

Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition

JANUARY 22-
FEBRUARY 5, 2017



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Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition

JANUARY 22–FEBRUARY 5, 2017

EOIVC JUDGES:

Daniel Heifetz (Chairman of the Jury), Andrés Cárdenes,
Charles Castleman, Alexander Gilman, Gudny Gudmundsdottir,
Ilya Kaler and Vera Tsu Wei-Ling

EOIVC COMPETITORS*:

Christopher Tun Andersen, Wonhee Bae, Aaron Chan, Brian Kwan Yeung Choi,
Ho-Hsuan Feng, Luke Hsu, Sirena Huang, Ari Isaacman-Beek, Alina Ming Kobialka,
Erzhan Kulibaev, Li Lao, Jiyeon Lee, Quanshuai Li, Christine Seohyun Lim,
Max Yiming Mao, Dongfang Ouyang, Ji Won Song, Elly Suh,
Chiharu Taki and Hannah Tarley

EOIVC ACCOMPANISTS:

Jun Cho, Robert Koenig, Sheng-Yuan Kuan, Laura Garritson Parker and Dan Sato

Helping to Build a Strong Foundation for Success

The Violin Channel is the Official Media Partner of the
2017 Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition

**The list of 20 EOIVC Competitors are those that advanced to the Semi Final Round I.*

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WELCOME TO THE INAUGURAL 2017 ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION. —

I am so honored to have the once-in-a-lifetime privilege to work alongside some of the finest artistic minds of our generation. I am sincerely humbled and excited to be a part of such an exciting endeavor.

The level of passion and dedication that the EOIVC Founder and Artistic Director, Elmar Oliveira, has toward supporting and developing young violinists is awe-inspiring. He has a deep belief that growing an artist beyond a competition is as important, if not more so, than simply awarding a prize.

It is with this drive that our first competition has been realized. The countless hours of preparation were done with such thoughtfulness and care that it truly makes the EOIVC a unique competition. In fact, the EOIVC is only the second international competition dedicated to the violin in this country. We could not be more proud.

The extraordinary panel of international Judges, who are joining us for this first competition, share Elmar's passion and

parallel his dedication to ensuring the future of our art form. We are so thankful to have them on our team. From our Preliminary Committee—David Cerone, Linda Cerone and Daniel Jordan—to the Chairman of the Jury, Daniel Heifetz, to the six other international Judges—Andrés Cárdenes, Charles Castleman, Alexander Gilman, Gudny Gudmundsdottir, Ilya Kaler and Vera Tsu Wei-ling—we could not have imagined a better ensemble to join us for this inaugural event.

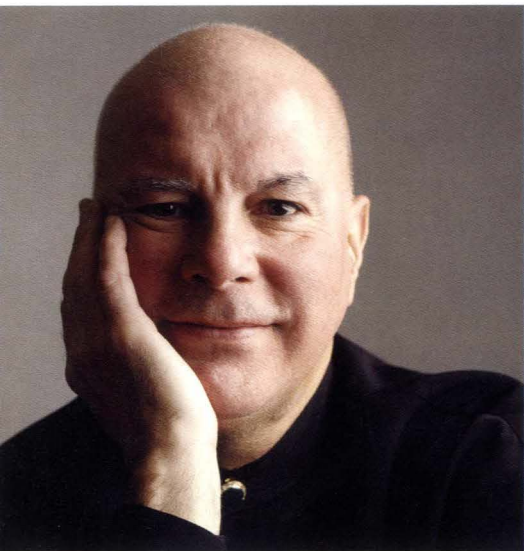
Along with having a stellar roster of Judges and an unbelievable pool of Competitors, who are at the top of their game, we are thrilled to be working with five extraordinary Accompanists: Jun Cho, Robert Koenig, Sheng-Yuan Kuan, Laura Garritson Parker and Dan Sato. Each is an accomplished soloist and collaborator of the highest level.

As with any undertaking of this magnitude, we have scores of individuals to thank for helping us make Elmar's dream a reality. I simply cannot put into words the depths of my gratitude for Elmar Oliveira and each and every member of the EOIVC family who has made the inaugural competition possible. One particular member, Raechel Alexander, our Communications Consultant, has been a close friend and colleague for over 25 years. I don't think either one of us could have imagined our friendship would have led us to this moment. We are both immensely proud of Elmar and are so honored to be working on a project that speaks so wonderfully to his incredible legacy.

From the judges to competitors to accompanists to Elmar himself, we welcome you to the start of an extraordinary triennial event that will showcase the remarkable international talent of today's most exciting violinists.

With warmest regards,
JILL ARBETTER
Executive Director
EOIVC

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Jill Arbetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "A" at the end.



IT GIVES ME IMMENSE PLEASURE TO WELCOME ALL OF YOU TO THE INAUGURAL 2017 ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION, SOMETHING THAT IS VERY NEAR AND DEAR TO MY HEART. —

We are so thrilled to host a myriad of international talent from our competitors to our illustrious judges to our esteemed accompanists, and we are beyond thrilled to welcome you to be a part of this landmark event.

Our competitors were chosen from a pool of over 80 applicants from more than 16 countries. The talented young violinists who were selected to advance through the competition range in ages from 19 to 31 and come from eight countries. I can tell you, the artistic diversity and level of playing is astonishing. We are all witnessing something very, very special.

While being talented is an important piece of building a career, I—as well as our Judges, administration and our partner in the Lynn University Conservatory of Music—truly believe that there is so much more to having lifelong

success outside of winning a competition. We believe that in order to have long-term success one must have a strong and vibrant foundation with professional and personal tools that help build an individual as an entire performer. This is why I created the EOIVC.

I can think of no better collaborative partner to help bring the dream of the EOIVC into reality than Dean Jon Robertson and the Lynn University Conservatory of Music. I am blessed to not only call Jon a partner in this venture, but a dear friend as well. He has encouraged me to think big and has instilled in me a belief that no goal is too small. I don't think there are words enough to express my gratitude for his support.

As we all know, it does take a village and I am so lucky to have such a remarkable village spearheaded by the unstoppable Jill Arbetter—a true force of nature in this industry and my right hand. I could not have launched the EOIVC without her support as well as that of our Judges and Accompanists, who are dedicated to ensuring the future of our young violinists. To all of my friends, colleagues and business associates, who have been named later in this book and who have so willingly given their resources to help bring my dream into reality, and, most importantly, to my wife, Sandy, who has been one of my biggest and most passionate advocates, I cannot thank you all enough.

And lastly, but certainly not least, Kevin Ross, President of Lynn University, who has given us such a special gift and welcomed the EOIVC to hold its first competition at Lynn, an organization that I am proud to call my artistic home and one that shares in the passion of our mission.

I welcome you to this inaugural competition and thank you all for your support, enthusiasm and inspiration as we begin this remarkable journey together, towards building a foundation for an artist's success.

With warm wishes,

ELMAR OLIVEIRA
Founder & Artistic Director
EOIVC

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elmar Oliveira', written over a white background.



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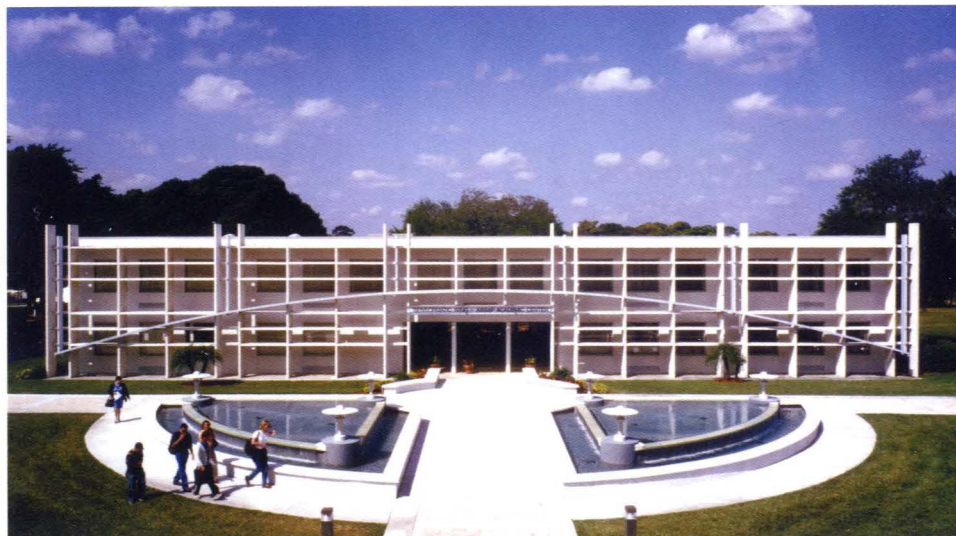
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LYNN UNIVERSITY IS HONORED
TO HOST THE INAUGURAL ELMAR
OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN
COMPETITION AND WELCOME
THE 20 COMPETITORS FROM
8 COUNTRIES TO OUR CAMPUS. —

Lynn Distinguished Artist-in-Residence and noted Tchaikovsky Competition winner Elmar Oliveira created this competition to ensure the success of the next generation of artists. Over the past year, we have formed a partnership that helps realize Elmar's vision for this world-class competition and provides an unparalleled opportunity for our renowned Conservatory of Music, and we are pleased to be a part of this unique competition, which is the only one of its kind in Florida and only the second of this magnitude in the entire country.

Lynn University is proud to be a part of the Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition, and congratulations to Elmar and all of the outstanding and talented participants and winners.

KEVIN M. ROSS

President
Lynn University



THE LYNN UNIVERSITY
CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC
IS HONORED TO BE A
COLLABORATOR IN THE
INAUGURAL YEAR OF THE
ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL
VIOLIN COMPETITION. ———

Having been a longtime admirer of Maestro Oliveira's extraordinary playing and distinction of being the only American winner of the Tchaikovsky International Violin Competition, it was a singularly extraordinary moment, when Maestro Oliveira consented to join the Conservatory as Artist in Residence. His artistic mentorship and inspiration has been a beacon of light not only to violin students, but to every young musician in attendance at the Conservatory. This source of inspiration has also been gratefully received and enjoyed by his faculty colleagues.

With the inauguration of this world class competition, Maestro Oliveira has now gone beyond the confines of the Conservatory to provide exceptionally talented young violinists from around the world the extraordinary opportunity to compete for prize money as well as guest performances with orchestras and music festivals throughout the world. Now Maestro Oliveira creates a pathway for their pursuit of a performing career.

The Conservatory extends a warm welcome to all participants and judges!

JON ROBERTSON

Dean

Lynn University Conservatory of Music

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

DEAR YOUNG ARTISTS,

AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JURY,
IT IS MY PLEASURE AND
HONOR TO WELCOME YOU
AS CONTESTANTS TO THE
INAUGURAL ELMAR OLIVEIRA
INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN
COMPETITION. —————

I have known Elmar Oliveira for over thirty years to be one of the world's great violinists and colleagues as well as an artist who embodies the warmth, compassion, love, and generosity of a truly special human being. To have all these qualities in a single artist is a very rare thing. The essence of this competition is to celebrate young violinists and encourage them to emulate these qualities in their humanity and artistry.

I am also honored to serve on a jury with such illustrious artists and colleagues from different generations and perspectives. Alexander Gilman is a renowned violinist, teacher, and founder of the LGT Young Soloist ensemble in Europe to promote young talents and offer them a musical homeland. Vera Tsu Wei-Ling is an artist who survived the Chinese Cultural Revolution to become one of China's most cherished and honored violinists and pedagogues. Charles Castleman has shown his dedication to chamber music by creating the acclaimed Castleman Quartet Program, now in its 45th summer season. Ilya Kaler, winner of Gold Medals at the Tchaikovsky, Sibelius, and Paganini International Competitions, represents a level of artistry, mastery, and style that is rarely heard today. Andrés Cárdenes and Gudny Gudmundsdottir are two of the most respected orchestral concertmasters in the world, representing the Pittsburgh and Icelandic Symphonies. Gudny Gudmundsdottir has been honored for her huge impact on the cultural life of Iceland and her inspiration and encouragement to that country's young classical musicians. Andrés Cárdenes, in



addition to being a great violinist and chamber musician, is a humanitarian dedicated to social justice who has been recognized by the Mexican Red Cross, the cities of Los Angeles and Shanghai, and Jewish and Israeli organizations for promoting world harmony and peace through music. He has also served as a Cultural Ambassador for UNICEF.

Now, as you begin your journey, I hope each one of you realizes that you have already accomplished a great personal victory by advancing to the Semi-Finals of the Competition. We on the jury are here to support and encourage all of you on your paths to realizing your dreams of establishing your own careers in the music world.

Enjoy and have fun,

DANIEL HEIFETZ

Chairman of the Jury

Founder & Artistic Director

Heifetz International Music Institute



DEAR FRIENDS AND VISITORS:

HOW THRILLING TO WELCOME 20 SEMI-FINALISTS,
7 JURISTS AND A SPECTACULAR AUDIENCE OF VISITORS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO THE INAUGURAL ELMAR
OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION! ———

Palm Beach County has a long-standing tradition of nurturing and celebrating artistic excellence, as Mr. Oliveira's presence as a Distinguished Artist in Residence at Lynn University makes clear. We applaud the talent and dedication that brings us together on this occasion and look forward to a very exciting series of performances.

