

M Manhattan
School of Music

**THE ROBERT MANN
STRING QUARTET
INSTITUTE
Final Concert**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 | 2 PM
GORDON K. AND HARRIET GREENFIELD HALL

FELIX MENDELSSOHN
(1809–1847)

String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor, Op. 13

- I. *Adagio – Allegro vivace*
- II. *Adagio non lento*
- III. *Intermezzo: Allegretto con moto*

Claremont String Quartet

ROBERT SCHUMANN
(1810–1856)

String Quartet No. 1 in A Minor, Op. 41

- Introduzione: Andante espressivo – Allegro*
Scherzo: Presto
Adagio
Presto

Katarina String Quartet



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the Arts**

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Funded in part by a grant from the New York City Tourism Foundation.

THE ROBERT MANN STRING QUARTET INSTITUTE

JANUARY 3–7, 2024

PARTICIPATING QUARTETS

Riverbank String Quartet

Christophe Koenig and

Amelia Bailey, violin

JeongJae Lee, viola

Aidan Pan, cello

Pado String Quartet

SoYoung Choi and Haerim Oh, violin

Martine Thomas, viola

Miles Goosby, cello

Katarina String Quartet

Jeanel Liang and

Jerome Chiasson, violin

Celia Morin, viola

Maya Enstad, cello

Claremont String Quartet

Valerie Subin Choi and

Cecilia Martin, violin

Martin Rojas, viola

Zoe Hardel, cello

Meraki String Quartet

Yixiang Wang and June Chung, violin

Joy Hsieh, viola

Kei Otake, cello

2024 FACULTY

Nicholas Mann, founding member of the Mendelssohn String Quartet and

Chair of the String Department at Manhattan School of Music

David Geber, founding member of the American String Quartet and

Faculty Advisor to Chamber Music at Manhattan School of Music

Wolfram Koessel, member of the American String Quartet,

MSM Artists in Residence

Samuel Rhodes, former member of the Juilliard String Quartet

Mark Steinberg, founding member of the Brentano Quartet

Ilmar Gavilán, founding member of the Harlem String Quartet

Eugene Drucker, founding member of the Emerson String Quartet

Peter Winograd, member of the American String Quartet,

MSM Artists in Residence

REPERTOIRE STUDIED

Riverbank String Quartet

W. A. MOZART
(1756–1791)

String Quartet No. 21 in D Major, K.575

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH
(1906–1975)

String Quartet No. 8 in C Minor, Op. 110

Katarina String Quartet

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN
(1732–1809)

String Quartet No. 5 in G Major, Op. 33

ROBERT SCHUMANN
(1810–1856)

String Quartet No. 1 in A Minor, Op. 41

Meraki String Quartet

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

String Quartet No. 2 in C Major, Op. 20

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN
(1770–1827)

String Quartet No. 16 in F Major, Op. 135

Pado String Quartet

MAURICE RAVEL
(1875–1937)

String Quartet in F Major

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

String Quartet No. 5 in F Minor, Op. 20

Claremont String Quartet

FELIX MENDELSSOHN
(1809–1847)

String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor, Op. 13

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 76, no. 4 (“Sunrise”)

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Riverbank String Quartet

The Riverbank Quartet is comprised of students at the Manhattan School of Music. This school year, they were accepted into the Orchestra of St. Luke's Chamber Music Mentorship Program, where they will receive coachings from an OSL member throughout the year and perform at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music in April.

Christophe Koenig is currently pursuing a Professional Performance Diploma studying under Curtis Macomber, and previously received a Master's degree from MSM and a Bachelor's degree from the Eastman School of Music. He has extensive chamber music and orchestral experience, highlights of which include winning second prize at the MTNA National chamber music competition in 2020 and serving as concertmaster for many of the orchestras he's been in. Professionally, Christophe has played with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Rochester Philharmonic, Princeton Symphony, and the New World Symphony.

Amelia Bailey recently completed her Master's degree at MSM, where she studied with Sheryl Staples. She graduated from the University of Virginia in 2021 where she received degrees in music performance and environmental science. Notable experiences in the past two years have included performing chamber music at the University of Pécs in Hungary and attending the National Repertory Orchestra summer program in Breckenridge, Colorado.

JeongJae Lee majored in international trade at Pusan National University in South Korea before starting a Bachelor's degree at MSM in 2020. A senior at MSM, he is studying with Karen Ritscher. He has won many solo performance awards and has also performed in master classes by Martha Katz, Seungwon Lee, Juan-Miguel Hernandez, Sheila Browne, and Nicholas Cords. He is also a guest member of the Busan Sinfonietta Orchestra.

