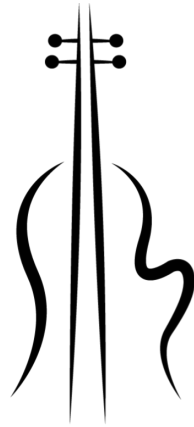


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GREAT LAKES

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Where Great Music Comes to Play

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival Announces Virtual August Festival

DETROIT (August 21, 2020) -- The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival is presenting an immersive five-day virtual Festival experience August 26-30 to continue its tradition of bringing great music to Metro Detroit. Registration for this virtual Festival will be available at no cost as a gesture of gratitude to the community.

Virtual concerts will be streamed through YouTube and will remain available to patrons following the concert.

Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival has brought masterful musical performances to Metro Detroit every June for over 25 years. Artists come from around the globe to perform extraordinary music and coach the next generation of chamber ensembles.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the June Festival could not proceed as planned this summer. However, the Festival's mission remains to "celebrate, preserve and advance...chamber music through performance and education, enhancing the cultural environment of the Great Lakes region for generations to come."

To carry on this mission, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival has turned to a virtual platform to offer an abridged version of its Festival next week. The Festival will offer a series pre-recorded of conversations and concerts, with artists from around the country, over five days via YouTube. These concerts will be available for free as livestreams and for playback viewing later.

"In some ways, having a virtual Festival is freeing," said Artistic Director **Paul Watkins**. "We are not limited so much by location or the formal concert setting. We get to provide more intimate performances from the safety of your home as well as opportunities for conversation with the Shouse ensembles. We may even be able to

reach a wider audience--and each viewer is guaranteed a great seat."

This year's Festival includes 10 individual artists and six ensembles, four of which are rising star ensembles from the Shouse Institute. Each year, the Festival's Shouse Institute welcomes several chamber ensembles to be coached by prestigious artists as they pave the way for the next generation of chamber music players.

Each morning at 11 a.m., from Wednesday to Saturday, Shouse Institute Director Philip Setzer will host a performance from one of our four Shouse ensembles: **Callisto Quartet, Rolston String Quartet, Viano String Quartet** and **Ivalas Quartet**. Each performance will be followed by a conversation with each group, discussing their musical journeys and ambitions.

In the evenings, from Wednesday to Saturday, as well as Sunday afternoon, Watkins will host and perform in chamber ensemble performances with other world-renowned musicians. Featured artists for these concerts include GRAMMY-nominated violinist **Tessa Lark**, the **Brentano String Quartet**, famed soprano **Christine Goerke** and other internationally recognized musicians--violinist **Soovin Kim**, violist **Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu**, pianists **Shai Wosner** and **Gloria Chien** and double bassist **Michael Thurber**. Wednesday, Friday and Sunday's performance will also include poetry narration by British actor and director **Samuel West**.

The Festival is also collaborating with Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings to showcase one in-person concert featuring Pulitzer Prize composer John Luther Adams' stunning piece "**Sila: The Breath of the World**." The concert will be held outdoors at Cranbrook on August 29 at 6 p.m. with 32 wind and percussion players.

In addition to his roles as Artistic Director of the Festival and cellist of the Emerson String Quartet, Watkins is also a celebrated soloist, educator and conductor. He was appointed Professor of Cello at the Yale School of Music in 2019 and recently premiered a concerto composed by his brother for a BBC Proms performance.

This will be Goerke's first year as a member of the Board of Directors for the Festival. Last year marked her debut.

"As the newest board member for the Festival, this was not how I anticipated my first-year unfolding," said Goerke. "However, now that we have the plans and lineup for the virtual Festival, I feel that things are really falling into place. I believe that navigating the Festival in this new format will strengthen old relationships with our donors and patrons and forge new ones that will last a lifetime. The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival is showing that it can withstand hardships and will continue its pursuit in the sharing of great music."

To register or purchase tickets to the Festival patrons can visit www.greatlakeschambermusic.org.

Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival Schedule

<p>Wednesday, August 26, at 11 a.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Callisto Quartet – In Conversation and Performance</i> Artists: <u>Callisto</u> Quartet</p>	<p>Wednesday, August 26, at 7 p.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Visions and Revisions</i> Artists: Shai <u>Wosner</u>, <i>piano</i> Tessa Lark, <i>violin</i> Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu, <i>viola</i> Paul Watkins, <i>cello</i> Brentano String Quartet, Samuel West <i>narrator</i></p>
<p>Thursday, August 27, at 11 a.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Rolston String Quartet – In Conversation and Performance</i> Artists: Rolston String Quartet</p>	<p>Thursday, August 27, at 7 p.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Chien-Kim-Watkins Trio Plays Beethoven</i> Artists: Gloria <u>Chien</u>, <i>piano</i> <u>Soovin Kim</u>, <i>violin</i> Paul Watkins, <i>cello</i> Samuel West <i>narrator</i></p>
<p>Friday, August 28, at 11 a.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Ivalas Quartet – In Conversation and Performance</i> Artists: <u>Ivalas</u> Quartet</p>	<p>Friday, August 28, at 7 p.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Miniature Music Dramas</i> Artists: Shai <u>Wosner</u>, <i>piano</i> Misha Amory, <i>viola</i> Christine Goerke, <i>soprano</i> Brentano String Quartet, Samuel West <i>narrator</i></p>
<p>Saturday, August 29, at 11 a.m. EDT (virtual) <i>Viano String Quartet – In Conversation and Performance</i> Artists: Viano String Quartet</p>	<p>Saturday, August 29, at 6 p.m. EDT (live) <i>Sila: The Breath of the World</i> <i>Rain date: Sunday, August 30, at 6 p.m. EDT</i> Artists: Doug Perkins, <i>musical director</i> Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings musicians and members of the University of Michigan Percussion Ensemble</p>
<p>Sunday, August 30, at 1 p.m. EDT (virtual) <i>“the singing will never be done”</i> Artists: Shai <u>Wosner</u>, <i>piano</i> Tessa Lark, <i>violin</i> Paul Watkins, <i>cello</i> Michael Thurber, <i>double bass</i> Christine Goerke, <i>soprano</i> Brentano String Quartet, Samuel West <i>narrator</i></p>	

About the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival was born in 1994 of a remarkable relationship between religious and cultural institutions. A secular event, the Festival is sponsored by three religious institutions (representing Catholic, Jewish and Protestant faiths) and Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings, a prominent musical ensemble that is an administrative partner for the Festival. For two weeks each June, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival presents more than 20 concerts in southeastern Michigan. Many of these performances occur in the venues of the Festival's sponsors -- St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, Temple Beth El and Kirk in the Hills.

Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival | 24901 Northwestern Highway, Ste. 312
 248-559-2097 | greatlakeschambermusic.org