For decades, Palm Beach County's residents, visitors and civic leaders have supported a fine and diverse arts community. I hope our visitors will have a chance to explore the many performing arts venues, public and private art collections, museums, historical sites, public art, parks and natural areas of The Palm Beaches, so that we might return to our guests some of the pleasure their music brings to us.

Special thanks and congratulations are in order for the leadership and faculty of Lynn Conservatory. They are largely responsible for bringing this world-class event to Boca Raton. To Mr. Oliveira, we applaud your vision and generosity in creating this important and exciting international forum for musical excellence and look forward to hearing each of the fine young musicians.

Best wishes to all for an outstanding competition. Thank you for your musical presence in Palm Beach County.

PAULETTE BURDICK

Mayor
Palm Beach County

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paulette Burdick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page, overlapping the printed name and title.



DEAR FRIENDS,

THE CITY OF BOCA RATON IS
EXCITED TO BE THE VENUE
OF CHOICE FOR THE FIRST
TRIENNIAL ELMAR OLIVEIRA
INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN
COMPETITION. _____

Since last March, when the competition was first announced by Maestro Oliveira, we have been looking forward to hearing the young and talented violinists who will be competing at Lynn University from January 22nd — February 5th, 2017 (culminating in two concerts showcasing the talents of the final four competitors on Saturday, February 4th and Sunday, February 5th at the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center).

It is exciting to realize the adjudication panel of international judges will be selecting the next generation of violinists, providing the winners with over \$50,000 in monetary prizes coupled with performance opportunities and career support in the areas of management and public relations.

We welcome the competitors, their friends, families and supporters to South Florida and wish you all a wonderful stay in our city.

Yours Truly,

ROBERT S. WEINROTH
Council Member



DEAR MR. OLIVEIRA, JUDGES,
COMPETITORS AND GUESTS:

ON BEHALF OF PALM BEACH
COUNTY'S EXTENSIVE CULTURAL
COMMUNITY, WELCOME TO
THE FINAL ROUNDS OF THE
INAUGURAL ELMAR OLIVEIRA
INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN
COMPETITION. _____

More than 80 violinists entered the first round.
20 semi-finalists were invited to come to Boca Raton.
It is tremendously exciting to anticipate the winning
performance, and I applaud the extraordinary talent,
artistry and dedication to excellence that each
performance represents.

Thank you, Mr. Oliveira and the outstanding panel
of judges you have drawn to this competition, for
your extraordinary vision. It is an honor to have such
discerning talent at the helm.

From its beginning, the Cultural Council of Palm Beach
County has committed its energies and resources to
being a catalyst for the establishment of new cultural
institutions, enhancing existing organizations and
encouraging opportunities for individual professional
artists. We are thrilled that this important international
competition has come to The Palm Beaches. It is my
sincere hope that each of our visitors—competitors
and judges alike—will take some time to explore the
outstanding museums, art galleries, theatres, murals
and public art, architecture, performance venues and
natural areas that make The Palm Beaches such a
special place.

Sincerely,

RENA BLADES
President and CEO
Cultural Council of Palm Beach County

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rena Blades", is written over the typed name and title.

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(From Left) Jon Robertson, Dean, Lynn University Conservatory of Music
Guillermo Figueroa, Music Director and Conductor of the Lynn Philharmonia
Elmar Oliveira, Founder & Artistic Director, EOIVC
Jill Arbetter, Executive Director, EOIVC

The 2017 Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition... Not Just Another Competition

BY RAECHEL ALEXANDER

Let's face it. There are hundreds, if not thousands of competitions in the arts. They come in all different shapes and sizes. Some offer prizes in the hundreds of dollars, others in the hundreds of thousands. But, the EOIVC is unique.

Yes, it offers a very handsome monetary prize to its winners—\$30,000 first prize, \$15,000 second prize, \$10,000 third prize and \$1,000 for honorable

mention—but it also offers something truly special, something that is priceless: career building support that will develop and nurture a young violinist into the future.

Career building support is no joke. Oftentimes, with major competitions, the winner is awarded a prize, a few concerts, and then is sent on his or her merry way to make their own path to success.

Among his many achievements, Elmar Oliveira, Founder and Artistic Director of the EOIVC, is the only American, to date, to ever win the gold prize at the renowned Tchaikovsky Competition. Elmar recognizes the importance of this and is grateful for all of the opportunities that arose from winning such an important award. But, he has gone one step further in creating the EOIVC. Not only will he offer a monetary prize and the prestige of winning a major competition, but his will be one that will guide its winner and help manage him or her along the way.

“Don’t get me wrong. Being able to pay rent, afford extra lessons or travel to other countries to have access to esteemed teachers are critical elements to building a career, and it all takes money. Lots of it,” says Elmar Oliveira, Founder and Artistic Director, EOIVC. “But these elements are just a few pieces in a much larger puzzle. Having a squadron of advocates with connections that run deep such as a manager, PR specialist and a host of well-connected individuals backing you, is paramount to success. And this is what the EOIVC is offering.”

The EOIVC is only the second international competition of its kind to focus solely on the violin in the United States. And it wears that badge with honor.

“Knowing that there was only one such international competition in the United States that focuses solely on the violin was a main driver for beginning the EOIVC,” says Jill Arbetter, Executive Director of the EOIVC. “While we all say that the world is a small place, especially the performing arts world, opportunities for violinists to meet their peers from all around the globe is something that is so important to the growth of any young artist, and we wanted to provide that opportunity.”

The EOIVC is a triennial event. During the three years following the competition, the 1st prize winner will also have a team pulling behind them. Jill Arbetter, of Arbetter Artists, will serve as manager and has a proven track-record of representing conductors and instrumentalists, including Elmar Oliveira. Public Relations and communications will be spearheaded by Raechel Alexander, a veteran communications specialist with more than 25 years of industry experience. Lastly, networking opportunities will come through Elmar as well as the seven international judges and the three members of the preliminary committee. All in all, it’s an award that is worth its weight in gold. *(Continued pg 52)*



(From Top)
Elmar Oliveira with student at Heifetz International Music Institute.

Feng Jiang fits the base bar on a violin that he--along with John Young, Andrew Ryan and Jeffrey Phillips--is making for the first place winner of the EOIVC.

EOIVC Accompanist Sheng-Yuan Kuan with EOIVC-Commissioned Composer Thomas McKinley.

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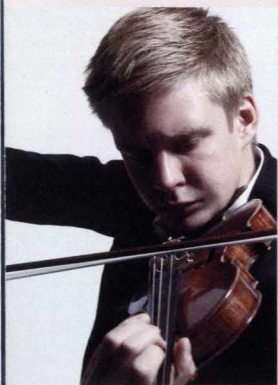
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2017 Inaugural Elmar Oliveira
International Violin Competition

Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition

Competitors

The 20 EOIVC Competitors that advanced to the Semi Final Round I of the inaugural 2017 Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition were selected from more than 80 applicants from 16 countries. The 20 competitors range in ages 19-31* and come from eight countries—Norway, South Korea, Hong Kong, China, United States, Kazakhstan, Taiwan and Japan.

CHRISTOPHER TUN ANDERSEN Age: 25 From: Norway	LUKE HSU Age: 26 From: United States	MAX YIMING MAO Age: 23 From: China
WONHEE BAE Age: 30 From: South Korea	ARI ISAACMAN-BECK Age: 31 From: United States	DONGFANG OUYANG Age: 26 From: China
AARON CHAN Age: 20 From: Hong Kong	ALINA MING KOBIALKA Age: 19 From: United States	JI WON SONG Age: 24 From South Korea
BRIAN KWAN YEUNG CHOI Age: 22 From: China	ERZHAN KULIBAEV Age: 30 From: Kazakhstan	ELLY SUH Age: 27 From: United States/South Korea
SIRENA HUANG Age: 22 From: United States	LI LAO Age: 29 From: China	CHIHARU TAKI Age: 30 From: Japan
HO-HSUAN FENG Age: 21 From: Taiwan	JIYOON LEE Age: 24 From: South Korea	HANNAH TARLEY Age: 25 From: United States
	QUANSHUAI LI Age: 25 From: China	
	CHRISTINE SEOHYUN LIM Age: 22 From: United States/South Korea	



CHRISTOPHER TUN ANDERSEN _____

Age: 25 // From: Norway

Christopher Tun Andersen started playing violin at the age of four. He has studied with Professor Isaac Schuldman, first at the Barratt Due Institute of Music and later from 2010 at the Norwegian Academy of Music.

From 2014, Christopher was admitted to graduate studies with Pinchas Zukerman and Patinca Kopec (Pinchas Zukerman Performance Program) at Manhattan School of Music, one of the world's leading music institutions.

Christopher is laureate and participant in several international violin competitions, including the XV International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow (2015). He has won 2nd prize in the International Violin Competition in Wörthersee Austria (2007), 1st prize at the Jugend Musiziert competition in Germany along with the Europe Prize from the German Music Foundation (2007), and the Heifetz Prize in the IV International Jascha Heifetz Violin Competition (2013).

He has participated at masterclasses with Zakhar Bron, Sergei Stadler, Dora Schwarzberg, Anna Chumachenko, Pamela Frank, Krzysztof Węgrzyn and Boris Kuschnir.

He has performed at festivals such as Holland International Music Sessions, Verbier Festival Academy, Kronberg Academy, Bergen International Festival and Glafsjordun Music Festival. In 2015, Christopher was invited to play at the Oslo Chambermusic Festival with Arve Tellefsen in Oscarshall and in 2016 with Pinchas Zukerman in the University Aula.

15 years old, he made his debut with the St. Petersburg State Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Alexander Kantorov. Since then he has played with this orchestra in St. Petersburg's legendary concert halls and performed violin concertos by Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky and Brahms.

In the year 2015, he performed as a soloist with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Moscow Chamber Orchestra and the Minsk State Chamber Orchestra. During the same year, he was a soloist in the Berlin Philharmonic Hall with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, where he performed Sinding Suite in a minor. In 2016, at the Aftenposten New Year's concert in Oslo Concert Hall, he played as a soloist with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra.

Christopher plays on a violin built by G.B. Guadagnini (Milan 1753) kindly on loan by the Anders Sveaas Charitable Foundation.



WONHEE BAE _____

Age: 30 // From: South Korea

Violinist Wonhee Bae is a young international soloist quickly becoming known as one of the most promising artists of her generation. She has performed as soloist with the Russian National Orchestra, Bucharest Philharmonic, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonie der Nationen, the Stanislavski Danchenko Theater Orchestra, Korean Chamber Orchestra, Bergische Symphoniker, and Iasi Philharmonic Orchestra.

She has performed in top concert halls of the world such as the Frankfurt Alte Oper, Philharmonie de Paris, Royal Festival Hall London, the Großer Saal of the Mozarteum in Salzburg as part of Salzburg Festspiele, Baden-Baden

Philharmonie Hall, the Athenaeum Bucharest, and on the Kumho Prodigy Seoul series. Her performances have been heard frequently on radio broadcasts in Europe, Asia, and the United States on WQXR FM in New York, Radio Suisse Romande, SWR, MDR Figaro Rundfunk Germany, ORF in Austria, and WHYY in Philadelphia.

Ms. Bae is a 1st prize winner of the 26th Lipizer International Violin Competition in Italy and a top prize-winner of many other international competitions such as the George Enescu International Competition in Bucharest, the Tchaikovsky International Competition for Young Musicians, the Isang Yun International Violin Competition. In 2012, she won the 'Ocean Classical Award', the world's largest public prize, in a competition of international violinists under the musical direction of Justus Frantz.

An active chamber musician, she has performed internationally with renowned musicians such as Lynn Harrell, Jens Peter Maintz, and Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt in concert halls including the Victoria Hall in Geneva, the Beyeler Foundation in Basel, Royal Academy of Arts in London, and the Smetana Hall in Prague. She has attended prestigious music festivals such as the IMAS festival in Switzerland under Maestro Seiji Ozawa, the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival in Lübeck, Germany, and the Ravinia Festival Steans Institute for Young Artists in Chicago, Illinois.

She is studying with Mihaela Martin at the Cologne Musikhochschule in Konzertexamen.

For the EOIVC Ms. Bae plays on a Guadagnini violin kindly loaned by Florian Leonhard.



AARON CHAN

Age: 20 // From: Hong Kong

Born in Canada in 1997, Aaron Chan grew up in Hong Kong. Although his parents had no experience with music, they arranged violin lessons for their son when he was 5. Deeply intrigued by the sound of the instrument, Chan decided soon after to become a violinist. In 2006, he enrolled in the Junior Department of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA), studying violin and viola – receiving a full scholarship for the latter – under Ray Tsoi, who had studied at the University of Oklahoma under Michael Ma and who also currently teaches at the HKAPA.

Since 2009, Chan has enjoyed an active career, presenting a recital each year and participating in numerous other public performance experiences, including serving as concertmaster of the Asian Youth Orchestra in 2013 and performing with renowned cellist Steven Isserlis. Chan also successfully

participated in several competitions, winning First Prize in the Fourth ASEAN International Concerto Competition (for ages 18-25) and Third Prize in the First Global Youth Music Competition (violin) in Sydney. Chan also participated in the Hong Kong Music Festival competition, earning the top award in both the open strings and chamber music categories.

After completing high school, Chan enrolled in the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he currently studies with Stephen Rose and Jinjoo Cho.

