THE CPC CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS KAIA String Quartet

Song and Dance: Celebrating Latin American Culture



February 16, 2025 3:00 p.m. Community Presbyterian Church 39 N. Prospect Ave. Clarendon Hills IL



A Ministry of Community Presbyterian Church of Clarendon Hills chcpc.org

"Song and Dance: Celebrating Latin American Culture"

Muerte del Ángel Angelica for String Quartet La Oración del Torero para cuarteto de cuerdas Canções da America for String Quartet I. Dança II. Choro- Canção III. Tango IV. Intermezzo V. Melodia Andina VI. Purahéi Cuarteto Virreinal I. Allegro

II. Zarabanda con Variaciones

Selections for string quartet

Astor Piazzolla (1921 – 1992) Arr. Gerardo Moreira

Efraín Amaya (b. 1959)

Joaquín Turina (1882-1949)

Clarice Vasconcelos Assad (b. 1978)

Miguel Bernal Jiménez (1910 – 1956)

Astor Piazzolla (1921 – 1992)



Meet the Musicians from the KAIA String Quartet

Violinist **Victoria Moreira**, founding member of the Kaia String Quartet, has performed extensively throughout the USA and her native Uruguay in venues such as the Chicago Cultural Arts Center, Jay Pritzker Pavillion, Harris Theater, United Nations and Teatro Solis, Montevideo Uruguay. She has also performed at the Orford Center for the Arts in Canada and the National Center for the Performing Arts in Beijing, among other venues in China.

First Prize winner of Viva El Tango Agustin Carlevaro Competition, Moreira's diverse musical background keeps her involved internationally in the Tango scene. Her latest recording project as co-producer of Mark Sonksen's Vicisitudes with Tangata Ensemble is expected to be released in 2012 being her third tango record collaboration. Previous projects include Sonksen's Postales del Sur and Argentina tango on stage, with Carlos Marzan and his ensemble in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She has also performed in the Chicago Latino Music Festival since 2007 with ensembles such as the Latin American-focused ensemble, Ondas and has been involved with the Chicago Tango Festival and American Tango Institute since 2006.

Moreira has been involved as a solo, chamber and orchestral musician in Chicago as concertmistress of Oistrakh Symphony Orchestra and Assistant Concertmaster of Northbrook Symphony. In addition to her membership with the Ondas Ensemble, she has also collaborated with the MAVerik Ensemble, a Chicago-based group focusing on contemporary classical music. She was also winner of the 2010 DePaul Concerto Competition.

As a faculty member at DePaul University Community Music Division Moreira maintains a studio at the institution as well as a private studio in the Chicago area. Some of her educational projects include Tango workshops for violinists at Old Town School of Folk Music and outreach concerts of Tango and Latin American Music in public schools through Evanston in School Music Association.

Moreira studied at Escuela Universitaria de Musica, Montevideo Uruguay under Jorge Risi, received her Bachelor of Music at Roosevelt University under Vadim Gluzman and her Master of Music and Artist Certificate at DePaul University under Ilya Kaler.

Violinist and co-founding member of the KAIA String Quartet, **Naomi Culp** is a dedicated performer and educator in the greater Chicago area. Culp has performed extensively throughout the U.S. and worldwide in notable concert venues such as Carnegie Hall, Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Perth Concert Hall in Australia, Jay Pritzker Pavilion and Symphony Center in Chicago. As first prize winner of the 2003 National Fine Arts Festival Competition in Washington, D.C., she performed in front of the U.S. Capitol Building.

In 2011, Culp was invited to perform Schubert's Cello Quintet with Yo-Yo Ma for Chicago Symphony's Citizen Musician's Week at the Fortnightly Club of Chicago. As a member of the KAIA Quartet, she has worked with the Muir String Quartet and renowned composer, Joan Tower, during her residency at Utah Symphony's Deer Valley Music Festival.



With an extensive orchestral career, Culp served as Concertmaster of the Chicago Composer's Orchestra, Assistant Concertmaster of Miami Symphony, and as section player with ProMusica Chamber Orchestra and Camerata Chicago. Culp is an alumna of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago where she worked with world renown conductors such as Bernard Haitink, Ricardo Muti and Gustavo Dudamel. Currently she performs as Principal Second with the Oistrakh Symphony of Chicago and the Northbrook Symphony.

