

2012 ARTISTS

Angela Yoffe, piano/executive director, North Shore Chamber Music Festival



Admired for her outstanding musicianship, extraordinary sensitivity and virtuosity, pianist Angela Yoffe has performed in the concert halls of United States, Europe, Japan and Canada. As a chamber musician and recitalist, Ms. Yoffe has performed in New York, Washington, Chicago, San Francisco, London, Berlin, Paris, Geneva, Rome and Tokyo. Ms. Yoffe was born in Riga, Latvia into a family of highly respected musicians. Before emigrating to Israel she studied with Faina Bulavko and Ilze Graubin and later with Victor Derevianko in Tel-Aviv. Angela continued her studies in the US with Joaquin Achucarro at the Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She was a piano assistant in the violin studio of Ms. Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School in New York, where she studied chamber music with Jonathan Feldman. Her collaboration with violinist Vadim Gluzman has taken her to the festivals in Verbier and Lockenhaus, Festival de Radio France, Colmar, MIDEM Festival, Ravinia Festival, Pablo Casals, the Schwetzingen Festspiele and the Bantry Festival in West Cork, Ireland. She has also appeared with the Seattle Symphony, the Omaha Symphony, SWR Stuttgart Radio Orchestra and with New York's Jupiter Symphony under the batons of Andrey Boreyko, Gerard Schwarz, Victor Yampolsky and the legendary Jens Nygaard. Further ahead, Ms. Yoffe plans feature performances of Lera Auerbach's *24 Preludes for Violin and Piano* to celebrate John Neumeier's 40th anniversary at the Hamburg Ballet. The world premiere recording of *Preludes* (composed for Mr. Gluzman and Ms. Yoffe) was released on BIS Records to rave reviews, as well as their other albums: *Time... and Again*, *Ballet for a Lonely Violinist* and *'Fireworks'*.

Vadim Gluzman, violin/artistic director, North Shore Chamber Music Festival



One of the most extraordinary artists before the public today, Israeli violinist Vadim Gluzman, in technique and sensibility, harkens back to the Golden Age of violinists of the 19th and 20th centuries, while possessing the passion and energy of the 21st century. Lauded by both critics and audiences as a performer of great depth, virtuosity and technical brilliance, he has appeared throughout the world as a soloist and in a duo setting with his wife, pianist Angela Yoffe. Vadim Gluzman appears regularly with such major orchestras as the London Symphony, London Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Israel Philharmonic, San Francisco and Vancouver symphony orchestras, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and Munich, Dresden and Czech Philharmonic Orchestras, to name a few. He has collaborated with the world's most prominent conductors, among them Neeme Järvi, Marek Janowski, Peter Oundjian, Paavo Järvi, and Yan Pascal Tortelier. A highly acclaimed recording artist, Vadim's recordings are released exclusively on BIS Records. His latest recording, an all-Bruch CD, recorded with the Bergen Philharmonic and conductor Andrew Litton, features the renowned *Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26*, the violin version of *Romance in F Major, Op. 85* and the *String Quintet in A Minor*. Mr. Gluzman plays the extraordinary 1690 ex-Leopold Auer Stradivari, on extended loan to him through the generosity of the Stradivari Society of Chicago.

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Pacifica Quartet

Simin Ganatra, violin; Sibbi Bernhardsson, violin; Masumi Per Rostad, viola; Brandon Vamos, cello



Named Musical America's 2009 Ensemble of the Year, the Grammy-winning Pacifica Quartet has received international acclaim as one of the finest chamber ensembles performing today. Recent career honors include appointment as quartet-in-residence at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, the position held for 43 years by the Guarneri String Quartet. In 2009 the Pacifica was named Ensemble of the Year by Musical America and received the 2009 Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music Performance. Recognized for its virtuosity, exuberant performance style, and often daring repertory choices, the Pacifica Quartet tours extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia and performs in the world's major concert halls. An ardent advocate of contemporary music, the Pacifica Quartet commissions and performs many new works each year. Formed in 1994, the ensemble has won chamber music's top competitions, including the 1998 Naumburg Chamber Music Award and the 2006 Avery Fisher Career Grant. In 2002 the ensemble was honored with Chamber Music America's Cleveland Quartet Award and appointment to The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's program for gifted young musicians. The members of the Pacifica Quartet live in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, where they were appointed to the faculty of the University of Illinois in 2004 and serve as Faculty Quartet in Residence. In addition the Pacifica Quartet members also serve as resident performing artists at the University of Chicago and the Longy School of Music in Boston.

Simin Ganatra (violin) has won wide recognition for her performances throughout the United States and abroad. Described by critics as an "excellent and unique violinist" and heralded for "creating a miraculous sense of flow and otherworldly beauty," she has performed in such prestigious venues as Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, the Corcoran Gallery, and Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall. Collaborations include performances with Michael Tree, Toby Hoffman, and the St. Lawrence Quartet. She is the recipient of many awards and prizes, including the Naumburg Chamber Music Award and a Grammy Award. She is currently on the faculty of the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana, and the University of Chicago.

