



Curtis on Tour May 2019

Curtis on Tour, die von Nina von Maltzahn ins Leben gerufene
globale Tournee-Initiative des Curtis Institute of Music

ARTISTS

Claire Bourg, violin
Roberto Díaz, viola
Sydney Lee, cello
Daniel Hsu, piano

PROGRAM

Subject to change

Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Op. 15
Allegro molto moderato
Scherzo: Allegro vivo
Adagio
Allegro molto

Gabriel Fauré
(1845–1924)

Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Op. 25
Allegro
Intermezzo: Allegro ma non troppo
Andante con moto
Rondo alla Zingarese: Presto

Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

PERFORMANCES

Saturday, 18 May 2019, 8 p.m. – **Bremen** (Die Glocke, Kleiner Saal; presenter: Philharmonische Gesellschaft Bremen)

Thursday, 23 May 2019, 7:30 p.m. – **Munich** (Allerheiligen-Hofkirche; presented by the Schwarz Foundation)

Saturday, 25 May 2019, 12 noon – **Warsaw** (Daniel Hsu performs a 45-60 min. piano recital at Chopin's birthplace, Żelazowa Wola)

Saturday, 25 May 2019, 7:30 p.m. – **Warsaw** (Fryderyk Chopin University of Music, Concert Hall)



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Claire Bourg, violin

Claire Bourg, from Chicago, entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2017 and studies violin with Pamela Frank and Arnold Steinhardt. All students at Curtis receive merit-based, full-tuition scholarships, and Ms. Bourg is the Bernard M. Guth Fellow.

Ms. Bourg has been a featured soloist with several orchestras performing in such venues as Orchestra Hall and the Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park, both in Chicago. As the winner of the New England Conservatory's concerto competition, she recently debuted at Jordan Hall performing with the NEC Chamber Orchestra. She is a laureate of many competitions and has appeared on NPR's From the Top and Introductions on WFMT radio in Chicago.

An avid chamber musician, Ms. Bourg has collaborated in performances with Kim Kashkashian and Frans Helmerson, among others. She has attended the Ravinia Festival's Steans Music Institute, the Taos School of Music, and the Gstaad Menuhin Festival Academy. She is a founding member of Eureka, a Boston-based chamber orchestra centered on community outreach and introducing new audiences to classical music in non-traditional settings.

Ms. Bourg holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the New England Conservatory, where she was a student of Miriam Fried. She has participated in master classes with the Takacs Quartet, James Ehnes, and Vadim Gluzman and has received chamber music coaching from Paul Biss, Laurence Lesser, and Natasha Brofsky, among others. She has also participated in the IMS Prussia Cove master classes for two years under the tutelage of Gerhard Schulz. Ms. Bourg began violin lessons at age five.

Roberto Díaz, viola

A violist of international reputation, Roberto Díaz is president and CEO of the Curtis Institute of Music, following in the footsteps of renowned soloist/directors such as Josef Hofmann, Efrem Zimbalist, and Rudolf Serkin.

As a soloist, Mr. Díaz collaborates with leading conductors of our time on stages throughout the world. He has also worked directly with important 20th- and 21st-century composers, including Krzysztof Penderecki—whose viola concerto he has performed numerous times with the composer on the podium and whose double concerto he premiered in the United States—as well as Edison Denisov, Jennifer Higdon, Ricardo Lorenz, and Roberto Sierra. His recording of Jennifer Higdon's Viola Concerto won the Grammy for Best Contemporary Classical Composition in 2018.

A frequent recitalist, Mr. Díaz enjoys collaborating with young musicians, bringing a fresh approach to the repertoire and providing invaluable opportunities to artists at the beginning of their careers.



In addition to performing with major string quartets and pianists in chamber music series and festivals worldwide, he is a member of the Díaz Trio. His recordings include a Grammy-nominated disc of viola transcriptions by William Primrose for Naxos, as well as releases on the Artek, Bridge Records, Dorian, Nimbus, and New World labels.

