

M Manhattan
School of Music

***A Tribute to
Phillip Kewin***

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 | 3 PM
NEIDORFF-KARPATI HALL

We continue to be deeply saddened by the passing of Phillip Kawin — alumnus, long-time faculty member, accomplished pianist, cherished colleague.

In 2018, I was pleased and honored to bestow the President’s Medal for Distinguished Service upon Phil, whose dedication and love of this institution was incomparable. The foundation of Phil’s devotion to Manhattan School of Music was surely due in part to his pianistic legacy, which was linked to the very earliest days of the School: Phil had studied with one of our first graduates, Dora Zaslavsky Koch (Diploma ’24, HonDMA ’86) who in turn had studied with MSM Founder Janet Daniels Schenck and with Harold Bauer, an initial member of the School’s Artist Auxiliary Board. Phil carried this heritage forward through his unfailing commitment to the multitude of his own students, who have become successful soloists, professors, and prizewinners of prestigious competitions. Phil’s dedication was so complete that he bequeathed a substantial amount for student scholarships in his estate planning, a selfless gesture for which we are all additionally grateful.

Apart from his career at this institution, Phil’s generosity as an artist-teacher was recognized the world over (as you can explore in detail further in this program) — giving classes each year from New Jersey to Australia, from Italy to China. A distinguished performer, his live appearances and commercial recordings were met with critical acclaim. Of Phil’s recent recording with Gerard Schwarz conducting the Russian National Orchestra, a critic for *Fanfare* magazine raved: “Recordings of Beethoven’s Third Concerto are almost as numerous as Carl Sagan’s ‘billions and billions of stars,’ but Kawin’s shines among them as one of the brighter ones in the firmament.” Another lauded his “graceful and generous performance... grounded and focused... He makes one tasteful, sensitive choice after another.” One observed that “he has a clear, large-scale sense of the structure of the music he plays, of the emotional arrival and departure points, and of the direction needed to reach them.”

The above quotes ring true as well for the wonderful experience that Provost Griggs and I had during Phil’s extended tenure as leader of MSM’s Faculty Council; he always took the extraordinarily balanced position of what was best for the individual faculty members and what was best for MSM overall, which was rare wisdom indeed.

Phillip Kawin enriched the lives of so many, and his lasting impact will continue to be felt for decades to come, at MSM and by all those who have known him. He is sorely missed.



James Gandre, President



Joyce Griggs, Provost



Phillip Kawin

(1956–2021)

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A Tribute to Phillip Kewin

PROGRAM

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN String Quartet No. 13 in B-flat Major, Op. 130
(1770–1827) *v. Cavatina. Adagio molto espressivo*

American String Quartet*
Manhattan School of Music Artists in Residence
Peter Winograd and Laurie Carney, violin
Daniel Avshalomov, viola
Wolfram Koessel, cello

Welcome **Joyce Griggs**, Provost

Remarks and Remembrances **Laurie Carney**, Violin Faculty*
Marc Silverman (MM '77, DMA '83),
Faculty and Piano Chair Emeritus*

GABRIEL FAURÉ Violin Sonata in A Major, Op. 13
(1845–1924) *II. Andante*

Lucie Robert, violin*
Jeffrey Cohen, piano*

Remarks and Remembrances **John Perry**

Video of Former Students

GEORGE GERSHWIN
(1898–1937)

I Loves You Porgy

Ted Rosenthal (BM '81, MM '83), piano*

Remarks and Remembrances **Joyce Griggs**

Efrem Brisken, Precollege Piano Faculty*

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN
(1810–1849)

Nocturne No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 9

Vladimir Feltsman, piano

Remarks and Remembrances **James Gandre**, President

Cho-Liang Lin

W. A. MOZART

Sonata for Piano and Violin in E Minor, K.304

II. *Tempo di Menuetto*

Cho-Liang Lin, violin

Yefim Bronfman (HonDMA '22), piano

Phillip Kawin (BM '82, MM '85)

Beloved teacher and pianist Phillip Kawin was a Manhattan School of Music alumnus and long-time faculty member, honored by the School with the President's Medal for Distinguished Service in 2018. A much sought-after artist teacher, Phillip Kawin developed a highly individual pedagogical approach, presenting the principles of technique and musicianship in a detailed analytical approach, yet not ignoring the intuitive aspect of music making. Mr. Kawin studied with Jules Gentil at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, with Howard Aibel in New York City, and later with Dora Zaslavsky Koch (Diploma '24, HonDMA '86) (who had studied with Backhaus and Bauer) at Manhattan School of Music, earning a Bachelor of Music degree in 1982 and a Master of Music in 1985. Appointed to the College faculty of Manhattan School of Music in 1989, Phillip Kawin worked with a select studio of advanced, gifted pupils from diverse corners of the globe.