Sibbi Bernhardsson (violin) began playing violin at the age of five in his native Iceland. Sibbi has performed at festivals including the Edinburgh Festival, Ravinia, Music@Menlo, and the Iceland Art Festival. With the Pacifica Quartet he has received several honors including the Grammy Award, the Musical America Ensemble of the Year, and the Avery Fisher Career Grant. Collaborations include those with Menahem Pressler, Yo-Yo Ma, Jörg Widman, the Emerson Quartet, and members of the Guarneri and Cleveland Quartets. Sibbi lives in Champaign, IL, with his wife Sally Takada Bernhardsson, and is on the faculty at the University of Illinois and is artist-in-residence at the University of Chicago.

Japanese-Norwegian violist **Masumi Per Rostad** has been described as an expressive and elegant musician. He gave the New York premiere of Paul Schoenfield's Viola Concerto with the Juilliard Symphony; The New York Times described it as "magnificently performed," and New York Magazine heralded him as "headed for the big career." Collaborative highlights include performances with the St Lawrence and Emerson Quartets, Yo-Yo Ma, and Menahem Pressler. Masumi is a founder of DoCha (www.DoCha.org), a collaborative effort among University of Illinois community members to experiment with new ways to present chamber music. Masumi lives with his wife, Milena, in Champaign, Illinois, where he is a professor of viola at the University of Illinois School of Music. He is also on the faculty of the University of Chicago.

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Brandon Vamos (cello) has performed solo and chamber music recitals both in the U.S. and abroad to critical acclaim. Called a "first-rate cellist" by the *Chicago Reader* and praised for his "gutsy bravura" by the *Chicago Tribune*, Mr. Vamos has appeared as soloist with orchestras worldwide, and has collaborated with many distinguished artists, including Paul Katz, Michael Tree, Yo-Yo Ma, Menahem Pressler, and the Emerson Quartet. Awarded a Performer's Certificate at the Eastman School of Music, where he earned a Bachelor's of Music Degree as a student of Paul Katz, Mr. Vamos has also studied with distinguished artists such as Tanya Carey in Macomb, Illinois, and Aldo Parisot at Yale University, where he earned a Master of Music Degree.

Alexander Fiterstein, clarinet



Clarinetist Alexander Fiterstein is recognized for playing which combines flawless technique and consummate musicianship with graceful phrasing and a warm soulful tone. Considered one of today's most exceptional clarinet players, he has performed in recital and with prestigious orchestras and chamber music ensembles throughout the world. As a soloist, Mr. Fiterstein has appeared with the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Lincoln Center, Danish National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony, Tokyo Philharmonic, China National Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Chamber Orchestra, and the Polish Chamber Philharmonic, among others. A dedicated performer of chamber music, Mr. Fiterstein was a member of the prestigious Chamber Music Society II of Lincoln Center (2004-2006), and participated in the Marlboro Music Festival for four summers. Festival credits include Germany's Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Festival, Holland's Storioni Festival, and the Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival. Mr. Fiterstein was born in Belarus. At the age of two, he immigrated with his family to Israel where he later studied at the Israel Arts and Science Academy. He graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy and the Juilliard School, and his teachers included Charles Neidich and Eli Heifetz. Mr. Fiterstein is a recipient of numerous awards, including a 2009 Avery Fisher Career Grant. Mr. Fiterstein is the clarinet professor at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

Mark Kosower, cello



One of the outstanding cellists of his generation, Mark Kosower has earned an international reputation among musicians and critics alike for his extraordinary instrumental mastery, musical integrity, and highly communicative powers. As a soloist, Mr. Kosower has appeared with numerous national symphony orchestras, including Houston, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minnesota, Oregon, and Seattle, and internationally with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, China National Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan, Orchestre de Paris, and the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra, among others. Among his numerous recital credits are the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Washington D.C.'s National Gallery of Art, Paris's Théâtre du Châtelet, Frankfurt's Alte Oper, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Rio de Janeiro's Teatro Municipal and New York's Avery Fisher Hall. He has recorded for Naxos, Ambitus, Delos, and VAI. The recipient of a prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant and a SONY Grant, Mr. Kosower has won top honors at such competitions as the Rostropovich and Pablo Casals International Cello competitions, the Irving Klein International String Competition and the WAMSO Competition of the Minnesota Orchestra. In addition to his activities as a soloist, Mr. Kosower was named principal cello of the Cleveland Orchestra by Franz Welser-Möst in 2009. He is also a teacher of cello at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Previous positions include that of solo cellist of the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra in Germany (2006-2010) Mr. Kosower began his cello studies with his father and later studied with Janos Starker at Indiana University and Joel Krosnick at the Juilliard School.