**The bios of these 20 EOIVC Competitors are those that advanced to the Semi Final Round I. These biographies were submitted by the EOIVC Competitors prior to the competition and are displayed as they were submitted.*

BRIAN KWAN YEUNG CHOI

Age: 22 // From: China

Violinist Brian Kwan Yeung Choi is a student of Paul Biss at the New England Conservatory in Boston, where he will graduate with his Bachelors in 2017. He focuses mainly on classical violin repertoire, but his interests extend to chamber music, orchestral playing, and contemporary repertoire, having frequently participated in new music performances. Brian has won numerous prizes, including the Hong Kong Young Musician of the Year First Prize in 2006. He has participated in international competitions including 11th Wieniawski International Violin Competition for young violinists and 6th Tchaikovsky International Youth Violin Competition. He was also the third prize winner of the Bales Violin Competition in Boston in 2015.

Born in Hong Kong, Brian started learning the violin at the age of six. He entered the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) at the age of eight as a preparatory student studying with Kin Fung Leung, and completed the Certificate of Music in HKAPA at the age seventeen. Brian has extensive chamber music experience, studying and playing with renowned artists including Joel Krosnick, Laurie Smukler, Katherine Murdock, Mai Motobuchi, Yeeseun Kim, Natasha Brofsky, Vivian Weilerstein. He has also performed in masterclasses including for members of the Parker String Quartet, the Emerson String Quartet and the Szymanowski String Quartet. He attended the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival 2016.

Brian is currently the concertmaster of the Gustav Mahler Orchestra (Hong Kong). He also has served as the concertmaster of the New England Conservatory Symphony, the Tuesday Night New Music Orchestra, and the Music Lab Orchestra (Hong Kong), and has been a substitute violinist with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra.

HO-HSUAN FENG

Age: 21 // From: Taiwan

Ho-Hsuan Feng was born Kaohsiung, Taiwan. She started piano and violin studies at age four and in 2007, at age eleven, made her violin solo debut with Taipei Orchestra for Traditional Instruments. That same year she became the youngest student at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in München, studying with Prof. Ingolf Turban with whom she performed. In 2010 she transferred to the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler in Berlin to join the violin class of Prof. Kolja Blacher. Having completed a bachelor degree there, she continues at the Hochschule Hanns Eisler in the master's program. Ms. Fen has participated in master classes with Ana Chumachenko, Rudens Turku, Tabea Zimmermann, Zakhar Bron, and Natasha Prishchenko. She has performed with the Youth Münchner Philharmoniker and was the concertmaster of the VBW-Festivalorchester. Before coming to Germany, Ms. Feng won awards at competitions in Taiwan and the Youth Award at the Leopold Mozart Competition in 2012.



LUKE HSU

Age: 26 // From: United States

Violinist Luke Hsu has performed recitals and concerts in North America, South America, Asia, the Pacific, and Europe to critical acclaim in venues such as Carnegie Hall in New York, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., Jordan Hall in Boston, Teatro de Carlo Felice in Genoa, Jones Hall in Houston, and the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas. He has soloed with the Houston Symphony Orchestra, Tongyeong Festival Orchestra, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Odense Philharmonic, Poznan Philharmonic, Amadeus Chamber Orchestra of Polish Radio, and the Victoria Symphony Orchestra among many others. He has worked closely with conductors such as Nikolaj Znaider, Hugh Wolff, Marek Pijowski, and Cristian Macelaru. His performances have been recorded and broadcasted on NPR, CBC and DR including a performance with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra featured on NPR's Performance Today.

Luke is a top prize winner of the XV Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition 2016 in Poznan, where he also received a prize for his interpretation of the Mozart concerti unanimously given by the jury. Other achievements include having been unanimously awarded the 1st prize and the Isang Yun prize at the 12th ISANGYUN International Violin Competition 2014 in South Korea. He is also a top prize winner at the 10th Nielsen International Violin Competition 2016 in Denmark, first prize winner of the Ima Hogg Houston 2016 Symphony Competition, and a laureate of the 2013 Concours Musical International de Montreal. Luke is also an avid chamber musician and is the violinist of the Beacon St. Trio, a piano trio formed in the New England Conservatory. In addition to his piano trio, he has collaborated with artists such as Cho-Liang Lin, Gil Shaham, Marc-Andre Hamelin, Peter Frankl, Colin Carr, and musicians from the New York Philharmonic. Festival appearances include La Jolla SummerFest, YellowBarn Chamber Music, San Miguel de Allende Chamber Music Festival, Aspen Music School and Festival, Perlman Music Program, Tongyeong International Music Festival, the Banff Chamber Music and Masterclass Program, and New York String Orchestra Seminar.

Luke started studying the violin with his mother Yueming Song. Later, he studied with Cho-Liang Lin and Donald Weilerstein. Currently an American Society for the Royal Academy of Music scholar, he attends the Royal Academy of Music in London this fall pursuing the Advanced Diploma, studying with Rodney Friend.



SIRENA HUANG

Age: 22 // From: United States

Praised by *The Baltimore Sun* for her "impeccable technique...deeply expressive phrasing...personality and poetic weight," Sirena Huang made her solo debut with the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra at the age of nine. Since then, she has performed in fifteen countries across three continents, and has been featured as a soloist with more than forty orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Staatskapelle Weimar in Germany, and Russian Symphony Orchestra.

Huang is the First Prize Gold Medalist of the 6th International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians. In 2011, she won First Prize and the Audience Award at the Cooper International Competition. That year, she was also named the first Artist-in-Residence of Hartford Symphony Orchestra.

In 2013, she was awarded the Hannloser Prize for Violin at Verbier Music Festival in Switzerland. More recently, she was awarded Third Prize at the 2015 Singapore International Violin Competition and Third Prize at the 2016 Shanghai Isaac Stern International Violin Competition. *(Continued on next page.)*

Huang has been selected three times as one of ten "Exceptional Young Artists" worldwide at the "Starling-DeLay Symposium for Violin Study" at Juilliard School. In 2006, she received the honor of playing for His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan and thirty Nobel Prize Laureates at the World Peace Conference held in Petra. In 2007, under the invitation of former Czech Republic President Havel, she played in the Opening Ceremony of "Forum 2000 World Conference" in Prague. In 2008, she was invited to perform during the ceremony in which the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity presented its Humanitarian Award to President Sarkozy of France.

She has been featured as a guest artist at the Aspen Music Festival, Eastern Music Festival, Verbier Music Festival, Ravinia Music Festival, Sarasota Arts Series, Albuquerque Chamber Music Festival, "The Great Music for a Great City" series in New York City, and many others.

ARI ISAACMAN-BECK

Age: 31 // From: United States

Ari Isaacman-Beck, of Brighton, Massachusetts, is the founding violinist of Trio Cleonice, formed in 2008 and most recently the Graduate Piano Trio-in-Residence at the New England Conservatory. With the trio, he gave performances across the US and in Europe at venues such as Jordan Hall, the Kennedy Center, and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw; the group premiered and championed the 2nd Piano Trio of Richard Wernick (which was written for Trio Cleonice), as well as the music of other major American composers such as Donald Martino, Arthur Berger, and Elliott Carter. In addition to enjoying the group's busy concert career, Isaacman-Beck won top prizes with the trio at the 2014 Schoenfeld International and Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competitions, and has enjoyed artist residencies at Yellow Barn, Avaloch Farm Music Institute, and Wellesley College.

An accomplished solo violinist, Isaacman-Beck has presented recitals in Boston, New York, and across the Midwest United States. He is the 2016 winner of the Lili Boulanger International Competition, won second prize at the Sion-Valais International Violin Competition, and received the Josie and Elsie Scharff Prize from the Cleveland Institute; at the former, the Swiss newspaper *Le Nouveliste* praised his playing for its "impressive, masterful finesse." Isaacman-Beck's performances have been broadcast on Public Radio in Boston, New York, Cleveland, and Minneapolis. Isaacman-Beck received degrees from the Cleveland Institute, Juilliard, Mannes, and New England Conservatory; his major violin teachers have included Donald Weilerstein, Ronald Copes, Laurie Smukler, Mark Steinberg, David Updegraff, and Mary West. Isaacman-Beck is himself a devoted teacher, and serves on the faculty of Yellow Barn's Young Artists Program. He previously taught at the New England Conservatory of Music's Preparatory Division, The Rivers Conservatory, and Junior Greenwood Music Camp, and has given masterclasses at the Eastman School of Music, Oberlin Conservatory, the University of Hawaii, and Husson College.

"Isaacman-Beck played with enormous soul and a big, vibrant sound."

-The Reading Eagle, December 2015



ALINA MING KOBIALKA

Age: 19 // From: United States

Nineteen-year old violinist Alina Ming Kobialka has performed with many ensembles, both nationally and internationally. At the age of 14, she made her solo debut with the San Francisco Symphony at their 100th Anniversary Reunion Concert in Davies Symphony Hall, and was featured live on the nationally acclaimed radio show NPR's From the Top. Not long after, she took the grand prize at the 2012 Mondavi Center National Young Artists Competition, and made her Mondavi Center debut with the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra. She proceeded to tour with the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra throughout Europe, performing in some of the continent's most prestigious halls and festivals, including the Berlin Philharmonie and Rheingau Musik Festival.

In 2014, Alina made her debuts with the Las Vegas Philharmonic and the Kagawa International Youth Orchestra in Japan. She was also invited back for her second solo appearance with the San Francisco Symphony, and performed with the Macau Youth Symphony for their New Years' Concert. In 2015, she made her debut with the California Symphony, and returned as a guest soloist with the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra, Camellia Symphony, and Symphony Parnassus for their 25th Anniversary Concert.

The San Francisco Classical Voice describes Ms. Kobialka as a "jaw-droppingly assured" soloist, who "made present and future converge." The Las Vegas Review Journal writes, "Watch for her name. She appears to be bound for greatness." She has been featured on the television shows "Vegas Morning Blend" on ABC, and the Macau Morning Show. Alina is an alumna of the San Francisco Conservatory Preparatory Program, and the Colburn Music Academy. Her past teachers include Li Lin, Wei He, Danielle Belen, and Robert Lipsett. She currently studies with Ilya Kaler.

ERZHAN KULIBAEV

Age: 30 // From: Kazakhstan

Erzhan Kulibaev is establishing himself as one of the most exciting and gifted young concert soloists. He won the 2015 S&R Washington Award and is a prize winner at the Wieniawski and Enescu Competitions, and First Prize winner at the Demidovski, Lisbon, Novosibirsk, Hindemith, Buenos-Aires, Manhattan International Musical Competition in New York. He received the prize for the Best Duo at the Lausanne Academy.

Erzhan's recent concert engagements included debuts at Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium in New York, Mariinsky Theater Concert Hall in Saint Petersburg, St. James Church Piccadilly in London, Auditorio Nacional in Madrid, Sony Center in Toronto, Berlin Konzerthaus, "Opera Bastille", Gran Rex Theater in Buenos-Aires, Auditorio de Tenerife. He has performed with orchestras including Poznan Philharmonic, Sinfonia Iuventus Warsaw,

Royal Chambre Wallonie, Amadeus Chamber Orchestra, Sinfónica Tenerife, Castilla y Leon Symphony, Rzeszów Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra of Moscow, St Petersburg Chamber Orchestra, The Symphony Orchestra of Yucatan, The "Astana-Opera" Symphony, Sinfonietta Cracovia, Philharmonia Pomorska, Polish Chamber Orchestra, Kraków Philharmonic, Podlasie Philharmonic Orchestra, Slovak Sinfonietta, Radom Chamber.

He collaborated with Gergiev, Pijarowski, Ashkenazy, Vengerov, Minz, Duczmal, Feddeck, Kiradjiev, Hofstetter, Gintoli, Ihez, Mukhitdinov, Payare, Posada, Rajski, Saul, Strugała, Wojciechowski, and Golan, Lucantoni. *(Continued on next page.)*

He has performed in many festivals: Salzburg Festival, "Chopin and his Europe" and Beethoven Easter Festival, Santander Festival, Kasama Music Festival in Japan, Henryk Wieniawski Festival, LongLake Festival in Lugano and Crans Montana Classics. He toured in Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Greece, Spain, Italy, Kuwait, Latvia, Mexico, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, USA, United Kingdom, France, Switzerland and Japan. He has recorded a CD for Chopin Institute in Warsaw.

Erzhan graduated from Music School of Tchaikovsky Conservatory. Since 2004 studied in the class of Zakhar Bron at Queen Sofia High School of Music. He was rewarded with an Honorary Diploma by the Queen of Spain and performed in the Royal Palace of Pardo. Erzhan is a student of Prof. Pierre Amoyal in Mozarteum University in Salzburg.

After winning a Premio Tango for best interpretation of an argentine tango at the Buenos Aires Competition, Erzhan is making his own arrangements of Piazzolla's music and performs them at concerts.

LI LAO

Age: 29 // From: China



At age of 13, Ms.Lao was invited to perform the Mendelssohn E minor violin concerto as a soloist with the China Beijing Symphony Orchestra at Beijing Concert Hall. After her debut with the orchestra under the artistic director of the Panama Philharmonic, Mr. Jorge Bradley, she has been invited back many times to give concerts. After listening to Ms.Lao's playing, Maestro Gidon Kremer said, "She will become a great violinist. She's got everything a great violinist needs ... a beautiful tone, great technical skills and passion!"

