



# MSM STRING CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

## VIOLIN 1

**Adelya Nartadjieva**  
*Tashkent, Uzbekistan*

**Shiqi Luo**  
*Shanghai, China*

**Ji Su Kang**  
*Seoul, Korea*

## VIOLIN 2

**Luxi Wang**  
*Sichuan, China*

**Adryan Rojas**  
*Ohio, Delaware*

## VIOLA

**Leah Glick**  
*Jerusalem, Israel*

**Ella Bukszpan**  
*Givatayim, Israel*

## CELLO

**Rachel Lin**  
*San Jose, California*

**Thomas Readett**  
*Mystic, Connecticut*

## DOUBLE BASS

**Dylan Holly**  
*Tucson, Arizona*

**Jakob Messinetti**  
*New York, New York*

## HARP

**Abigail Bachelor**  
*Hilliard, Ohio*

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### George Manahan, Conductor

George Manahan is in his 11th season as Director of Orchestral Activities at Manhattan School of Music, as well as Music Director of the American Composers Orchestra and the Portland Opera. He served as Music Director of the New York City Opera for 14 seasons and was hailed for his leadership of the orchestra. He was also Music Director of the Richmond Symphony (VA) for 12 seasons. Recipient of Columbia University's Ditson Conductor's Award, Mr. Manahan was also honored by the American Society of Composers and Publishers (ASCAP) for his "career-long advocacy for American composers and the music of our time." His Carnegie Hall performance of Samuel Barber's *Antony and Cleopatra* was hailed by audiences and critics alike. "The fervent and sensitive performance that Mr. Manahan presided over made the best case for this opera that I have ever encountered," said the *New York Times*.

Mr. Manahan's guest appearances include the Orchestra of St. Luke's, Atlanta, San Francisco, Hollywood Bowl, and New Jersey, where he served as acting Music Director for four seasons. He has been a regular guest with the Curtis Institute and the Aspen Music Festival and has appeared with the opera companies of Seattle, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Chicago, Santa Fe, Paris, Sydney, Bologna, St. Louis, the Bergen Festival (Norway), and the Casals Festival (Puerto Rico). His many appearances on television include productions of *La bohème*, *Lizzie Borden*, and *Tosca* on PBS. The Live from Lincoln Center telecast of New York City Opera's production of *Madama Butterfly*, under his direction, won a 2007 Emmy Award.

George Manahan's wide-ranging recording activities include the premiere recording of Steve Reich's *Tehillim* for ECM; recordings of Edward Thomas's *Desire Under the Elms*, which was nominated for a Grammy; Joe Jackson's *Will Power*; and Tobias Picker's *Emmeline*. He has conducted numerous world premieres, including Charles Wuorinen's *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, David Lang's *Modern Painters*, Hans Werner Henze's *The English Cat*, Tobias Picker's *Dolores Claiborne*, and Terence Blanchard's *Champion*.

He received his formal musical training at Manhattan School of Music, studying conducting with Anton Coppola and George Schick, and was appointed to the faculty of the school upon his graduation, at which time the Juilliard School awarded him a fellowship as Assistant Conductor with the American Opera Center. Mr. Manahan was chosen as the Exxon Arts Endowment Conductor of the New Jersey Symphony the same year he made his opera debut with the Santa Fe Opera, conducting the American premiere of Arnold Schoenberg's *Von Heute auf Morgen*.

### Abigail Bachelor, harp

Abigail Bachelor is currently in her first year of graduate studies at Manhattan School of Music, studying with Mariko Anraku, Associate Principal Harpist of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. Now 22, Abigail began her harp studies at age 7 at the Ohio State University School of Music. She placed fourth in the Junior Division of the 18th American Harp Society National Competition in 2009, and fifth in the Intermediate I Division of the 19th AHS Competition in 2011. After placing fifth in 2010, in 2012 she placed second in the Young Artist International Harp Competition. A Gold Cup winner in the National Federation of Music Clubs Competition, she has received numerous first-place awards in local competitions, including those held by the Columbus Symphony, Columbus Women in Music, and Columbus Music Teachers Association.

Abigail was selected to perform at the 11th World Harp Congress in Vancouver, Canada in 2011 in a Focus on Youth concert. She toured with the American Youth Harp Touring Ensemble from 2011 to 2012 and was honored to play with them at the White House, Carnegie Hall, and the U. S. State House. She was a guest “Stars of Tomorrow” performer at the USA International Harp Competition in 2013 and in 2015 performed in the Student Showcase for the Lyon and Healy Summer Concert Series in Chicago. In 2018, she performed with the ProMusica Chamber Orchestra for their Summer Music Series, and with the Toronto based Vox Choirs in December. In 2019, Abigail performed with the Royal Conservatory Orchestra and Opera department in a performance of Jonathan Dove’s *Siren Song*. In February 2020, she performed with the Royal Conservatory Orchestra in the Canadian premiere of Zakir Hussain’s tabla concerto *Peshkar*, as part of the 21C Music Festival.

Abigail served for three years as Principal Harpist of the Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestra and of the New Albany Symphony Orchestra and played for four years with the Ohio State University Wind Symphony and Orchestra. She graduated in May 2020 with honors from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada, where she was under the tutelage of Judy Loman.

## ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its more than 960 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from more than 50 countries and nearly all 50 states; its innovative curricula and world-renowned artist-teacher faculty that includes musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, and the top ranks of the jazz and Broadway communities; and a distinguished community of accomplished, award-winning alumni working at the highest levels of the musical, educational, cultural, and professional worlds.

The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing doctoral studies. Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees. True to MSM’s origins as a music school for children, the Precollege program continues to offer superior music instruction to 475 young musicians between the ages of 5 and 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

### Your gift helps a young artist reach for the stars!

To enable Manhattan School of Music to continue educating and inspiring generations of talented students and audiences alike, please consider making a charitable contribution today.

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