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Adam Neimann, piano



American pianist Adam Neiman is hailed as one of the premiere pianists of his generation, praised for possessing a truly rare blend of power, bravura, imagination, sensitivity, and technical precision. With an established international career and an encyclopedic repertoire that spans nearly sixty concerti, Neiman has performed as soloist with the symphony orchestras of Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Minnesota, Saint Louis, San Francisco and Utah, as well as with the New York Chamber Symphony and the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington D.C. He has collaborated with many of the world's celebrated conductors. As a highly acclaimed recitalist, Mr. Neiman has performed in most of the major cities and concert halls throughout the United States and Canada. His European solo engagements have brought him to Italy, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Japan. Recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant, Adam Neiman has recorded two discs for Naxos: a critically-acclaimed recording of solo piano works by Arensky and the world premiere of Jennifer Higdon's *Piano Trio*, live from the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival. His diverse discography includes three major commercial releases for VAI: a two-disc set of Mozart's early keyboard concertos with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, a two-disc set entitled "*Adam Neiman Live in Recital*," proclaimed "Critic's Choice" for 2007 and 2008 by the American Record Guide, and a DVD entitled "*Adam Neiman: Chopin Recital*."

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Hyunah Yu, soprano



A rising star in the operatic world, soprano Hyunah Yu has enjoyed collaborations with many orchestras and ensembles, including the Bournemouth, Seattle, Baltimore and Milwaukee Symphonies, the Rotterdam and Seoul Philharmonics, the Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Concerto Koln, Salzburg Camerata, Boston Baroque, Sejong Soloists and Yale Cello, to name a few. Among her festival credits are the Marlboro Music and Chamber Music Northwest festivals, LCCMF, and the Great Mountain International Music Festival. She has worked with such conductors as Valery Gergiev, Semyon Bychkov, Myung Whun Chung, and David Zinman, among others. An avid chamber musician and a recitalist, Ms. Yu has enjoyed re-engagements with the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Baltimore's Shriver Hall Concert Series, Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, the Vancouver Recital Society, and the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC, to name a few. Ms. Yu has sung world premieres of many pieces specifically written for her. Most recently she sang the Symphony of Meditations by Aaron Jay Kernis with the Seattle Symphony under Gerard Schwarz. A career highlight of note is singing the title role in Mozart's *Zaide* in New York, London and Vienna directed by Peter Sellars and conducted by Louis Langrée. An American citizen, Hyunah Yu received an Artist Diploma from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and holds a degree in Molecular Biology from the University of Texas at Austin. She is a prizewinner of the Walter Naumburg International Competition, and a recipient of the coveted Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award.

Olga Kaler, violin



Olga Dubossarskaya Kaler has established herself as a versatile musician, combining solo, chamber music and teaching careers with equal success and touring three continents as a soloist, chamber musician and an orchestra member. She joined the violin faculty of the DePaul University School of Music in 2004 and currently serves as Associate Professor of Violin. Olga Kaler holds a Doctor of Music degree from the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, and degrees from the New England Conservatory and the Moscow State Conservatory. Major teachers include Almita Vamos, Nelli Shkolnikova, Benjamin Mordkovich, James Buswell and Sergei Kravtchenko. Dr. Kaler has numerous awards to her credit, such as the Special Prize at the Rodolfo Lipitz Competition, 1st Prizes at the North-western University Beinen School of Music Concerto Competition and Thaviu Competition. Olga Kaler has held titled positions at the Rochester Philharmonic and Syracuse Symphony and has performed with the Chicago, Boston and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras. Currently she is a member of the World Orchestra for Peace under the direction of Valery Gergiev, and the Chautauqua Symphony. She has appeared as a soloist, chamber, and orchestral musician and educator at the Skaneateles Music Festival, Montreal Chamber Music Festival, Steamboat Springs Chamber Music Festival, Athens Music Festival in Greece, and the Villa Musica and Schleswig-Holstein Festivals in Germany. Dr. Kaler lives in Wilmette, IL, with her husband, Ilya Kaler, and two sons, Daniel and Ariel.

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Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt, viola *Haag/Galvin Young Artist*



A rising star in the violin world, musician Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt's resume points to a successful future. In addition to appearances as soloist with the Tokyo Philharmonic, the Jacksonville Symphony, and the Sphinx Chamber Orchestra, she has performed in recitals and chamber music concerts throughout the United States, Latin America, and Europe, including a recent acclaimed 2011 debut recital at London's Wigmore Hall. Summer music festival experience includes Marlboro, Bowdoin, Santa Fe, Sarasota, Strings, Bravo! Vail Valley, and La Jolla Summerfest, as well as Italy's Emilia Romagna Festival. Among the conductors with whom she has worked are Seiji Ozawa, Christoph Eschenbach, Alan Gilbert, Charles Dutoit, and Otto-Werner Mueller. First Prize winner of the 2010 Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition, Ms. Pajaro-van de Stadt is also a winner of the Gold Medal and Grand Prize in the 2010 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition. Her competition awards also include prizes at the 2009 Tokyo International Viola Competition in 2009, and the 2006 Sphinx Competition, Junior Division. A violin student of Sergiu Schwartz and Melissa Pierson-Barrett for several years, she began studying viola with Michael Klotz at the Bowdoin International Music Festival in 2005. Ms. Pajaro-van de Stadt graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Roberto Diaz, Michael Tree, Misha Amory, and Joseph de Pasquale. Currently, Ms. Pajaro-van de Stadt is enrolled in the Masters in String Quartet Program at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music as a member of The Old City String Quartet.

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