Ms.Lao has concertized to great acclaim all across China, the United States as a recitalist and as a soloist in orchestras including: New York Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra, Beijing Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati College Philharmonic, Starling Artaria Ensemble, and many others, collaborating with Jorge Ledezma Bradley, Xiaoying Zheng, Mark Gibson, Guoyong Zhang on many of the most well-known violin concertos by Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Mozar

and among others. She has appeared on Chinese, American and British national radio and newspaper.

Ms. Lao has won several competitions, including first prize at the Hudson Valley string competition in 2009, first prize at the China Central Conservatory violin competition, and the special prize for "The excellent young contestant" at the China (Qing Dao) International violin competition in 2005. She was also the third prize winner at the China National Violin Art Competition, the National Violin Competition. Ms. Lao has won the full scholarship and has been invited to perform and attend major music festivals throughout the world, including Itzhak Perlman Music Academy, Meadowmount, Salzburg Music Festival and Academy, Moritzburg Music Festival and Academy, Yellow Barn Music festival and Great Wall Music Festival.

Li Lao was born in China. She attended the Attached to the Central Conservatory of Music, where she studied with the Chinese Violin prodigy Prof. Yaoji Lin. After graduated from high school, she won the full Starling scholarship to study at College Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, where she studied with Prof. Kurt Sasmannshaus. Afterwards, she received a full scholarship from New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, United States. She received her Bachelor Master of Music degree under the guidance of Mr. Donald Weilerstein. Currently, Ms.Lao continue discover her musical career under Prof. Zakhar Bron.



JIYEON LEE

Age: 24 // From: South Korea

Born in 1992 in South Korea, Jiyeon comes from a musical family. She started violin at the age of four. She was accepted to the Korean National University of Arts only at the age of fifteen. In 2013, Jiyeon moved to Berlin to continue her study with Prof. Kolja Blacher at Hochschule für Musik 'Hanns Eisler'. Her talent has been proved through numerous prizes and distinctions. In April 2016, Jiyeon became the first prize winner in the Carl Nielsen Violin Competition along with additional 2 special prizes. In previous years, she has won first prize in the Windsor International String Competition in 2015 and David Oistrakh International Violin Competition in 2013. In addition, she has become a laureate of Queen Elisabeth International Competition (2015), Indianapolis violin competition (2014), Sarasate International Violin Competition (2011).

Jiyeon has appeared as a soloist with the Philharmonia Orchestra, Orchestre National de Belgique, Indianapolis symphony orchestra, Odense Symphony Orchestra, Navarra Symphony Orchestra, Orquestra de Camara Galicia, ECCO Ensemble, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra KBS Orchestra and Korean Symphony Orchestra and has collaborated with such many artists as Nikolaj Znaider, Marin Alsop and Jac van Steen to name few.

Not only a soloist but also a devoted chamber musician, Jiyeon regularly takes part in music festivals across Europe including Verbier Festival and Kronberg Academy Festival, and collaborates with many leading musicians of the young generation.

Jiyeon plays on 'Petrus Guarnerius anno 1730 Venedig', kindly on a loan from Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben in Hamburg.



QUANSHUAI LI

Age: 25 // From: China

Quanshuai Li is the recipient of various awards and prizes, including the Cincinnati College of Music's Concerto Competition in 2013, performing Britten's Violin Concerto with the CCM Symphony Orchestra. The following year, Mr. Li received a Maggini violin at the Marteau International Violin Competition in Germany; and he has also been awarded "Outstanding Player" at the 8th National China Violin Competition in 2008 and is winner of The Central Conservatory of Music's Bach Competition in 2012.

Born in Shenyang, China, Mr. Li began violin studies at the age of five. At age twelve, he was admitted to Shenyang Conservatory of Music's middle school program studying with renowned violin professor Yaoji Lin. He received his bachelor's degree from Central Conservatory of Music with Professor Vera Tsu, and has also served as concertmaster for The Central Conservatory of Music's

China Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Li came to the United States in 2013 and obtained his artist diploma from University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music under Professor Kurt Sassmannshaus. He is currently pursuing his master's degree from University of Denver's Lamont School of Music in the studio of Professor Linda Wang; as recipient of the distinguished Newman Fellowship. Mr. Li has been privileged to participate in numerous masterclasses with such acclaimed violinists as Shlomo Mintz, Andrés Cárdenes and Mikhail Kopelman. Upcoming performances include a recital at the Clifford Still Museum in Denver and a chamber music collaboration with Keng-Yuen Tseng, violin professor at Peabody.

CHRISTINE SEOHYUN LIM

Age: 22 // From: United States / South Korea

Currently attending the Curtis Institute of Music, 22- year old Christine has participated in many international festivals, recitals and competitions, including performing with Rzeszow Philharmonic Orchestra in Poland, the South Bohemian Orchestra in Austria and playing at the Aspen Music Festival and School. Korean- born Christine has also won numerous prize including 1st prize at the 12th Kloster Schöntal International Violin Competition in Germany and 2nd prize at the 2009 International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians in Korea. In 2014 3rd prize at the Menuhin Competition. Christine also participated in Verbier Academy and Ravinia.

MAX YIMING MAO

Age: 23 // From: China

Yiming Mao began studying the violin at the age of six in Shenzhen, China studying under the tutelage of Zhifa Sheng and Jie Zhang. During this period, he won competitions in China, including First Prize at the 10th and 11th Guangdong Province Violin Competition in 2005 and 2007, the Gold Award in the 1st Chinese Violin Competition for Chinese Works in 2006, and First Prize in the China Youth Violin Competition in 2007.

In 2007, Mao enrolled at the Shenzhen Arts School to study with violinist Songyang Li. At that time, he attended summer music academies, including International Summer Academy Mozarteum in Salzburg and the Great Wall International Music Academy in Beijing. He also performed frequently in China at prestigious venues, including Shenzhen Concert Hall and Beijing Concert Hall. After high school, Mao traveled to the U.S. to study with Kurt

Sassmannshaus at the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati where he won the CCM Concerto Competition several times and performed the Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1, Glazunov Violin Concerto and Paganini Concerto No.1 with orchestras.

Mao is now pursuing a master's degree at the New England Conservatory of Music, where he is a student of Malcolm Lowe, Concertmaster of Boston Symphony Orchestra.



DONGFANG OUYANG

Age: 26 // From: China

Dongfang Ouyang began playing the violin at age 4 in his hometown of Beijing, China. At age 10, he enrolled in the Lysenko Music School in Kiev, Ukraine, transferring in 2004 to the famed Central Music School in Moscow. In 2009, He moved to the United States to study with Weigang Li and Shumel Ashkenasi at Bard College in New York State, from which he graduated with majors in violin performance and Russian studies.

Ouyang has performed as a soloist in major concerts halls around the world, including the Great Hall in Moscow, Malinsky Theater in Saint Petersburg, National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing Konzerthaus in Berlin, and Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall in New York City. He performed the U.S premiere of Erkki Melartin's Violin Concerto with American Symphony orchestra.

Dongfang Ouyang is currently pursuing a master's degree at the University of Southern California, studying with Glenn Dicterow.



JI WON SONG

Age: 24 // From: South Korea

Seoul native Ji Won Song has performed on stages world-wide and has achieved much international acclaim.

Since her debut at the Kennedy Center at age 12, Ms. Song has been featured as a soloist with many prestigious orchestras, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Montreal Symphony Orchestra, and Munich Radio Orchestra.

Ms. Song has received first prize and audience prize at the Leopold Mozart Competition in Augsburg, first prize and the classical music prize at the China International Violin Competition (Qingdao), first prize and the best Chinese work prize at The Alice & Eleonore Schoenfeld International String Competition, and first prize with the audience prize in The Schadt

Competition. In addition, she was a prize winner at Concours International de Violon Tibor Varga, Carl Nielsen International violin competition, and Yehudi Menuhin International Competition.

Ms. Song began her musical studies at age five and was a student in the pre-college division of the Korean National University of the Arts, where she studied violin with Nam-Yun Kim and Bon-Jiu Koo. Upon moving to the United States, Ms. Song studied violin with David Cerone at the Cleveland Institute of Music. She then began her studies at the Curtis Institute of Music at age 14, where she studied with renowned violinists Ida Kavafian, Shmuel Ashkenasi, and Victor Danchenko, and graduated with Milka/Curtis Violin Artist Prize, given by the Markow Totevy Foundation and the Curtis Institute of Music. Currently, Ms. Song studies with distinguished violinists Donald Weilerstein and Soovin Kim at the New England Conservatory of Music.



ELLY SUH

Age: 27 // From: United States / South Korea

Korean-American violinist Elly Suh was recently named the 1st prize winner of the 2016 Oleh Krysa International Violin Competition in Lviv, Ukraine, as well as a top prize winner in the Premio Paganini International Violin Competition (Italy, 2015), Michael Hill International Violin Competition (New Zealand, 2015), Moscow International David Oistrakh Violin Competition (Russia, 2013), and the Naumburg International Violin Competition (USA, 2012). She has also received awards from the Society for Strings and the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts (YoungArts), and has appeared on PBS's Live from Lincoln Center and NPR's From the Top.

Praised as "a sensitive and absorbing interpreter" (Musical America), Elly has performed at the Pro Arte Musical "Young Virtuosos Series," the Atlantic Music Festival, Banff International Masterclasses, the Chamber Music Workshop

at the Perlman Music Program, the Taos School of Music, and the Meadowmount School of Music. As a founding member of the Northway Quintet, together with the ensemble she received the silver medal at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition in Indiana, USA. Elly regularly performs with the New York Classical Players and the Grammy-nominated Metropolis Ensemble. She has also appeared as a guest artist with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra (ECCO) and the East Coast Contemporary Ensemble, and performed as guest concertmaster with the American Ballet Theatre Orchestra in New York City.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Elly began violin lessons at age five and entered the Juilliard Pre-College Division at the age of ten. She received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from The Juilliard School and a Professional Studies Certificate from the Manhattan School of Music, where her teachers included Robert Mann, Joel Smirnoff, and Sally Thomas. Since 2015 Elly is a Postgraduate Diploma candidate at the Mozarteum University of Salzburg in the class of Professor Pierre Amoyal.



CHIHARU TAKI

Age: 30 // From: Japan

Chiharu Taki is the Winner of Novosibirsk International Violin Competition (Junior division), Winner of Menuhin International Violin Competition, (Junior division), and Third prize of David Oistrakh Violin Competition.

In 2002, at the age of 15, she was chosen to perform as a soloist with the Toho Gakuen Alumni Orchestra under the baton of Seiji Ozawa. In 2004, just 16 years old, she released a solo debut CD using a violin made by Chang Heryern Jin, a well-know violin maker in Japan. While a high school student, she performed with many of major Japanese orchestras. In August 2008, she gave a debut recital with Kazune Shimizu displaying her outstanding technique and musicality. She appeared on several TV programs, one of which includes Lalo's "Symphonie espagnole." This was broadcast in 2009 on NHK's program "Forest of Orchestras."

In 2011, Taki performed with Shota Nakano at Hamarikyū Asahi Hall in Tokyo. Additionally in 2013, they performed a duo recital at Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall and toured Berlin and Rostock in 2015.

Taki continued superb musical activities in Europe. In 2002, she gave a recital in Pitea, Sweden and in 2004 in Novosibirsk, Russia. In 2008, she performed Sibelius violin concerto with Athens Symphony Orchestra conducted by L. Svarovsky in Greece and also Brahms violin concerto with Niderbayerish Symphony Orchestra in Passau, Germany.

She played with Haruko Ueda at Salle Gaveau in Paris in 2010 and formed the piano trio "Gachini" in 2011. In 2012, she received an award in the Jeunesses Musicales Suisse competition and appeared on Radio Swiss Classic. Around the same time, she was invited to be a concertmistress of the Animato Sfritung Orchestra. A most promising student in Switzerland, Taki went on an European tour including Bratislava, Graz, Bern, Berlin, Prague and Wien. In 2014 and 2015, she was invited to the Davos Festival as Davos Camerata's concertmistress.

In November 2015, she performed Bruch violin concerto at the Berliner Philharmonie under the baton Seitaro Ishikawa. Her fantastic talent and elegance have been recognized worldwide and since 2015 she has worked as a Pictet patronage artist of Pictet Asset Management (Japan) Ltd.

She actively addresses a variety of music performance which exemplify her personality and individuality. Chiharu Taki has studied with Reiko Kaminishi, Akiko Tatsumi, and Zakhar Bron. After studying at Toho Gakuen Music High School and Zürcher Hochschule der Künste, she presently studies with Saschko Gawriloff at Academy of Music Hanns Eisler Berlin.