Outside the classical world, Culp enjoys collaborating with other ensembles and artists in jazz, independent rock, folk, and world music projects. She maintains a studio at DePaul University Community Music Division and her private studio in Northern Chicago. She recently accepted the position of Academy Coordinator and Orchestra Manager for the Music Institute of Chicago Academy.

Culp holds a Master of Music degree from Northern Illinois University and Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance from Roosevelt University's Conservatory of Music. Her principal teachers include Betty Haag, Desiree Ruhstrat, Yang Liu, Ilya Kaler and Mathias Tacke.



Dr. Susan Bengtson Price is a passionate performer and music educator. A native of Richland, Washington, Susan's musical career has led her across the nation and the globe, performing as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician.

This season, Susan performed with the KAIA String Quartet, the chamber orchestra Camerata Chicago, and various Chicago-based chamber ensembles. In addition to working with her viola students at Carthage College, Dr. Price maintains a private violin and viola studio at DePaul University's Community Music Division and Neuqua Valley High School. In the summer of 2023, Susan served on the faculty of the Birch Creek Summer Music Academy (Egg Harbor, WI) and New England Music Camp (Snow Pond, ME). From 2018 to 2021, she served as Michelle LaCourse's teaching assistant at Boston University's Tanglewood Institute as LaCourse's Viola Workshop assistant. While completing her doctoral coursework, Susan performed as a violist in the Boston

Philharmonic Orchestra, taught nonmajor undergraduate violists at Boston University and coached nonmajor chamber ensembles.

From 2016-2018 Susan earned her master's degree in viola performance from Northwestern University while serving as Helen Callus' graduate assistant. During the 2017-18 season, she performed as a violist with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and in 2018 toured China and Hong Kong as assistant principal violist of the Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra. In support of broader access to music education, Susan taught strings for Sistema Ravinia during her studies.

Susan completed her undergraduate studies with Jeffrey Irvine at the Cleveland Institute of Music, graduating with academic honors with a Bachelor of Music in 2016. As the first violist to participate in an exchange program between CIM and the Royal Danish Academy of Music, she also studied with Tim Frederiksen in Copenhagen in 2014.

Cellist **Hope Shepherd Decelle** enjoys a varied career as a chamber musician, orchestral musician and teacher. As a member of the KAIA String Quartet, she performs across the U.S., Mexico, and South America showcasing the vibrant musical heritage of Latin America . Beyond performances, Hope extends her passion for chamber music by mentoring young ensembles and fostering a love for the string quartet among elementary school students through the quartet's educational partnerships.

As an orchestral musician, Hope has worked with some of the country's leading conductors. Notable positions include serving as principal cellist of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, and as a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center. During these engagements, she had the opportunity to play under Riccardo Muti, Herbert Blomstedt, Jaap van Zweden, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Sir Andrew Davis. Previously a member of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra, Hope now performs regularly with the Joffrey Ballet, Lyric Opera of Chicago and Milwaukee Symphony as a substitute cellist.



Complementing her performing career, Hope is committed to nurturing the next generation of musicians as a dedicated Suzuki teacher. In addition to her faculty positions at the Merit School of Music and DePaul University's Community Music Division, Hope maintains a private cello studio. Her students have received many accolades, including the highest awards and honorable mentions in local concerto competitions.

Hope's musical journey is underscored by a dedication to excellence and lifelong learning. She holds a Master's degree from Rice University where she studied with Brinton Averil Smith and a Bachelor's degree from Arizona State University under the tutelage of Thomas Landschoot.

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Join us for the final event of our 2024-2025 season featuring the music of John Sharp, Liba Shacht, and Winston Choi on April 27, 2025 at **3:00 pm**. This concert features some of the finest classical music musicians in the Chicago area. John Sharp is the principal cello of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Liba Shacht plays violin in the Lyric Opera Orchestra and is the principal second violin in the Grant Park Orchestra. Winston Choi is the Associate Professor of Piano and the Head of the Piano Program at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts.

John Sharp will perform a Bach suite for unaccompanied cello, and all three will play piano trios by Beethoven and Mendelssohn.





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