Mr. Kawin's students have won top honors in the Young Concert Artists Auditions as well as in the Martha Argerich International, Jacob Flier International, World Piano, Kosciuszko, Thelonious Monk International (jazz piano), Melilla in Spain, Heida Hermanns, Soulima Stravinsky International, Josef Hofmann, Mieczyslaw Munz, Leschetizky, and Long-Thibaud Crespin International competitions. Phillip Kawin was in constant demand at international conferences and festivals, having given his renowned lectures and insightful master classes in Russia, Hong Kong, Israel, China, Korea, Taiwan, the U.S., and throughout Australia. He was in residence for more than 20 years at the International Festival-Institute PianoSummer at New Paltz and taught regularly at the Summit Music Festival, the International Academy of Music in

Castelnuovo di Garfagnana, Italy, and the Beijing International Music Festival & Academy. He was a guest adjudicator for such competitions as the Beethoven International Piano Competition Vienna, Bösendorfer (four times), USASU International Piano Competition, Sydney International, Van Cliburn Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs, and the Tchaikovsky International Competition for Young Musicians. He is featured on five DVDs for Excellence in Music, Inc., recorded live at the World Piano Pedagogy Conferences.

Phillip Kawin received critical acclaim for his performances in venues all over the world—from Sydney’s Angel Place Recital Hall to Beijing’s Forbidden City Concert Hall. As recitalist and soloist with orchestra, Phillip Kawin performed in the U.S., Korea, Italy, Spain, Russia, Asia, and Australia. Kawin’s performances can be heard on the Master Performers Distinguished Artists Label. He released a critically acclaimed recording of works by Beethoven, Liszt, Schumann, and Prokofiev. He recorded an all-Schubert CD for Master Performers Label released in 2015. Most recently, Mr. Kawin gave master classes at both the DMZ and the Busan international festivals in South Korea; the Harvard Club in New York; Summit Music Festival; and for the Sibelius Academy in Finland, through the Symposium and Practicum in Synchronous Distance Learning. Phillip Kawin was a Steinway Artist.

Mr. Kawin served as a faculty representative for the Manhattan School of Music Board of Trustees (2008–2011) and most recently as Chair of the College Faculty Council, a position he held consecutively for 16 years. He was a member of the Manhattan School of Music College faculty since 1989 and of the Precollege faculty since 1986.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

American String Quartet

Now in its fifth decade, the American String Quartet is acclaimed for its burnished sound, interpretive depth, and extensive repertory. With more than forty European tours, the Quartet also returns regularly to Asia and South America and can be heard on fifty recordings ranging from its acclaimed Complete Mozart Quartets to dozens of contemporary works commissioned and premiered by the group.

It was the first U.S. ensemble to perform in all fifty states in a single season and has appeared in the major concert venues in twenty-seven countries. The ASQ makes a strong commitment to education as well, having taught and directed chamber music programs at Peabody, Mannes, Rice, Ann Arbor, and the Aspen and Taos schools of music, among others. They have served as MSM's Quartet-in-Residence since 1984.

Yefim Bronfman (HonDMA '15), piano

One of today's most acclaimed and admired pianists, Yefim Bronfman is among a handful of artists regularly sought after by festivals, orchestras, conductors, and recital series, his commanding technique, power, and exceptional lyrical gifts consistently acknowledged by the press and audiences alike. He is a recipient of the Avery Fisher Prize, one of the highest honors given to American instrumentalists.