Aidan Pan is currently a third year undergraduate student at MSM studying with Julia Lichten and Marion Feldman. He also attended the MSM Precollege program where he studied with Emirhan Tunca. He has played in festivals and performances across the United States, and internationally in Canada and Taiwan. Throughout high school, Aidan helped teach underserved and disadvantaged elementary and middle schoolers through the Ithaca City School District Musical Mentorship Program.

Katarina String Quartet

Formed in 2022 at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University under Professor André Roy, the Katarina String Quartet are the grand prize winners of the 2022 McGill Chamber Music Competition, first prize winners of the Canadian Music Competition, and semi-finalists of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition.

Known for their deeply personal sound and spontaneous, enthusiastic, and evocative interpretations, the KSQ has performed for members of the Alban Berg Quartet, Dover Quartet, Ysaye Quartet, and the Calidore Quartet. This past year, the quartet studied extensively with Professor Gerhard Schulz at the International Musicians Seminar, Prussia Cove as well as with the Pacifica Quartet and Atar Arad at the 2023 Professional String Quartet Studies program in Bloomington, Indiana. The quartet recently had the honor of participating as a senior quartet at the McGill International String Quartet Academy (MISQA) in August 2023.

The members of the KSQ aim to pursue repertoire and projects that intersect with their musical and moral values, with a focus on centering inclusivity, sustainability, and accessibility.

The quartet takes its name from Katarina Guarneri, wife of the legendary violinmaker Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù, who made violins under her husband's guise during the most productive years of his career. She is rumored to be responsible for many of del Gesù's most successful violins. Inspired by Katarina, the KSQ pays tribute to the many forgotten women whose uncredited contribution to the industry paved the way for music to be shared for years to come. Jeanel Liang plays on a 1700 Carlo of Bologna Tononi violin and a Hermann Luger bow, generously loaned by Canimex Inc; Jérôme Chiasson plays on an 1858 Jean Baptiste Vuillaume violin and a François Nicolas Voirin bow, also generously loaned by Canimex Inc.

Meraki String Quartet

Formed in 2022 at the New England Conservatory of Music, the Meraki String Quartet (Greek, "to leave part of one's self in one's work") have enjoyed a quick rise to the spotlight in the past year under the guidance of Merry Peckham, Mai Motobuchi, and Stephen Drury. From features in the NEC/BSO concert series performing works by Caroline Shaw, Steven Mackey, and most recently György Ligeti's String Quartet No.1 in Boston Symphony Hall; to working with NEC's Community Partnership Program bringing concerts to a wide range of audiences,

the Meraki String Quartet believes that all music draws on the same need for connection, expression, and collaboration, and is dedicated to exploring the full continuum of the string quartet experiment. The members of the Meraki Quartet include Yixiang Wang, June Chung, Joy Hsieh, and Kei Otake. Yixiang Wang is a former student of MSM who studied with Nicholas Mann and is currently working with Don Weilerstein. She has participated in many chamber music festivals including Kneisel Hall and Yellow Barn. June Chung earned her Bachelor's degree from the Mannes College of Music with Ann Setzer and is currently pursuing her master's studying with Paul Biss. June has participated in master classes with artists from renowned groups such as the Emerson String Quartet, Juilliard String Quartet. Joy Hsieh, violist, is currently pursuing a Graduate Diploma and graduated with a MM under the tutelage of Mai Motobuchi. She has worked closely with many chamber groups including members of Borromeo, Takács, and Jupiter String Quartets. Kei Otake has performed at many festivals including the Great Mountains Music Festival and the Perlman Music Program Chamber Music Workshop. Kei is now pursuing his Master's degree with professor Laurence Lesser. The Meraki Quartet is coached by Professor Kim Kashkashian at the New England Conservatory of Music.

Pado String Quartet

The Pado String Quartet brings together four players with a variety of ties to one another, from childhood friends to college friends, to friends from just this month. "Pado" means "wave" in Korean, referencing the waves of the ocean. Violinist SoYoung Choi studied with Miriam Fried and Donald Weilerstein at New England Conservatory where she received BM and MM. After receiving a Professional Studies Certificate at Manhattan School of Music in 2021, SoYoung is pursuing her Doctoral of Musical Arts degree at the MSM with violinist Mark Steinberg. Haerim Oh, violin, studied with Miriam Fried at New England Conservatory for her BM and MM. She is currently pursuing a Post-Baccalaureate Degree at Curtis under Midori Goto. Martine Thomas, viola, received her BA from Harvard and her Master of music from New England Conservatory, where she studied in the Harvard-NEC Dual Degree program with Martha Katz. She is currently working on her doctorate in viola performance at CUNY Graduate Center and is on the string faculty at Brooklyn College Conservatory. Miles Goosby, cello, is a first year master's student at the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Natasha Brofsky. He recently completed his undergraduate studies at the Manhattan School of Music where he studied with Julia Lichten.

