni String Quartet, which has been featured in concert by the Cleveland Orchestra at the United States Consulate in Bratislava, on WCLV Radio at Cleveland State University, and at Kent State University. She has collaborated with such notable musicians as William Preucil, Donald and Vivienne Weilerstein, Edgar Meyer, members of the Cavani String Quartet, and with her husband, Cleveland Orchestra clarinetist, Robert Woolfrey. In recent years she has soloed with the Cleveland

Philharmonic, the Suburban Symphony, the Cleveland State University Symphony, and the Lansing Symphony.

Tanya received her Bachelor of Music at the Juilliard School under Aldo Parisot. She spent a fruitful year under the tutelage of Shauna Rolston, studying at the University of Toronto. While finishing her Master's Degree with Richard Aaron at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Tanya won a position with the Milwaukee Symphony, and was appointed Acting Assistant Principal a year later. She was invited to solo with the MSO twice during her tenure there.

Tanya grew up in Okemos MI, and studied in the Suzuki program with Marilyn Kesler, and later with Louis Potter Jr. from age 8-18. Her musician parents, Frank and Eva Ell have also been very important musical influences throughout her life. She won her first competition at the age of 12, and continued to win top prizes at competitions across the country that often resulted in concerto performances and scholarships to summer music festivals.

Tanya plays a David Burgess cello from 1992, as well as a Tyrolean Cello from 1864. She resides in Cleveland, Ohio with her husband, son and daughter.

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ISABEL TRAUTWEIN

Violinist Isabel Trautwein was born in Huntsville, Alabama where her father worked as a rocket scientist. When she was 12, her mother, exasperated with Alabama, decided that they would move back to their native Germany. Isabel, after much homesickness, surrendered to being a German teenager. In retrospect, this was the ideal time to be a young violinist in Germany. Opportunities abounded: she received free private lessons, participated in well-run national solo and chamber music competitions and played in outstanding youth orchestras under very famous conductors which traveled to exotic places such as Israel, Africa and India.

After completing undergraduate studies in Germany, Isabel received grants to study abroad and, subconsciously still homesick for the US, chose The Cleveland Institute of Music. She went on to perform with the New World Symphony as a Concertmaster, the Houston Symphony, the Pacifica String Quartet, just to name a few, and traveled the country and the world.

She was fortunate to join The Cleveland Orchestra in 2002, move to Cleveland Heights and put the moving boxes on the tree-lawn. She happily lives here now in a very cute bungalow with her deaf dog Yoffi and is an enthusiastic violin teacher to her young students. She is a board member of Heights Arts and with the House Concert series, seeks to offer chamber music as it was meant to be: in gorgeous salon-style settings and for curious audiences. She is also the founder of TACO, The Awesome Children's Orchestra, an informal and intergenerational orchestra which recently debuted at Severance Hall with over 50 players of all ages.

From Rachel Bernstein, Executive Director

We are so excited to be able to partner with The Bop Stop to bring you our 15th Season of Close Encounters. Although the format has changed, you are in for a treat as you enjoy these live performances from your living room.

I am so grateful for the enthusiasm from all involved in making this possible – from artistic director Isabel Trautwein's work in conceiving and coordinating the performances, to Gabe Pollack's expertise in broadcasting them live, to our hard-working small staff in learning a new way of delivering and marketing our programs, and especially to our fantastic musicians, who dedicated their time and talent to bring you this program today. ENJOY!



ERIC WONG

Celebrated for a “tone like toasted caramel. Amazing,” (Musical Toronto), Eric Wong is the violist of the Cavani Quartet, ensemble-in-residence at the Cleveland Institute of Music. He was also a member of the JUNO-nominated Afiara Quartet and the Linden String Quartet, first prize winners of the Fischhoff, Coleman, and Concert Artist Guild competitions.

Mr. Wong is a frequent guest educator and has given masterclasses and lectures in many institutions of higher learning in North America and Europe including Yale University, American University, the University of Iowa, the Royal Academy of Music of Århus, Middlesex University, the University of Toronto, and New York University Abu Dhabi.

He is also active in collaborating with directors of several up-and-coming chamber music festivals including the Geneva Music Festival and the humanitarian initiative “Music Feeds Us”. Mr.

Wong has performed on the most iconic stages around the world including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Severance Hall, Kings Place, Koerner Hall, and as a featured guest artist at the Aspen Ideas Festival.

His chamber music collaborators have included the Tokyo Quartet, Sharon Isbin, Itzhak Perlman, Jaime Laredo, Richard Stoltzman, Donald Weilerstein, and pianist and former US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, among others. He received both Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the CIM, studying violin with Paul Kantor and viola with Kirsten Docter and Lynne Ramsey. Other coaches and mentors have included Peter Salaff and the Cavani and Tokyo Quartets.