Mr. Bronfman works regularly with an illustrious group of conductors, including Daniel Barenboim, Herbert Blomstedt, Semyon Bychkov, Riccardo Chailly, Christoph von Dohnányi, Gustavo Dudamel, Charles Dutoit, Daniele Gatti, Valery Gergiev, Alan Gilbert, Vladimir Jurowski, James Levine, Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, Andris Nelsons, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Sir Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Jaap Van Zweden, Franz Welser-Möst, and David Zinman. His chamber music partners have included Pinchas Zukerman (HonDMA '93), Martha Argerich, Magdalena Kožená, Anne-Sophie Mutter, and Emmanuel Pahud among many others. In 1991 he gave a series of joint recitals with Isaac Stern in Russia, marking Mr. Bronfman's first public performances there since his emigration to Israel at age 15.

His 2022–23 season begins with the opening week of the Chicago Symphony, followed by return visits to the New York Philharmonic, Pittsburgh, Houston, Philadelphia, New World, Pacific, Madison, New Jersey, Toronto, and Montreal symphonies. In Europe he will tour with Rotterdam Philharmonic and can also be

heard with the Berlin Philharmonic, Bayerischer Rundfunk (Munich), Bamberg, Dresden Staatskapelle, Maggio Fiorentino, and Zurich Opera orchestras.

Widely praised for his solo, chamber, and orchestral recordings, Mr. Bronfman has been nominated for six Grammy Awards, winning in 1997 with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic for their recording of the three Bartok Piano Concerti. His prolific catalog includes works for two pianos by Rachmaninoff and Brahms with Emanuel Ax, the complete Prokofiev concerti with the Israel Philharmonic and Zubin Mehta, a Schubert/Mozart disc with the Zukerman Chamber Players, and the soundtrack to Disney's *Fantasia 2000*. Recent CD releases include the 2014 Grammy-nominated Magnus Lindberg's Piano Concerto No. 2, commissioned for him and performed by the New York Philharmonic conducted by Alan Gilbert on the Da Capo label, and recordings of all the Beethoven piano concerti as well as the Triple Concerto together with violinist Gil Shaham, cellist Truls Mørk, and the Tönhalle Orchestra Zürich under David Zinman for the Arte Nova/BMG label.

Born in Tashkent in the Soviet Union, Yefim Bronfman immigrated to Israel with his family in 1973, where he studied with pianist Arie Vardi, head of the Rubin Academy of Music at Tel Aviv University. In the United States, he studied at the Juilliard School, Marlboro School of Music, and the Curtis Institute of Music, under Rudolf Firkusny, Leon Fleisher, and Rudolf Serkin.

Jeffrey Cohen, piano

American pianist Jeffrey Cohen has drawn international attention for the brilliance and artistry of his interpretations. Mr. Cohen was praised by the *New York Times* for the “lucidity and poetry” of his playing. Mr. Cohen's performances have taken him to three different continents both as soloist and chamber musician, including appearances for the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Merkin Concert Hall, the Phillips Collection, Mostly Music Series of Chicago, National Arts Center in Ottawa, and the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing. He has been a faculty member or guest artist at major summer music festivals including Bowdoin, Orford, MusicAlp International Academy, Summer Academy Voksenåsen, Adamant, Amalfi Coast, Puerto Piano Festival, Seoul Summer Music Camp, Shanghai International Piano Festival, and Beijing International Music Festival. He has performed for broadcasts on National Public Radio's Performance Today, the CBC Radio Network, Radio Canada, Radio France, and WQXR. Mr. Cohen's debut recording, a collection of French chamber music, received critical acclaim in *Fanfare* magazine.

In addition to his concert activities, Mr. Cohen's teaching gifts have established him as a leading piano pedagogue of his generation. For over 30 years, Mr. Cohen has been a piano professor and member of the artist faculty at Manhattan School of Music, where he serves as Coordinator of Master Classes and Departmental Competitions. He has given master classes at institutions such as the Jacobs School of Music, Eastman School of Music, Central Conservatory in Beijing, Shanghai Conservatory, Seoul National University, Boston University, and Young Siew Toh Conservatory in Singapore and served as an adjudicator for numerous major competitions.

A native of Tucson, Mr. Cohen studied at Indiana University where he worked with Menahem Pressler (HonDMA '13) and received the coveted Battista Memorial Award. He is a past Laureate of the Beethoven Foundation and a prizewinner of the Sherman-Clay Steinway Piano Competition.