Claremont String Quartet

The Claremont Quartet consists of violinists Valerie Choi and Cecilia Martin, cellist Zoe Hardel, and violist Martin Rojas. The group was formed at the Manhattan School of Music in September of 2023 and is coached by David Geber. Valerie Choi began studying violin at age 6 and she currently studies with Lucie Robert. At age 10 she was admitted into the Institution for the Gifted Arts of Seoul and attended Korea International School. Cecilia Martin currently studies with Patinka Kopec and previously was a student at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music Starling Preparatory String Project. Zoe Hardel is a student of Julia Lichten and has attended the Meadowmount School of Music; she recently was a part of the New York String Orchestra Seminar. Martin Rojas studies with Molly Carr and previously attended the Peabody Institute's Preparatory.

ABOUT ROBERT MANN

Robert Mann (1920–2018) was a driving force in the world of music for more than 70 years. As founder and first violinist of the Juilliard String Quartet, and as a soloist, composer, teacher, and conductor, Mr. Mann brought a refreshing sense of adventure and discovery to chamber music performances, master classes, and orchestral performances worldwide. His passionate performances and advocacy “helped engender a chamber music revival throughout the United States” (*New York Times*). He was, in the words of Richard Dyer of the *Boston Globe*, “one of the country’s most admired and deeply loved musicians.”

Born in Portland, Oregon in 1920, Mr. Mann began studying violin when he was 8, and at age 13 was accepted into the class of Edouard Hurlimann, concertmaster of the Portland Symphony. In 1938, he enrolled in the Juilliard School, where he studied violin with Edouard Dethier, composition with Bernard Wagenaar and Stephan Wolpe, and conducting with Edgar Schenkman. Mr. Mann won the prestigious Naumburg competition in 1941. In 1946, at the invitation of Juilliard’s president, William Schuman, Robert Mann founded the Juilliard String Quartet, serving as the ensemble’s first violinist for 51 years until his retirement from the Quartet in 1997.

Robert Mann composed more than 30 works for narrator with various instruments that he performed with his wife, Lucy Rowan. He also composed an Orchestral Fantasy, performed by Dimitri Mitropoulos with the New York Philharmonic; a Duo for Violin and Piano that was premiered at Carnegie Hall by Itzhak Perlman; and a String Quartet that was included in the repertoires of both the La Salle and the Concord string quartets. His other works include a Duo for Cello and Piano written for Joel Krosnick and Gilbert Kalish, and *Dream Time*, recorded by violist David Carpenter.

Robert Mann conducted throughout his career, leading ensembles such as the New York Chamber Symphony, MSM Symphony, and ensembles at the Ravinia, Tanglewood, and Aspen music festivals. In addition, at the invitation of Seiji Ozawa, he was in residence at Japan’s Saito Kinen Music Festival as a conductor, teacher, and performer. He was a mentor to younger generations of string quartets, including the Alexander, American, Concord, Emerson, LaSalle, New World, Mendelssohn, Tokyo, Brentano, Lark, St. Lawrence, and Colorado string quartets. In 2012, he began leading the Robert Mann String Quartet Institute at Manhattan School of Music, bringing the country’s most talented young string quartets to the school for intensive coaching.

CHAMBER MUSIC AT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Chamber music is a vital part of study and performance at Manhattan School of Music. Almost every classical instrumentalist is required to take part in chamber music at some point in each degree program. Over 100 chamber ensembles ranging from duos to octets are formed each semester. The chamber music faculty includes many of the School's most experienced chamber musicians, including current or former members of the Juilliard, Tokyo, Brentano, Orion, and Mendelssohn string quartets, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and New York Philharmonic. Our resident ensembles, the American String Quartet and Windscape, also coach and give seasonal performances. Master classes given by distinguished artists are available to chamber groups by audition or nomination from the chamber music faculty.

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 1,000 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 Division is a professionally oriented Saturday music program dedicated to the musical and personal growth of talented young musicians ages 5 to 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.

Contact the Advancement Office at 917-493-4434 or visit giving.msmnyc.edu

Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge that we gather as Manhattan School of Music on the traditional land of the Lenape and Wappinger past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.



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