HANNAH TARLEY

Age: 25 // From: United States

American violinist Hannah Tarley began playing the violin at age two. She has since been a soloist with orchestras such as the Academy of Conducting at Aspen Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, Symphony Parnassus, Narva City Symphony Orchestra, Kiev Soloists, and San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. As both a soloist and chamber musician, Hannah has debuted in some of the world's most acclaimed concert halls, including Davies Symphony Hall, Wigmore Hall, Salzburg's Mozarteum, Royal Festival Hall and Leipzig's Gewandhaus. Hannah has worked with numerous conductors including Michael Tilson Thomas, Edwin Outwater and Benjamin Schwartz, and has participated in various festivals, including the Perlman Music Program, Olympic Music Festival, Kronberg Academy Masterclasses, Heifetz International Music Institute, Seiji Ozawa Academy and Aspen Music Festival and School. At age twelve, Hannah was appointed

the youngest concertmaster in the history of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, leading the orchestra on two European Tours. Hannah has taken part in masterclasses/courses with Zakhar Bron, Elmar Oliveira, Mihaela Martin, Midori, Gil Shaham, Christian Tetzlaff, Pinchas Zukerman, Ruggero Ricci, and Daniel Hope. She has performed with leading musicians such as Nobuko Imai, Shlomo Mintz, Mark Kaplan, Itamar Zorman, Ralph Kirshbaum, and Shmuel Ashkenasi. In addition to participating in the prestigious Perlman Music Program Chamber Music Workshop and Winter Residency, Hannah was selected as an Artist-in-Residence for the 2015 Heifetz International Music Institute. She has taken part in various outreach projects for the Perlman Music Program, as well as the Heifetz Institute. A first prize winner of the New York Concerti Sinfonietta's International Shining Stars Competition, Hannah debuted in Carnegie Hall.

Hannah is the Founder and Artistic Director of Notes By The Bay Music Festival, an exciting new children's music program in California. Founded in 2015, the Festival presents a unique platform for kids to be imaginative, create theatrical concerts that feature poetry readings and ensemble playing, as well as perform on stage alongside their artistic mentors.

Previously a full scholarship student at the Colburn School studying with Robert Lipsett, Hannah received her Bachelor's Degree, with First Class Honors, from the Royal College of Music in London under the guidance of Mark Messenger. She is currently working towards a Master's Degree at the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Donald Weilerstein and Catherine Cho.

Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition

Jurors' Biographies*



DANIEL HEIFETZ

Chairman of the Jury

Daniel Heifetz is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Heifetz International Music Institute. In a career spanning over 30 years, Mr. Heifetz has dedicated himself to the art of communication through performance and education.

Mr. Heifetz is renowned on five continents for his extraordinary virtuosity, profound artistry and charismatic stage presence. His numerous appearances include recitals and solo performances with many of the world's leading orchestras including the Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Berlin. His concert tours have taken him throughout North America, Europe, Asia, and Central and South America.

As an educator, Mr. Heifetz has served as professor of violin at three major universities: The Peabody Conservatory of Music of Johns Hopkins University, Carnegie Mellon University, and the University of Maryland College Park. In addition to these positions, Mr. Heifetz has given master classes all over the world.

Mr. Heifetz has been a powerful force on major television and radio programs. CBS devoted a nationwide program to the Art of the Unaccompanied Violin, starring Daniel Heifetz; he appeared on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in a performance of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra; and he was featured on National Public Radio's All Things Considered. He also performed the Brahms Violin Concerto in the documentary *The Mind of Music*, which aired on public television stations across the country.

Mr. Heifetz was a prize-winner in both the Merriweather-Post competition in Washington, D.C. and The International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. An artist who has always possessed a deep social commitment, he stunned the Tchaikovsky Competition officials and Soviet government when he met with Alexander Ginsburg's wife and donated his prize money to the families of jailed dissidents Ginsburg and Scharansky. As a result of this humanitarian gesture, Richard L. Thornburgh, former United States Attorney General and Governor of Pennsylvania, held a state dinner in his honor.

Daniel Heifetz was raised in Southern California and began violin studies at the age of six. At sixteen, Mr. Heifetz became a student of the legendary Efrem Zimbalist at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He was also coached by Jascha Brodsky and, upon Zimbalist's retirement, concluded his studies with renowned pedagogue Ivan Galamian. He made his New York orchestral debut at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center in a performance of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the National Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Heifetz was also mentored at the beginning of his career by both the renowned Polish/Mexican violinist Henryk Szeryng who introduced Heifetz into Europe, and the great Russian violinist David Oistrakh.



ANDRÉS CÁRDENES

Recognized worldwide as a musical phenomenon, Grammy-nominated Andrés Cárdenes parlays his myriad talents into one of classical music's most versatile careers. An intensely passionate and personally charismatic artist, Cuban-born Cárdenes has garnered international acclaim from critics and audiences alike for his compelling performances as a violinist, conductor, violist, chamber musician, concertmaster, and recording artist.

Since capturing Second Prize in the 1982 Tchaikovsky International Violin Competition in Moscow, Mr. Cárdenes has appeared as a soloist on four continents with over 100 orchestras including The Philadelphia Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, St. Louis Symphony, Moscow Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, Helsinki Philharmonic, Shanghai Symphony, Sinfonica Nacional de Caracas, Sinfonica de Barcelona, and the Bavarian Radio Orchestra. He has collaborated with many of the world's greatest

conductors, including Lorin Maazel, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Mariss Jansons, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Sir André Previn, Leonard Slatkin, Jaap van Zweden, David Zinman and Manfred Honeck.

This year and next Mr. Cárdenes continues his project to record many standard and contemporary concerti. Released in 2009 are recordings of concerti by Brahms, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Barber and David Stock on the Artek and Albany labels. A recording of the complete works for violin by Leonardo Balada was released on Naxos in January 2011. The complete Sonatas by both Hindemith and Brahms, along with the Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius Violin Concertos and the complete Schubert Sonatinas and Fantasie are to be released on Artek in the summer and fall of 2015. Plans to record the complete Beethoven violin and piano sonatas with Ian Hobson are slated for 2015/16. Cárdenes's discography includes over two dozen recordings of concerti, sonatas, short works, orchestral and chamber music on the Ocean, Naxos, Albany, Sony, Arabesque, RCA, ProArte, Telarc, Artek, Melodya and Enharmonic labels.

As an ambassador for music of our time, Mr. Cárdenes has commissioned and premiered over 70 works by American, Turkish and Latin American composers such as David Stock, Mike Garson, Erberk Eriylmaz, Leonardo Balada, Ricardo Lorenz, Eduardo Alonso-Crespo, Roberto Sierra, and Marilyn Taft Thomas. His concerto repertoire includes over 100 works, ranging from the Baroque era to the present.

Mr. Cárdenes has thrice served as President of the Jury of the Stradivarius International Violin Competition and in 2011 joined the jury of the Tchaikovsky International Violin Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia.

A Cultural Ambassador for UNICEF from 1980-1991 and an indefatigable spokesperson for the arts, Mr. Cárdenes has received numerous awards for his teaching, performances, recordings and humanitarian efforts, most notably from the Mexican Red Cross and the cities of Los Angeles and Shanghai. He was named Pittsburgh Magazine's 1997 Classical Artist of the Year and received the 2001 "Shalom" Award from Kollell's International Jewish Center and the 2013 Chesed-Kindness Award from the Chabad Foundation for promoting world harmony and peace through music.

Mr. Cárdenes was appointed Concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra by Maestro Lorin Maazel in 1989 and departed after the 2010 season to concentrate on his conducting, solo and chamber music careers.

**These biographies were submitted by the EOIVC Judges prior to the competition and are displayed as they were submitted.*



CHARLES CASTLEMAN

Charles Castleman, perhaps the world's most active performer/pedagogue on the violin, has been soloist with the orchestras of Philadelphia, Boston, Brisbane, Chicago, Hong Kong, Moscow, Mexico City, New York, San Francisco, Seoul and Shanghai. Medalist at Tchaikovsky and Brussels, his Jongen Concerto is included in a Cypres CD set of the 17 best prize-winning performances of the Brussels Concours' 50-year history.

Mr. Castleman was 2nd to record the Ysaye Solo Sonatas complete (for Nonesuch), in a CD made at the time of his unique performance of the set at Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. His other solo CDs include eight HubayCsardases for Violin and Orchestra, and ten Sarasate virtuoso cameos on Music and Arts, Gershwin and

Antheil on MusicMasters, and contemporary violin and harpsichord music for Albany. Selected by the Ford Foundation as one of the sixteen most important Concert Artists under the age of 35, he commissioned the David Amram Concerto, premiering it with Leonard Slatkin and the St. Louis Symphony, recording it for Newport Classic. He is dedicatee of "Lares Hercii" by Pulitzer winner Christopher Rouse.

Charles Castleman has performed at such international festivals as Marlboro, AFCM (Australia), Budapest, Fufekigawa, Montreux, Shanghai, Sheffield, and the Vienna Festwoche. His recitals have been broadcast on NPR, BBC, in Berlin and in Paris.

Professor and former String Department Chair at the Eastman School, Mr Castleman has conducted master-classes in London, Vienna, Helsinki, Kiev, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, Seoul, Tokyo, and all major cities in Australia, Canada and New Zealand. His students have been winners at Brussels, Munich, Naumburg and Szeryng, are in 30 professionally active chamber groups and are 1st desk players in 11 major orchestras. He is founder/director of THE CASTLEMAN QUARTET PROGRAM, in its 45th season, now at S.U.N.Y Fredonia, an intensive workshop in solo and chamber performance. Yo-Yo Ma has praised it as "the best program of its kind...a training ground in lifemanship."

Charles Castleman's long-term chamber music associations have included THE NEW STRING TRIO OF N.Y. with BASF recordings of Reger and Frank Martin and THE RAPHAEL TRIO with CDs of Dvorak, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, and Wolf-Ferrari for NONESUCH, SONY CLASSICAL, DISCOVER, UNICORN, and ASV, and with premieres by Rainer Bischof and Frederic Rzewski for the Vienna Festival and Kennedy Center.

Mr. Castleman earned degrees from Harvard, Curtis, and University of Pennsylvania. His teachers were Emanuel Ondricek (teaching assistant of Sevcik, Ysaye student) and Ivan Galamian, his most influential coaches David Oistrakh, Szeryng, and Gingold. He plays the "Marquis de Champeaux" Stradivarius and "Sammons" Goffriller from 1708, and chooses from over 80 bows.

Mr. Castleman is currently a violin professor at the Frost School of Music at University of Miami.



ALEXANDER GILMAN

“Gilman is a name to watch”, wrote Classic FM Magazin in 2007, and the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung described him as “an artist who identifies profoundly with the work”. Today Alexander Gilman is among the most renowned violinists and teachers, and since 2013 has been artistic director of the LGT Young Soloists.

Alexander Gilman worked with conductors such as Neeme Järvi, Kristjan Järvi, David Zinman, Bernard Haiting, Dan Ettinger, Mario Venzago, Michael Sanderling and Perry So. His chamber-music partners include Maximilian Hornung, Nils Mönkemeyer, Juliane Banse, Matan Orat, Francisco Araiza and Erik Schumann. As a soloist and teacher he is a popular guest at international music festivals.

For his CD recording with the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Perry So with violin concerti by Barber and Korngold, Waxman’s Carmen Fantasy and the theme from the film Schindler’s List by Williams, Alexander Gilman was acclaimed in outstanding reviews. For this recording he received the prestigious Diapason d’Or prize and many other awards.

Alexander’s debut CD on OehmsClassics (2007) with works by J. Brahms, S. Prokofiev, Wieniawski, and S. Foster, recorded with pianist Marina Seltenreich, was awarded enthusiastic reviews by the press. “The Strad” described the CD as superb, other German major magazines like “FonoForum” or “Ensemble” called Alexander’s CD a successful or a fantastic debut.

His concert activities have been documented by a large number of radio, television and concert recordings, including Bavarian Radio, WQXR New York, Rai Italia and NHK Japan

Alexander Gilman’s repertoire encompasses both Baroque and Classical works, as well as romantic and contemporary compositions. The violinist is particularly active in New Music, and has thus participated in numerous premieres of commissions by contemporary composers such as Benedikt Schiefer, Uwe Lohrmann, Matthjis van Dijk and Konstantia Gourzi.

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In recent years, alongside his activities as a soloist, he has been able to establish a position as an internationally recognized teacher. The fact that his students regularly win competitions demonstrates the high quality of his teaching work. In addition to his teaching activities at Swiss music colleges such as the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) and currently the Kalaidos, Alexander Gilman also holds master classes at universities and festivals worldwide, and is in demand as a juror at a variety of international music competitions.

He held master classes at the Summit Music Festival New York, Baptist University Hong Kong, Academy of Fine Arts Singapore, Dubrovnik Festival, University of Cape Town and many more. Before joining the Kalaidos Music College, Alexander Gilman taught as a lecturer at the Amadeus Music Academy in Vienna, where he was also responsible for the entire String Department.

With the founding of the LGT Young Soloist, he has succeeded in creating a unique initiative to promote young talents and to offer them a musical homeland. A unique strings ensemble of highly talented young soloists between the ages of 12 and 22 was created. Within a very short time concerts followed at Gasteig Munich, Mozarteum Salzburg, Shenzhen Concert Hall, at the Taiwan Art Festival, on MS Europa 2, at the inauguration ceremony of the Swiss Federal President Johann Schneider-Ammann, as well as annual tours (Continued on next page.)

through Asia and Europe. Additionally, they performed at the newly opened art and concert hall Arlberg 1800 as Orchestra in Residence in Arlberg, Austria.

In the season 2016/2017, the LGT Young Soloists will open the Liedwochen at Schloss Elmau along with the renowned soprano Juliane Banse and will tour Germany, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Israel. Furthermore, they will perform at Rheingau Music Festival, Tonhalle Zürich, Esplanade Hall in Singapore and many others.

In 2015, the LGT Young Soloists became the first youth orchestra worldwide to release an album on RCA Red Seal (Sony). The Album, named Italian Journey, features works of various, mainly Italian composers, earning excellent reviews and was nominated for the International Classical Music Award (ICMA). The release of their first DVD produced by Bernhard Fleischer Moving Images, is scheduled for February 2017.

