

Bridgehampton Chamber Music's BCM Spring Series: Pre-Eminent Chamber Musicians in Three Saturday Evening Concerts to Welcome Spring, April 13, May 4, May 18, 2024



April 13 artists clockwise from left: Bridget Kibbey, Marya Martin, Kristin Lee, Cong Wu, Mihai Marica

BCM Spring, the annual series from Bridgehampton Chamber Music, Long Island's longest-running classical music festival, welcomes spring in 2024 with three concerts including a harp program, delectable French repertoire, and Mozart gems featuring some of the finest chamber musicians performing today.

An April 13 concert puts the harp at center stage with music by 19th- and 20th-century French composers Jean Françaix, Camille Saint-Saëns, and Albert Roussel, alongside a rarely heard sonata by Italian Nino Rota (composer of the score of *The Godfather*). On May 4, a work for winds and piano by young New Zealand composer <u>Salina Fisher</u> joins Mozart's Quintet for Piano and Winds and Francis Poulenc's Sextet for Piano and Winds. And on the May 18 program, great piano quartets by Mozart and Dvořák bookend another early-20th-century French gem by Philippe Gaubert. (Full programs follow below.)

Led by flutist and BCM Artistic Director Marya Martin, the series' musicians include Bridget Kibbey, harp; Stewart Rose, horn; Peter Kolkay, bassoon; James Austin Smith, oboe; Jose Franch-Ballester, clarinet; Chad Hoopes and Kristin Lee, violin; Hsin-Yun Huang and Cong Wu, viola; Mihai Marica and Paul Watkins, cello; and Inon Barnatan and Michael Stephen Brown, piano The three Saturday evening concerts take place at BCM's home venue, Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church, at 5:00 pm.

Bridgehampton Chamber Music

"This longtime East End festival, directed by the flutist Marya Martin, has flourished by offering concerts both effervescent and distinguished," said The New Yorker. In the 40 years since its founding, Bridgehampton Chamber Music has become known for presenting a broad range of music performed by some of the best musicians in the world in one of the most beautiful seaside settings on the East Coast. With autumn and spring mini-series joining the summer festival, Bridgehampton Chamber Music now offers programs almost year-round.

BCM Festival: Usually comprising a dozen events over four weeks, the summer festival has developed a loyal core audience among local residents and summer visitors since it began with four artists in two concerts in the intimate setting of the Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church. The festival is still based in the graceful 1842 church – which boasts glowing acoustics – and has expanded to include other special event venues, including the Channing Sculpture Garden and Atlantic Golf Club in Bridgehampton and the Parrish Art Museum in Water Mill.

BCM Records: In 2012, BCM launched its own record label, BCMF Records. Signifying the festival's commitment to American composers, the label's first recording was *BCMF Premieres*, a disc of contemporary American music. The label's current discography of 12 releases includes music by Bruce Adolphe, Robert Beaser, Leon Kirchner, Howard Shore, Paul Moravec, Kevin Puts, and Elizabeth Brown, as well as Haydn, Beethoven, Brahms, and more.

BCM Spring: Convinced that there were music lovers looking for more opportunities to hear excellent chamber music year-round, BCM introduced its Spring series in 2015, and in 2017 expanded it from two concerts to three.

BCM Autumn: This three-concert series was launched in the fall of 2021.

Bridgehampton Chamber Music has a wide variety of performance videos and online programs from past seasons posted on its website and YouTube channel.

BCM website "Watch & Listen" page: <u>https://www.bcmf.org/watch-listen</u> BCM YouTube channel: <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/bcmfmusic</u>

www.bcmf.org

Marya Martin

Internationally acclaimed flutist Marya Martin enjoys a musical career of remarkable breadth and achievement. Gracefully balancing the roles of chamber musician, festival director, soloist, teacher, and supporter of musical institutions, she has performed throughout the world in such halls as London's Royal Albert Hall and Wigmore Hall, Sydney Opera House, Casals Hall in Tokyo, and other international venues.

A native of New Zealand, Ms. Martin studied at Yale University, and shortly thereafter moved to Paris to study with flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal. After winning top prizes in the Naumburg, Munich International,

and Jean-Pierre Rampal International competitions, and the Concert Artists Guild and Young Concert Artists International Auditions—all within a two-year period—she returned to the U.S. and has since appeared as a soloist with major orchestras and at leading festivals and chamber music series throughout the country.

In 2006 she received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Auckland, and in 2011 received the Ian Mininberg Distinguished Service Award from Yale University. Committed to expanding the flute repertoire, she has commissioned more than 20 new works. She most recently commissioned eight works for flute and piano comprising *Eight Visions*, an anthology published by Theodore Presser, and recorded them for the Naxos label. In 2011, Albany Records released *Marya Martin Plays Eric Ewazen*. Ms. Martin has been a faculty member of the Manhattan School of Music since 1996.

BCM Spring 2024

Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 5pm Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church

BCM Spring: Harp Fantasy

The harp is at the center of a gorgeous program of color and nuance by French composers, alongside a rarely heard gem by Italian Nino Rota, most well-known as the composer of *The Godfather*.

Quintet for Flute, String Trio, and Harp
Fantaisie for Violin and Harp, Op. 124
Sonata for Flute and Harp
Serenade for Flute, String Trio, and Harp, Op. 30

Marya Martin, flute; Bridget Kibbey, harp; Kristin Lee, violin; Cong Wu, viola; Mihai Marica, cello

Tickets: \$75, \$50, \$10 student ticket

Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 5pm Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church

BCM Spring: Mozart's Spirit

Mozart was known for profundity and elegance as well as a playful and impish spirit. Here we explore this duality, presenting Mozart's exquisite Quintet for Piano and Winds alongside Salina Fisher's thoughtful and probing *Unfinished Portrait* and Poulenc's irresistible and playful Sextet.

W. A. MOZART	Quintet for Piano and Winds in E-flat major, K. 452
SALINA FISHER	Unfinished Portrait for Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, and Piano
FRANCIS POULENC	Sextet for Piano and Winds

Marya Martin, flute; Stewart Rose, horn; Peter Kolkay, bassoon; James Austin Smith, oboe; Jose Franch-Ballester, clarinet; Michael Stephen Brown, piano

Tickets: \$75, \$50, \$10 student ticket

Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 5pm Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church

BCM Spring: Masters at Work – Mozart/Gaubert/ Dvořák

Two of the great piano quartets bookend a program that presents three composers at the heights of their creativity: Mozart's brooding G minor Piano Quartet is among his most profound works, and Dvořák's E-flat major is an intense and wild ride. Gaubert's *Three Watercolors*, on the other hand, provide a bit of impressionistic magic to balance out the program.

W. A. MOZART	Piano Quartet in G minor, K. 478
PHILIPPE GAUBERT	Trois Aquarelles (Three Watercolors) for Flute, Cello, and Piano
ANTONIN DVOŘÁK	Piano Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 87

Marya Martin, flute; Inon Barnatan, piano; Chad Hoopes, violin; Hsin-Yun Huang, viola; Paul Watkins, cello

Tickets: \$75, \$50, \$10 student ticket

For tickets and information, visit <u>www.bcmf.org/spring-concerts</u>

January 23, 2024