Vladimir Feltsman, piano

Pianist, conductor, and educator Vladimir Feltsman is one of the most versatile and consistently interesting musicians of our time. Born in Moscow in 1952, Mr. Feltsman debuted with the Moscow Philharmonic at the age of 11. In 1969, he entered the Moscow Conservatory to study piano with Professor Jacob Flier. He also studied conducting at both the Moscow and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) Conservatories. In 1971, Mr. Feltsman won the Grand Prix at the Marguerite Long International Piano Competition in Paris; extensive tours throughout the former Soviet Union, Europe, and Japan followed. In 1979, because of his growing discontent with the restrictions on artistic freedom under the Soviet regime, Mr. Feltsman signaled his intention to emigrate by applying for an exit visa. He was immediately banned from performing in public and his recordings were suppressed. After eight years of virtual artistic exile, he was finally granted permission to leave the Soviet Union. Upon his arrival in the United States in 1987, Mr. Feltsman was warmly greeted at the White House, where he performed his first recital in North America. That same year, his debut at Carnegie Hall established him as a major pianist on the American and international scene. Since then, Mr. Feltsman has performed with major American and European orchestras and appeared at the most prestigious concert venues and music festivals worldwide. His repertoire encompasses music from the Baroque to the 21st century.

Mr. Feltsman expressed his lifelong devotion to the music of J. S. Bach in a cycle of concerts presenting Bach's major clavier works at the 92nd Street Y (1992–96). His 2003 project "Masterpieces of the Russian Underground," presented by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, unfolded a panorama of Russian

contemporary music from Shostakovich to the present day. His most recent project, “Russian Experiment” in 2017, presented works of lesser-known Russian composers of the first half of the 20th century at the Aspen Music Festival.

Founder and Artistic Director of the International Festival-Institute PianoSummer at New Paltz, Mr. Feltsman holds the Distinguished Chair of Professor of Piano at the State University of New York, New Paltz, and is a member of the piano faculty at the Mannes College of Music. He and his wife Haewon established the Feltsman Piano Foundation to help young musicians realize their potential and advance their careers.

Mr. Feltsman’s discography on the Sony Classical and Nimbus labels includes more than 60 CDs. He has recorded all of the major clavier works of J. S. Bach, the complete Schubert sonatas, major works of Beethoven, Schumann, Chopin, and Brahms, and concertos by Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Prokofiev. He has also recorded six tribute recordings dedicated to Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin, Prokofiev, Silvestrov, and “Forgotten Russians.” Mr. Feltsman’s book *Piano Lessons*, published in 2019, presents his insights from a lifetime of devotion to music, along with detailed liner notes written to accompany his recordings and a study of Bach’s *Well-Tempered Clavier*.

Cho-Liang Lin, violin

Cho-Liang Lin’s career has spanned concert halls around the world and encompassed his work creating and curating music festivals and in teaching studios. His recent concert engagements include solo appearances with orchestras of Detroit, Toronto, Dallas, Nashville, and San Diego; the New York Philharmonic; and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra; in Europe with the Bergen Philharmonic, Stockholm Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, and English Chamber Orchestra; and in Asia with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, Singapore Symphony, Malaysia Philharmonic, and China Philharmonic.

Born in Taiwan, Mr. Lin studied at the Sydney Conservatorium before journeying to New York to enroll at the Juilliard School with Dorothy DeLay at age 15. He made his New York debut at the Mostly Mozart Festival with David Zinman at the age of 19 and soon thereafter with the New York Philharmonic and Zubin Mehta, and his concert career was launched. He was invited to join the faculty of the Juilliard School in 1991. In 2000 *Musical America* named him Instrumentalist of the Year. He joined Rice University as Professor of Violin in 2006.

An advocate for music of our time, Mr. Lin has enjoyed collaborations and premieres with composers Christopher Rouse, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Lalo Schifrin,

Bright Sheng, Tan Dun, John Corigliano ('63, HonDMA '92), Joan Tower, and John Williams. He appears regularly at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Mr. Lin served as Music Director of La Jolla SummerFest for 18 years; he is Artistic Director of Beare's Premiere Festival in Hong Kong, and he recently created the Taipei Music Academy and Festival.

Mr. Lin's extensive discography includes solo recordings for Sony Classical, Decca, Ondine, Naxos, and BIS. His albums have won such awards as *Gramophone's* Record of the Year, as well as two Grammy Award nominations. Mr. Lin plays the 1715 "Titian" Stradivarius.