Alexander Gilman was born in Bamberg and grew up in a family of musicians. At the age of seven he made his debut at the Gasteig in Munich. From his sixteenth year he worked with the famous violin teacher Dorothy DeLay in New York and attended master classes given by Itzhak Perlman, Aaron Rosand, Ingolf Turban, Igor Ozim, Akiko Tatsumi and Mikhail Kopelman. Alexander Gilman completed his course of study at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne in Zakhar Bron's master class with distinction, and then for his master's degree moved to the Hochschule der Künste in Zurich, where he also graduated with distinction.

Gilman's career has been marked by the award of numerous prizes at international competitions in Europe and the USA. In 2006 he won the WestLB Music Competition. As part of this award, the Stradivari "Ex-Croall" dating from 1684 was made available to him and presented by Frank-Peter Zimmermann, who had previously played this instrument. In 2008, as holder of a bursary from the Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben and multiple prize-winner in the competition of the Deutscher Musikinstrumentenfonds, Alexander Gilman received on loan a violin by Giovanni Battista Guadagnini.

Thomastik-Infeld, the maker of violin strings, chose Alexander Gilman to be a Thomastik-Infeld Artist. He plays a violin made by Ferdinando Gagliano in 1795, an instrument that was kindly placed at his disposal by the Fahrenkamp-Schäffler Foundation.



GUDNY GUDMUNDSDOTTIR

Gudny Gudmundsdottir studied at the Eastman School of Music and Juilliard. From 1974 to 2010 she held the post of first concertmaster of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

For over four decades, she has been Iceland's leading violin teacher and she now leads the violin department of the Iceland Academy of the Arts as well as teaching at the Reykjavik College of Music.

Guðný has given recitals and appeared as a soloist in Iceland, the USA, Mexico, China, Switzerland, Norway, Hong Kong and Puerto Rico amongst others. In Iceland, she premiered some of the major 20th century violin concertos including Stravinsky, Elgar and Britten. Gudny is a frequent guest at festivals and workshops in the Nordic countries, focusing on the development of young talented string players. As teacher, soloist and chamber musician, she has been invited to numerous festivals in the US and in Europe and has taught at universities including Beijing and Houston.

Gudny has received various awards in recognition of her services to music, including the Icelandic Order of the Falcon in 1989 and the DV Culture Award in 1990. Last spring she was awarded the highest honour from the Icelandic Composers Union for her contribution to Icelandic music.



ILYA KALER

Described by London's Gramophone as a "magician, bewitching our ears", Ilya Kaler is one of the most outstanding personalities of the violin today. Ilya Kaler has many awards to his credit and is the only violinist to have won Gold Medals at the Tchaikovsky (1986), Sibelius (1985) and Paganini (1981) Competitions.

The Washington Post lauds him as "a consummate musician, in total control at all times, with a peerless mastery of his violin." Ilya Kaler was born in Moscow, Russia into a family of musicians. Major teachers at the Moscow Central Music School and the Moscow Conservatory include Zinaida Gilels, Leonid Kogan and Victor Tretyakov. Ilya Kaler later continued his studies under the guidance of Abram Stern. Mr. Kaler has earned rave reviews for solo appearances with distinguished orchestras throughout the world, which include the Leningrad, Moscow and Dresden Philharmonic Orchestras, Montreal Symphony, Danish and Berlin Radio Orchestras, Detroit Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Seattle

Symphony, New Japan Philharmonic and Moscow and Zurich Chamber Orchestras, among others. His solo recitals have taken him throughout the former Soviet Union, United States, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, South Africa and Israel.

Mr. Kaler's orchestral career includes guest Concertmaster appearances with San Francisco Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra and Baltimore Symphony, as well as regular tours with the World Orchestra for Peace under the direction of Valery Gergiev. He was concertmaster of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra from 1996-2001. Kaler's recordings of the Paganini Caprices have been deemed by American Record Guide to be "in a class by themselves" combining "the perfection, passion, and phrase sculpting of Michael Rabin with the energy, excitement, and immediacy of Jascha Heifetz." Other highly acclaimed recordings include Sonatas by Schumann and Brahms, concertos by Paganini, Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, Brahms, Schumann, Dvorak, Glazunov, as well as Taneev Suite, Bach sonatas and partitas, to name a few. An active chamber musician, Mr. Kaler has appeared at many major music festivals throughout the US and Europe with many of the most prominent musicians of our time. One of the most sought-after teachers in the world, Ilya Kaler has served as Distinguished Professor at Indiana University School of Music in Bloomington, IN, Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and is currently a Professor of Violin at DePaul University School of Music in Chicago. He lives in Wilmette, IL with his wife Olga and two young sons Daniel and Ariel. Read Ilya Kaler's biography on Ovation Press.



VERA TSU WEI-LING

A renowned violinist of China. Professor and Master tutor of the Central Conservatory in Beijing and Shanghai Conservatory. Jury member of many prestigious competitions worldwide, frequently appeared at panels with the most prominent instrumentalists, such as Oistrakh Jr., Dumay, Mintz, Repin, Vengerov and Spivakov, to name but a few. Vera Tsu Wei-Ling has been continuously invited to the Queen Elizabeth Competition of Belgium (in 2009 and 2012), Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition Poznan (in 2011 and 2016), The XV Tchaikovsky Violin Competition Moscow in 2015, and is invited to be the Co-Chairman of the Jury Committee of Shanghai Isaac Stern International Violin Competition in 2016. By far in China, Ms. Tsu holds the most appearances at the highest level international competitions worldwide. As a soloist, Vera Tsu Wei-Ling has appeared with the orchestras including the New York City Symphony, the New York Symphonic Ensemble, the Charleston Symphony, London Chamber Players, the Orchestra de Cannes, the Budapest Radio Orchestra, the Slovakia Radio Orchestra, the Hanover Symphony

Orchestra, the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Singapore Symphony
(Continued on next page.)

Orchestra, China Philharmonic Orchestra and the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Tsu was invited to give a solo recital at the gala concert of the prestigious Legion d'Honneur at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris in 1993. In October 1998, Tsu was featured as soloist with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra in Berlin and on tour in China. On December 11, 2003, Tsu's solo recital given in the Concert Hall of City Hall in Hong Kong was highly acclaimed by the audience. Tsu has appeared as soloist with world-renowned composer and conductor Krzysztof Penderecki in the performance of the Beethoven violin concerto on January 27, 2005 at the opening season of the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center which marks her achievement. In October 2007, Ms. Tsu' was invited as a distinguished guest by the Women's Forum for the Economy & Society, held in Deauville in the Basse-Normandie region of France, with attendance of government leaders from many countries, to raise the curtain on the forum with her playing. She was the only musician to enjoy such a special honor. On October 18, 2008, Tsu appeared as soloist at the concert "Bernstein Celebration at BMF" at the 11th Beijing Music Festival. Her splendid interpretation of Bernstein's Serenade won great acclaim from critics as well as audiences including Jamie Bernstein. The concert was broadcast on the giant screen in Times Square in New York City and made a sensation. On June 24 2011, Tsu held a very successful solo recital in the Concert Hall of City Hall of Hong Kong.

Tsu's recording of the Korngold and Goldmark violin concerti was warmly acclaimed by the music media: "Tsu's performances come near enough to the top of their respective rosters to earn a very high recommendation," by Fanfare Magazine's reviewer. BBC Music Magazine, meanwhile, proclaimed that Tsu "proves a big-toned player with considerable fire...she plays with character, verve and heart." "Technically and temperamentally, Tsu is an excellent violinist," commented Soundscapes Magazine, Australia, while the Strad launched her "consistently warm-toned and leisurely" performance. Her rendition of the Korngold concerto with the Hong Kong Philharmonic in the 1997/1998 season was also hailed by the Hong Kong Standard as a "world-class performance".

Born in Shanghai, Tsu got in the Central Conservatory in Beijing in 1977, and became the first-generation of college students after the Cultural Revolution. During the distinguished international violin master Isaac Stern's the first visit to China in 1979, as a sophomore, Tsu performed for Mr. Stern and was featured in the overwhelming Oscar-winning documentary From Mao to Mozart: Isaac Stern in China. Tsu went to the USA in 1980, where she continued her study with Dorothy DeLay and Rafael Bronstein, who was then the only living disciple of violin ancestor Leopold Auer. From November 2000, Tsu has been appointed the professor of violin of the Central Conservatory in Beijing. And from the September, 2014, she has been appointed the professor of violin of Shanghai Conservatory. Ms. Tsu has given master class in the U.S, Argentina, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and throughout the mainland China. At the same time she maintains an active career as both a soloist and a chamber musician on music stages in China and abroad.

Thomas McKinley

COMPOSER'S BIOGRAPHY*

Composer Thomas McKinley was commissioned by the Elmar Oliveira International Competition to write an unaccompanied violin work. The work, entitled *Dialogues*, was performed by EOIVC Competitors during the Semi Final Round I portion of the competition.



Thomas L. McKinley is a Professor of Music Theory and Composition at Lynn University where he serves as Curriculum Coordinator, Undergraduate Academic Advisor and Head of Music Theory, History & Composition for the Conservatory of Music. Dr. McKinley's teaching experience spans over two decades and includes positions previously held at Tulane University, the College of the Holy Cross, Tufts University, and the New England Conservatory's Extension Division. He received Ph.D. (1987) and A.M. (1984) degrees in composition from Harvard University and M.M. (1980) and B.M. (1978) degrees, also in composition, from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. His teachers have included Lukas Foss, Norman Dinerstein, Charles Jones, Ivan Tcherepnin, Peter Lieberman, Earl Kim, Leon Kirchner and Sir Peter Maxwell Davies.

Dr. McKinley's compositions have been performed throughout the United States, as well as internationally in Madrid, Spain and Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He has received grants, awards, and commissions from the Georgia Woodwind Quintet/the University of Georgia; the University of Cincinnati; the Wesley Weyman Fund (Boston, MA); ASCAP/Aspen Music School; Harvard University (The Bohemians Prize); the James Pappoutsakis Memorial Fund, Inc.; the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities (Extension Works); Mare Reese (trumpet, Empire Brass); Lynn University (composer-in-residence, 6th Annual New Music Festival); and the Florida State Music Teachers Association (2014 Commissioned Composer). Dr. McKinley's *Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet* have been recorded on CD by the Georgia Woodwind Quintet. He was one of the founding members of the Boston-based performing group Extension Works and served as its secretary/treasurer for five years. In October of 1986, he was invited to have works played and be a guest performer (piano) at the 62nd State Convention of the Kentucky Federation of Music Clubs.

In addition to his work as a composer and teacher, Dr. McKinley has pursued research in music theory and analysis. His principal areas of interest are chromaticism in the Common-Practice Period and tonality in Twentieth-century Music. He has completed a study titled *Dominant-Related Chromatic Third Progressions: a Reappraisal of Third Relationship in the Common-Practice Period, including a system of Classification*. In recent years he has broadened his research interests to include the interdisciplinary study of the visual arts and music. Together with art historian Olivia Shelley, Dr. McKinley has given a series of lectures and seminars throughout south Florida on a variety of topics.

*This biography was submitted to the EOIVC prior to the competition and is displayed as it was submitted.

Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition — Preliminary Committee* —



DAVID CERONE

David Cerone, Mus.D, served as President of The Cleveland Institute of Music from 1985 to 2008. He served on the faculty of the Oberlin College-Conservatory of Music for nine years. He founded the Cleveland Chamber Music Seminar in 1974, and in 1981, accepted the position of Chairman of the Violin Department at The Curtis Institute of Music. In 1985, with his wife, violinist Linda Sharon Cerone, he co-founded the ENCORE School for Strings in Hudson, Ohio.

He made his Cleveland Orchestra solo debut in 1987 with maestro Christoph von Dohnányi, conductor, and in October 1987, he world-premiered Donald Erb's *View of Space and Time* for violin and chamber ensemble.

He was awarded the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Case Western Reserve University, in 2009 and received the 2011 Cleveland Arts Prize and the Lifetime Achievement Award in Music.

Dr. Cerone has served on the jury panel of numerous national and international violin competitions, including the Paganini, Lipizer, Sion, Thibaud, Qingdao and, most recently, the Shanghai Isaac Stern International Violin Competition.

LINDA CERONE

is a Professor Emerita at the Cleveland Institute of Music where she served as Professor of Conservatory Violin for 34 years as well as being Artistic Director of the Preparatory Violin Department. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music where she was a student of Ivan

Galamian. She has appeared both in recital and as soloist with orchestras throughout the U.S. and served on the faculty of the New School in Philadelphia and the Meadowmount School of Music in New York State. She was a co-founder of the ENCORE School for Strings, where she co-directed and taught for 24 years. A participant in the St. Barts Music Festival, Mrs. Cerone has served as adjudicator and on the advisory boards of several national and international competitions.