In addition to his decade-long tenure as principal viola of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Mr. Díaz was also principal viola of the National Symphony under Mstislav Rostropovich, and was a member of the Boston Symphony and the Minnesota Orchestra. He is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and the Curtis Institute of Music, where he continues to serve on the faculty, holding the James and Betty Matarese Chair in Viola Studies and the Nina von Maltzahn President's Chair. Mr. Díaz plays the ex-Primrose Amati viola.

Daniel Hsu, piano

Daniel Hsu, from Fremont, Calif., entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2008 and studies with Gary Graffman and Robert McDonald. All students at Curtis receive merit-based, full-tuition scholarships, and Mr. Hsu is the Richard A. Doran Fellow.

In 2017, Mr. Hsu captured the bronze medal and prizes for best performance of both the commissioned work and chamber music at the Fifteenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Also a 2016 Gilmore Young Artist, first-prize winner of the 2015 CAG Victor Elmaleh Competition, and bronze medalist of the 2015 Hamamatsu International Piano Competition, he is increasingly recognized for his easy virtuosity and bold musicianship. At age eight, Mr. Hsu became the youngest-ever first-place winner of the San Francisco Chopin Competition. He made his orchestral debut at the age of nine, performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the El Camino Youth Symphony.

In the 2017–18 season, Mr. Hsu released his first solo album by Decca Gold and made recital and concerto tours across the United States. Recent highlights include his Philadelphia Orchestra debut in 2016 and his Carnegie Hall debut in 2017 as part of the CAG Winners Series at Weill Recital Hall. Mr. Hsu has also appeared in recital at the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, and the Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, as well as in concerts in Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York. He has collaborated with Symphonia Boca Raton and the Tokyo, Grand Rapids, New Haven, Roswell, Quad City, and Fort Worth symphony orchestras, working with conductors Leonard Slatkin, Nicholas McGegan, and Marcelo Lehninger. At the 2017 Van Cliburn Competition, Mr. Hsu's chamber music performance with the Brentano String Quartet earned him the Steven de Groote Memorial Award for the Best Performance of Chamber Music. He has also toured the United States with the Verona String Quartet.



Mr. Hsu's brother and sister, Andrew and Ashley Hsu, are Curtis alumni. In his spare time, he is a Marvel film buff and enjoys long walks and programming. He has contributed to the creation of Workflow, a popular productivity app that allows users to automate tasks on iPhone, iPad, and Apple Watch. A recipient of the coveted 2015 Apple Design Award, Workflow was acquired by Apple in March 2017.

Sydney Lee, cello

Sydney Lee, from Oakland, N.J., entered the Curtis Institute of Music in 2015 and studies with Carter Brey, principal cello of the New York Philharmonic, and Peter Wiley, former cellist of the Guarneri Quartet. All students at Curtis receive merit-based, full-tuition scholarships, and Ms. Lee is the Emily W. Sunstein Annual Fellow.

Ms. Lee has appeared as a soloist with the Duquesne, Juilliard Pre-College, Monmouth, and Pittsburgh symphonies; the New Jersey Philharmonic; and Ensemble 212. Ms. Lee was a scholar at the International Music Academy in Liechtenstein in December 2017 and February 2019, and was participated in the Kronberg Academy Cello Master Classes in 2018. In 2015, she was a National YoungArts finalist and was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts by the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars.

Ms. Lee has been featured on Croatian TV Istra and NPR's From the Top, as well as From the Top's first animated music video, "Passacaglia Powerhouse Sibling Duo," alongside her brother, cellist Noah Lee. She has attended the Aspen Music Festival and School, the Meadowmount School of Music; the Morningside Music Bridge program, the MusicAlp International Music Academy, the Sejong International Music Festival; the Sommerliche Musikakademie Wohldorf-Ohlstedt in Hamburg, and Les Rencontres Musicales Internationales en Wallonie in Belgium.

Among her many awards are first prizes in the Antonio Janigro International Cello Competition and the Monmouth Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition.

Ms. Lee is regional director of the Philadelphia chapter of the "Back to Bach Project," a national initiative encouraging young schoolchildren to learn musical instruments.