Lucie Robert, violin

Violinist Lucie Robert has received enthusiastic praise from audiences and critics alike for the expressive lyricism and tonal beauty of her playing. Lauded in the *New York Times* for her "melting tone" and "wonderfully supple approach to phrasing," Ms. Robert carries on the great violin tradition of her teacher and mentor, the legendary Josef Gingold (HonDMA '90).

A prizewinner of the First Joseph Joachim International Violin Competition in Austria, Ms. Robert has appeared as recitalist and chamber musician throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia. She has performed over 30 different works as violin soloist with major orchestras throughout North America. Ms. Robert has also collaborated in chamber music with artists such as Menahem Pressler (HonDMA '13), Richard Goode, Claude Frank (HonDMA '05), Philippe Entremont, and Isidore Cohen. An active participant in the summer music festival scene, Ms. Robert has been a guest artist or faculty member at festivals such as Bowdoin, the American Conservatoire at Fontainebleau, Meadowmount, Orford, Busan Music Festival, Hida-Takayama Festival, Texas Music Festival, MusicAlp Academy, and the Ishikawa Music Academy.

Highly sought after as a violin pedagogue, Ms. Robert has been a violin professor for over 30 years at Manhattan School of Music and Mannes College of Music. She has given master classes throughout the world at institutions such as Seoul National University, Korea National University of the Arts, Central Conservatory of Music, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Tokyo College of Music, Yong Siew Toh Conservatory, Oberlin Conservatory, Sibelius Academy, Norwegian Academy of Music, the Glenn Gould School, and the Conservatoire de Musique de Montreal. Ms. Robert has been a member of the jury at the Montreal, Fritz Kreisler, Kumho, József Szigeti, Seoul, Joseph Joachim, Isang

Yun, and Jean Sibelius International Violin Competition, among others. She will serve as a jury member for the 2022 International Louis Spohr Competition for Young Violinists in Weimar.

Ted Rosenthal (BM '81, MM '83), piano

Ted Rosenthal is one of the leading jazz pianist/composers of his generation. He has performed worldwide as soloist, with his trio, and with many jazz greats, including Gerry Mulligan, Art Farmer, Phil Woods, and James Moody. Winner of the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition, Rosenthal has released 15 CDs as a leader. *Rhapsody in Gershwin*, featuring his arrangement of *Rhapsody in Blue* for jazz trio, reached No. 1 in jazz album sales on iTunes and Amazon. Rosenthal's solo album, *The 3 B's*, featuring music of Bud Powell, Bill Evans, and his improvisations on Beethoven themes, received four stars from *DownBeat*.

An active composer, Rosenthal regularly performs and records his compositions, which include jazz tunes and large-scale works. His critically acclaimed jazz opera, *Dear Erich*, was commissioned and premiered by New York City Opera in 2019. A recipient of three grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Rosenthal has also been commissioned by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the Park Avenue Chamber Symphony, and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. *The Survivor*, his concerto for piano and orchestra, has been performed by the Manhattan Jazz Philharmonic and the Rockland Symphony Orchestra, with Rosenthal at the piano. Rosenthal premiered his second jazz piano concerto, *Jazz Fantasy*, with the Park Avenue Chamber Symphony.

Rosenthal has been a featured soloist with major orchestras including the Detroit Symphony and Phoenix Symphony. He performed Gershwin's Concerto in F and *Rhapsody in Blue* for the opening concert of the 92nd Street Y's 2015–16 season and performed *Rhapsody in Blue* at Town Hall in a concert celebrating the 90th anniversary of its premiere.

Rosenthal is an author and active in jazz education. He is on the faculties of the Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music, where he received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees and then went on to study with Phillip Kawin (BM '82, MM '85).

He has served on MSM's Board of Trustees and been awarded the President's Medal for Distinguished Faculty Service. Ted Rosenthal is a Steinway Artist.

Phillip Kawin Memorial Scholarship

Phillip Kawin (BM '82, MM '85) graciously remembered Manhattan School of Music in his estate planning and, in gratitude for his generous bequest to the School, an endowed scholarship for talented piano students with financial need has been established in his memory.

MSM gratefully acknowledges the following individuals who have made generous gifts to the School in his memory:

M.P. & J.G. Epstein Philanthropic Fund	Ruth Golden
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