DANIEL JORDAN

Violinist, Daniel Jordan, is the concertmaster of the Sarasota Orchestra and the Assistant Principal 2nd violinist of the Santa Fe Opera orchestra. He was formerly the Assistant Principal 1st violinist of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra in Kuala Lumpur, and a member of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach. He has played as concertmaster of the Waterbury (Connecticut) Symphony, Spoleto (Charleston) Festival, and Erie Philharmonic, and served in the sections of the St. Louis Symphony, Naples Philharmonic, and Florida Orchestra. Previous to his tenure in Santa Fe, summers have been spent as a member of the Sun Valley (Idaho) Summer Symphony, Assistant Concertmaster of the Colorado Music Festival, and Concertmaster of the National Repertory Orchestra. He has also twice returned to lead the New World Symphony as concertmaster in alumni concerts. Recent summer credits include performances with the Sarasota Music Festival and Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. Daniel received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music as a student of Donald Weilerstein and David Updegraff. Prior to that he was a student at the Harid Conservatory and Interlochen Arts Academy.

*These biographies were submitted by the EOIVC Preliminary Committee prior to the competition and are displayed as they were submitted.

Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition — Accompanists' Biographies* —

JUN CHO

Pianist Jun Cho has appeared as both solo and chamber musician at major New York venues including Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, and Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center. Mr. Cho has also performed as concerto soloist with the orchestras of Rice University, The Juilliard School and The Mannes School. Prior to living in New York, Jun Cho received numerous awards in his native Korea, including first prize at the Korea Times and Samick competitions. In addition, he has appeared as a competitor in several international competitions including the Honens, Leeds, and Iowa competitions.

An avid collaborator, Mr. Cho has performed with renowned musicians including Kathleen Winkler, Toby Appel, and Yutta Puchhammer. He has given extensive collaborative performances at the Aspen Music Festival and the Sejong Music Festival, and was recently appointed to the Collaborative Piano Faculty of the Heifetz Institute.

Jun Cho received his Bachelor's and Master's of Music degrees at The Juilliard School as a student of Julian Martin and Choong-Mo Kang. He is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in the studio of Professor Jon Kimura Parker.

ROBERT KOENIG

Pianist Robert Koenig has established a reputation as a much sought-after collaborative pianist and chamber musician. He performs regularly in major centers throughout the world with many of this generation's most renowned musicians. Recent engagements have included performances at Carnegie Hall in New York, The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, The Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, The Louvre Museum in Paris, and Royal Festival Hall in London. He has performed with many of today's leading artists including Sarah Chang, Hilary Hahn, Pamela Frank, Augustin Hadelich, Zuill Bailey, Sara Sant'Ambrogio, Roberto Diaz, Elmar Oliveira, Aaron Rosand, The Miro String Quartet, and The St. Lawrence String Quartet.

Mr. Koenig has appeared at many festivals including Aspen, Ravinia, Banff, Saratoga, Caramoor, the Seattle Chamber Music Festival, the El Paso Pro
(Continued on next page.)

*These biographies were submitted by the EOIVC Accompanists prior to the competition and are displayed as they were submitted.

Musica, Chamber Music Northwest, West Branch International Festival and Academy, the Campos do Jordao Festival in Brazil, and the Mostly Mozart Festival in New York. He is frequently heard on radio and television including ABC's "Good Morning America" and CBS "This Morning". Mr. Koenig was staff pianist at both The Juilliard School and The Curtis Institute of Music, and from 2000-2007 he served as Professor of Piano and Piano Chamber Music at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. With the assistance of the University of Kansas Center for Research, Mr. Koenig commissioned renowned American Composer Lowell Liebermann to write a new trio for flute, cello and piano. In the fall of 2007, he assumed the position as Professor and Head of The Collaborative Piano Program at The University of California Santa Barbara. Mr. Koenig has recorded for Artek, Ambassador, Biddulph, Cedille, CRI, Decca, Eroica, and Naxos. His CD of transcriptions for viola and piano by William Primrose on Naxos with violist Roberto Diaz was nominated for "Best Instrumental Soloist Performance (without orchestra)" at the 49th Annual Grammy Awards.

Born in Saskatchewan, Robert Koenig began his formal training at the Vancouver Academy of Music with Lee KumSing and Gwen Thompson and later studied at the Banff School of Fine Arts and the Academie Musicale di Chigiana in Siena, Italy. During this time he received several awards from the Canadian Government including a Canada Council Project Grant. He completed both his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Accompanying at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where he studied with Dr. Vladimir Sokoloff and chamber music with Felix Galimir and Karen Tuttle.



SHENG-YUAN KUAN

Pianist Sheng-Yuan Kuan has performed at the Kennedy Center, Weill Recital Hall, Taiwan National Concert Hall, and Musikverein in Vienna. She has been a featured artist at the Heifetz International Music Institute, KUAF/Fulbright Summer Chamber Music Festival, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Chamber Music by Candlelight series, Artscape Baltimore, the Sylvia Adalman Chamber Concert Series at Peabody Conservatory, Broward100, and various south Florida public library concert series.

Ms. Kuan has collaborated with famed musicians such as Nobuko Imai, Stefan Jackiw, Stephen Taylor, Espen Lilleslatten, Richard Stolzman, Keng-Yuen Tseng, Chad Hoopes, Sir Angel Romero, Time for Three, and members of the Borromeo, Parker Quartets and Apollo Trio. She also made appearances at music festivals such as Bowdoin, Aria, Sarasota, Yellow Barn, Gijon Piano Festival and Norfolk Summer Music Festival. Tim Smith of the Baltimore Sun praised Ms. Kuan as "(having) admirable technical finesse and expressive flair at the piano."

Ms. Kuan has obtained awards at competitions worldwide, including the 13th Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna (Best Female Pianist Award, 2009), the 12th Taipei Chopin International Piano Competition (3rd Prize, 2008), Corpus Christi International Competition in Texas (2nd Prize, 2008), New York Kosciuszko Chopin Piano Competition (3rd Prize, 2003), and BYU-Hawaii Concerto Competition (Winner, 2000). She was also the recipient of Honolulu Morning Music Club Scholarship, Peabody Institute of Music's Career Development Grant, Chamber Music Award and Accompanying Assistantship.

Currently serving as staff collaborative pianist and affiliated faculty at Lynn University, Ms. Kuan is also a member of South Florida Chamber Ensemble, Scherzo Trio, and Femina Camera Trio. She holds degrees from the Yale School of Music and the Manhattan School of Music. She is a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Peabody Conservatory under the guidance of Professor Boris Slutsky. Her teachers have included Peter Frankl, Scott McCarrey and Constance Keene.

LAURA GARRITSON PARKER



Laura Garrison Parker is Assistant Professor of Music at Principia College in Illinois where she teaches music classes, piano and violin lessons, coaches chamber music, and accompanies. As well as teaching, Mrs. Parker has made solo and concerto appearances in over ten countries. In the United States, she has performed in venues such as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York and The Sheldon in St. Louis, and abroad, she has been a featured soloist in the Liszt Festival in Brazil and the International Arts Festival in Venezuela. She has performed with orchestras in Poland and Bulgaria and with several in the States, including The Hartford Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to performing, Laura has been a prizewinner in many competitions including the Emerson String Quartet Competition at The Hartt School and the Artist Presentation Society Competition in St. Louis. She has also appeared on the jury for several competitions such as the Marie Stillwell Young Artist Competition in

Illinois, as well as the Sigma Alpha Iota Young Artist Competition.

In 2005, Laura and fellow Yale musicians completed a recording project at Yale University consisting of the complete songs by Charles Ives which has been released on the Naxos label. Other recordings include compositions by Steven Gryc, released on the Centaur label, as well as “Our Favorite Chopin,” a collection of works by Chopin performed by members of her family. (*Continued on next page.*)

Laura holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from The Hartt School and an Artist Diploma from Yale University. Her piano teachers include Luiz de Moura Castro, Boris Berman, Jane Allen, and Laura Schindler.

DAN SATO



Dan Sato has been lauded for his “exuberant spontaneity, deep conviction, and serious compositional understanding.” Driven by an one-track mind for pianistic growth, he continually enjoys his many blessings as a recitalist, collaborator, scholar, and teacher. Dan’s most recent endeavors have included performances of virtuoso piano transcriptions by Franz Liszt and Leopold Godowsky, major works of the chamber music repertoire (as a resident Young Artist of the 2015 Manchester Music Festival), and the Florida premiere of György Ligeti’s *Mysteries of the Macabre* with soprano, Dr. Jennifer Voigt. In the fall, he will give the world premiere performance of Vincenzo Maltempo’s solo piano transcription of Ravel’s *Second Suite* from *Daphnis et Chloé*. As a passionate collaborator, Dan has been the pianist of the *Fishy Five Quintet* and the *Trio Comique*, and played with guest artists and students at the 2016 Castleman Quartet Program and Southeast Asia Music Festival.

Among his many influences, Dan’s primary teachers and mentors have been Peter Coraggio, Frank Heneghan, André Watts, Judith Burganger, and Kevin Kenner. He recently completed his doctoral thesis titled, “An Introduction to Akira Yuyama and his *Confessions* with a Discussion of its Pedagogical Effectiveness” and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Miami. At home, he is happiest when he is cooking, reading, or jumping rope.



Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition Finals

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2017 AT 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2017 AT 4:00 P.M.

KEITH C. & ELAINE JOHNSON WOLD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION FINALS
LYNN PHILHARMONIA

GUILLERMO FIGUEROA, CONDUCTOR

Soloists to be Determined*

TCHAIKOVSKY

VIOLIN CONCERTO IN D MAJOR, OP. 35

SIBELIUS

VIOLIN CONCERTO IN D MINOR, OP. 47

**Soloists will be selected from the Semi Final Round II and will perform one of the two listed concertos at the final concerts. The winners of the Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition will be chosen from the finalists and awards will be given in a ceremony following the final performance on Sunday, February 5.*

Competition Finals - Concert 1

Guillermo Figueroa, conductor

Saturday, February 4 – 7:30 p.m.
Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold
Performing Arts Center

Le Corsair Overture, H101

Hector Berlioz
(1803-1869)

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47

Jean Sibelius
(1865-1957)

Allegro moderato
Adagio di molto
Allegro, ma non tanto

Hannah Tarley, violin

INTERMISSION

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47

Jean Sibelius
(1865-1957)

Allegro moderato
Adagio di molto
Allegro, ma non tanto

Quanshuai Li, violin

Please silence or turn off all electronic devices, including
cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms.

Unauthorized recording or photography is strictly prohibited.

Competition Finals - Concert 2

Guillermo Figueroa, conductor

Sunday, February 5 – 4 p.m.
Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold
Performing Arts Center

Le Corsair Overture, H101

Hector Berlioz
(1803-1869)

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)

Allegro moderato
Canzonetta: Andante
Finale: Allegro vivacissimo

Sirena Huang, violin

INTERMISSION

Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47

Jean Sibelius
(1865-1957)

Allegro moderato
Adagio di molto
Allegro, ma non tanto

Alina Kobialka, violin

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Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition — Staff and Board of Directors —

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Guillermo Figueroa

CONDUCTOR'S BIOGRAPHY*

Guillermo Figueroa is the recently appointed Principal Conductor of the Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra. He is also the Music Director of the Music in the Mountains Festival in Colorado and Music Director of the Lynn Philharmonia in Florida. As Founder and Music Director, he created the acclaimed Figueroa Music and Arts Project in Albuquerque. Additionally, he was the Music Director of both the New Mexico Symphony and the Puerto Rico Symphony. With this last orchestra, he performed to critical acclaim at Carnegie Hall in 2003, the Kennedy Center in 2004 and Spain in 2005.

International appearances include the Toronto Symphony, Iceland Symphony, the Baltic Philharmonic in Poland, Orquesta del Teatro Argentino in La Plata, Xalapa (Mexico), the Orquesta de Cordoba in Spain and the Orquesta Sinfonica de Chile. In the US he has appeared with the symphony orchestras of Detroit, New Jersey, Memphis, Phoenix, Colorado, Tucson, Santa Fe, Fairfax, San Jose, Juilliard Orchestra and the New York City Ballet at Lincoln Center.

Mr. Figueroa has collaborated with many of the leading artists of our time, including Itzhak Perlman, YoYo Ma, Hilary Hahn, Plácido Domingo, Joshua Bell, Olga Kern, Janos Starker, James Galway, Midori, Horacio Gutierrez, the Emerson and Fine Arts String Quartets, Ben Hepner, Rachel Barton Pine, Pepe and Angel Romero, Elmar Oliveira, Vadim Gluzman and Philippe Quint.

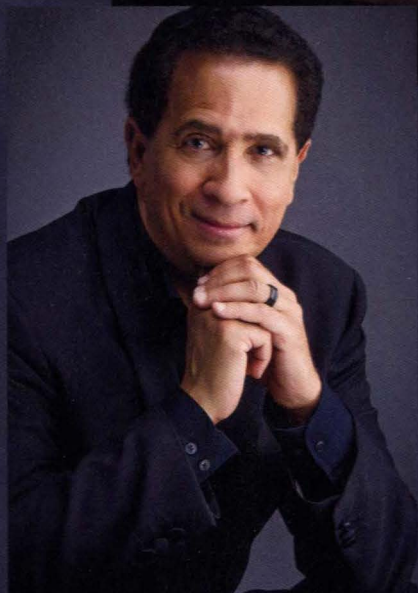
Mr. Figueroa has conducted the premieres of works by important composers, such as Roberto Sierra, Ernesto Cordero and Miguel del Aguila. An advocate for new music, Mr. Figueroa and the NMSO won an Award for Adventurous Programming from the League of American Orchestras in 2007.

A renowned violinist as well, his recording of Ernesto Cordero's violin concertos for the Naxos label received a Latin Grammy nomination in 2012. Figueroa was Concertmaster of the New York City Ballet, and a Founding Member and Concertmaster of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, making over fifty recordings for Deutsche Grammophon. Also accomplished on the viola, Figueroa performs frequently as guest of the Fine Arts, American, Amernet and Orion string quartets.

Figueroa has given the world premieres of four violin concertos written for him: in 1995 the Concertino by Mario Davidovsky, at Carnegie Hall with Orpheus; in 2007 the Double Concerto by Harold Farberman, with the American Symphony at Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center; in 2008 the Violin Concerto by Miguel del Aguila, commissioned by Figueroa and the NMSO and in 2009 *Insula, Suite Concertante*, by Ernesto Cordero with the Solisti di Zagreb in Zagreb.

He has appeared at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Music in the Vineyards in California, Festival Groba in Spain and Music from Angel Fire. Figueroa has recorded the Three Violin Sonatas by Bartok for the Eroica Classical label, with pianist Robert Koenig, and an album of virtuoso violin music by for the NMSO label, with pianist Ivonne Figueroa.

Mr. Figueroa studied with his father and uncle at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico. At the Juilliard School his teachers were Oscar Shumsky and Felix Galimir. His conducting studies were with Harold Farberman in New York.



LYNN PHILHARMONIA

The Lynn University Philharmonia sets the standard for conservatory level symphonic training. Now in its 23rd season, the Philharmonia continues to present high-quality concerts with a wide range of repertoire. The Philharmonia is directed by Maestro Guillermo Figueroa. The Philharmonia was first formed in 1991 as the Harid String Orchestra. It became a full symphony orchestra in 1993. In 1999 Lynn University took over the operations of the music division of the Harid Conservatory forming the Lynn University Conservatory of Music. As an integral part of the education of the conservatory's graduate and undergraduate music students, the Philharmonia offers superior training through the preparation and performance of orchestral repertoire and numerous public performances per year. It has presented several new works throughout its history, and has always been enthusiastically received by the public and the press.

**These biographies was submitted to the EOVC prior to the competition and is displayed as it was submitted.*



The EOIVC would like to recognize the following individuals and corporations for their support of the Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition:

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Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition — Awards —

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\$15,000

Provided by:
Elmar Oliveira

3rd Prize

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Honorable Mention

\$1,000

In Memory of Violinist
Christopher Buck, given by:
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Composer's Award

\$250

Provided by: Elmar Oliveira

Awarded to the EOIVC Competitor who best performed the
EOIVC-commissioned work *Dialogues* by Composer Thomas McKinley,
Professor of Music Theory and Composition at Lynn University.

Conductor's Choice Award

PERFORMANCES WITH:

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The Savannah Philharmonic Orchestra and the Jackson Symphony
Orchestra are proud to support the EOIVC by offering The
Conductor's Prize, which will be awarded to one of the EOIVC Finalists.



Inaugural Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition

Mission

THE ELMAR OLIVEIRA INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION (EOIVC) WAS ESTABLISHED BY CELEBRATED VIOLINIST, ELMAR OLIVEIRA, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LYNN UNIVERSITY CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC IN BOCA RATON, FLORIDA, AND TAKES PLACE ONCE EVERY THREE YEARS. WINNERS WILL BE CHOSEN THROUGH AN INTENSIVE FOUR-STEP PROCESS, BEGINNING WITH AN ONLINE SUBMISSION AND CULMINATING IN TWO FINAL PERFORMANCES.

The mission of the EOIVC is to provide talented violinists, ages 16-32, who are at the start of their careers, with networking, management, public relations, and concert opportunities in addition to a monetary prize. These long-term career development tools—reaching well beyond financial support—actively demonstrate the strong dedication of the EOIVC to cultivating and nurturing developing musicians.

The EOIVC's 2017 judging panel hails from China, Germany, Iceland, Russia, and the United States, and each are deeply committed to the development of young musicians. The 2017 judges are Andrés Cárdenes, Charles Castleman, Alexander Gilman, Gudny Gudmundsdottir, Daniel Heifetz (Chairman of the Jury), Ilya Kaler and Vera Tsu Wei-Ling.

20 competitors were chosen to compete in the inaugural 2017 Elmar Oliveira International Violin Competition. They were selected from more than 80 applicants from 16 countries. The 20 competitors who advanced to compete in the Semi Final Round Part I of the EOIVC range in ages 19-31 and come from eight countries—Norway, South Korea, Hong Kong, China, United States, Kazakhstan, Taiwan and Japan.

The closing concerts for the inaugural EOIVC will take place on February 4 and 5, 2017, in the Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center on the campus of Lynn University, and are open to the public. Music Director and Conductor Guillermo Figueroa will lead the Lynn Philharmonia and the competition finalists in these performances. An awards ceremony, following the final concert, will be held to announce the winners.

For more information, please visit the EOIVC website at

WWW.ELMAROLIVEIRAIVC.ORG.



Join Team EOIVC!

THE EOIVC OFFERS INDIVIDUALS, COMPANIES AND FOUNDATIONS NOT ONLY AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT THE CAREER OF A YOUNG VIOLINIST, BUT TO MAKE A LASTING INVESTMENT IN THE WORLD OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES.

To find out more about the competition or to offer your financial support, please contact:

JILL ARBETTER

Phone: 561-909-7261

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The EOIVC is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



(Continuation from pg 17)

"Each member of Team EOIVC has not only been selected because they are at the top of their field, but because they share in the belief that having career support is an absolute must in today's market," comments Elmar Oliveira. "I was very careful when I selected who would manage and adjudicate the first competition. Beyond having heralded professional careers, each one has displayed a passion for artistic sustainability in young performers."

This statement is very true. Just looking at the EOIVC list of judges— Charles Castleman, Andrés Cárdenes, Alexander Gilman, Gudny Gudmundsdóttir, Daniel Heifetz (Chairman of the Jury), Ilya Kaler and Vera Tsu Wei-Ling—and its preliminary committee—David Cerone, Linda Cerone and Daniel Jordan—one can see that not only is each a critically acclaimed performer, but also a respected teacher or the head of an institution that shares Elmar's vision for supporting and training the next generation of young violinists.

"Our panel of judges, led by Daniel Heifetz, is truly remarkable and I honestly can't think of a better panel," said Elmar Oliveira. "The wealth of knowledge that each one brings to the table is extraordinary. To have them all under the direction of Daniel Heifetz, our Chairman of the Jury, who founded the Heifetz International Music Institute over a decade ago and has dedicated himself to preparing and sculpting young violinists for a successful future in the arts, truly embodies all that the EOIVC stands for."

The international nature of the EOIVC is honest. Not only does its panel hail from five countries, but its competitors come from an additional six, making the total of 11 different countries being represented.

"We are beyond thrilled with the international diversity that is being represented in our inaugural EOIVC," says Jill Arbetter. "To have so many countries coming together under one roof will really be an incredible experience for everyone involved."

In addition to the international representation, the EOIVC has drawn young performers who are at the top of their game. The EOIVC received submissions from over 80 applicants from more than 15 countries. Many of the EOIVC Competitors, who are competing from January 22-February 5, 2017, have already appeared at international festivals, have been presented in concert at some of the world's leading venues or are past prize winners of other competitions.

"While our overall mission is to help a young developing violinist with their career path, many of our competitors have great accomplishments already on their resumes," says Jill Arbetter. "However the reality is that in order to be considered a competitor you must play well. This being said, we specifically did not ask for background information until after the preliminary committee had already made their choices. We wanted the quality of the playing to be at the core of how their decisions were made."

In addition to the monetary prize, the EOIVC will be offering its winner a violin case as well as a new violin and bow. These are three items that every violinist cherishes. The new violin will be donated, designed and crafted by celebrated violin makers Andrew Ryan, Feng Jiang, John Young and Jeffrey Phillips. Reuning & Son have donated a coveted Musafia case and bow maker Eric Lane is donating a Silver-mounted violin bow. These prizes are collectively worth over \$35,000. Nothing to sneeze at.

“I have been truly blessed in my career to become dear friends with many of my colleagues, all of whom are considered leaders in their fields,” said Elmar Oliveira. “The excitement and willingness to support this competition and my legacy really is overwhelming. To be able to offer such a high quality violin, bow and case, truly leaves me speechless. I honestly can’t express my gratitude in words. The winner of the EOIVC is a very lucky violinist to have such craftsmanship at their fingertips.”

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(Left Page)
Elmar Oliveira with EOIVC
Accompanist Jun Cho.

(Right Page)
Elmar Oliveira at the
Launch of the EOIVC.

A man with glasses, wearing a white shirt and a dark apron, is shown in profile, working on a bow in a workshop. The background is filled with rows of bows hanging on a wall. The entire scene is overlaid with a dark blue, semi-transparent filter.

I AM HONORED TO BE
INVOLVED IN THIS
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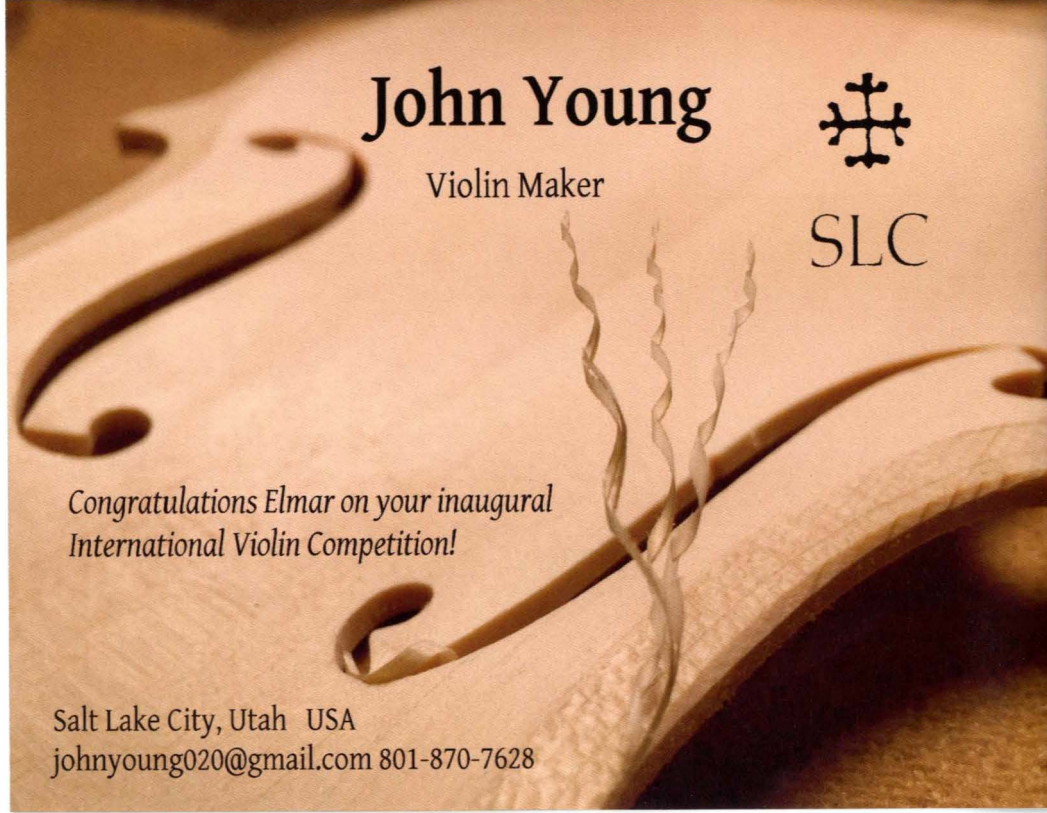
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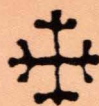


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- MENDELSSOHN Overture to *The Fair Melusina*, op. 32
- TAO Concerto for Piano (World Premiere of 2017 Rappaport Prize)
- DVOŘÁK Symphony no. 9 in E Minor, op. 95 "From the New World"

HEART & SOUL | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 7:30PM

- FAURÉ *Pelléas et Mélisande Suite*, op. 80
- BRAHMS Concerto for Violin and Cello in A Minor, op. 102
- MOZART Symphony no. 41 in C Major, K. 551, "Jupiter"

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A woman with long brown hair, wearing a blue sleeveless dress with a black belt, is sitting on a black chair. She is holding a violin and looking towards the camera. The background is dark and moody.

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Photos from left to right: Wendy Warner, featured soloist, cello; Guillermo Figueroa, conductor; Tessa Lark, guest artist, violin; Performance at the Glacier Club; Festival Orchestra at the Festival Tent, Purgatory Resort and Elmar Oliveira, guest soloist, violin

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Jon Robertson

Artist Faculty

Woodwinds

Jeffrey Khaner, flute
Joseph Robinson, oboe
Jon Manasse, clarinet
Eric Van der Veer Varner,
bassoon

Brass

Marc Reese, trumpet
Gregory Miller, French horn
Dan Satterwhite, trombone
Kenneth Amis, tuba

Piano

Roberta Rust

Instrumental

Collaborative Piano
Lisa Leonard

Strings

Elmar Oliveira, violin
Carol Cole, violin
Guillermo Figueroa, violin
Ralph Fielding, viola
David Cole, cello
Timothy Cobb, double bass

Harp

Deborah Fleisher

Percussion

Edward Atkatz

Composition

Thomas McKinley

Lynn Philharmonia

Guillermo Figueroa,
music director and conductor

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Best wishes and good luck!

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