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2022-2023 SEASON



DWAYNE S. MILBURN

Music Director and Conductor

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Season of the St. Matthew's Music Guild. Thanks to your steadfast support during the extraordinarily difficult past couple of years, the Music Guild continued to make a dynamic and fulfilling contribution to the rich musical landscape of the greater Los Angeles area.

Our coming season is no exception. Combining beloved masterworks with premieres of new works by composers of national and international renown, our 2022 - 2023 series will keep you coming back for more. And when you come to a Music Guild concert, don't forget to bring a friend so that we will continue to grow together for many years to come.

Dwayne S. Milburn, *Music Director*
St. Matthew's Music Guild.



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**We Care About
Your Safety!**

We want you and our musicians to feel safe and secure so that you can fully enjoy our concerts. To that end, we will continue to follow the advice of medical authorities with regards to preventing the spread of Covid and we will update our policies accordingly.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

OCTOBER 14 at 8pm

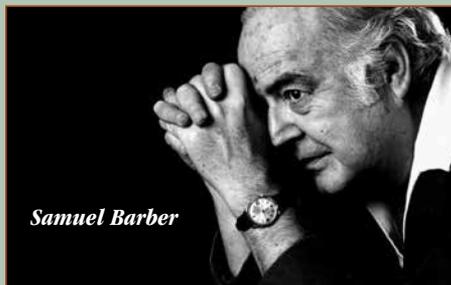
Season Opener

The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthew's
Movses Pogossian, violin

- MOZART: Symphony No. 34 in C major
- BARBER: Violin Concerto
- MENTON: *Unspoken*

We open our season with Mozart's sparkling Symphony No. 34 in C major. Even though the 24-year-old genius was increasingly frustrated with limitations found in the cultural backwater of Salzburg, he still found the means to satisfy the tastes of his audience while crafting this delightful and sophisticated work.

Los Angeles-based composer **Allen Menton** makes his Music Guild premiere



with an evocative essay, *Unspoken*. Conjuring images of the sea and magical landscapes, *Unspoken* is a lush work that will stimulate the imagination of the listener.

Violinist **Movses Pogossian**, who wowed Music Guild audiences in 2019, joins the Chamber Orchestra in Samuel Barber's Concerto for Violin. Composed in 1939 for fellow Curtis Institute of Music graduate Iso Briselli, the soulful and virtuosic concerto is well-suited to Pogossian, whose playing has been hailed as "fiery, centered, and highly musical."



NOVEMBER 11 at 8pm

Allekhverdyan and Danielpour's "Four Angels"

The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthew's
Boris Allakhverdyan, clarinet

- DANIELPOUR: *Four Angels* (World Premiere – Music Guild Commission)
- MENDELSSOHN: Sinfonia No. 10
- GUERRA: *Clave para Cuerdas y Percusión*
- JENKINS: *Palladio*

Featuring the string section of the orchestra, the concert begins with the Sinfonia No. 10 in B minor, composed at age 14 by Felix Mendelssohn. It is one of many early works that demonstrated the enormous potential he realized later in his career.

The program continues with the Los Angeles premiere of *Four Angels* for clarinet and strings, by Grammy Award-winning composer **Richard Danielpour**. Originally composed for clarinet and string quartet, the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Principal Clarinet, **Boris Allakhverdyan**, joins the orchestra in bringing this elegy to life, with the sonic splendor of a full string orchestra.

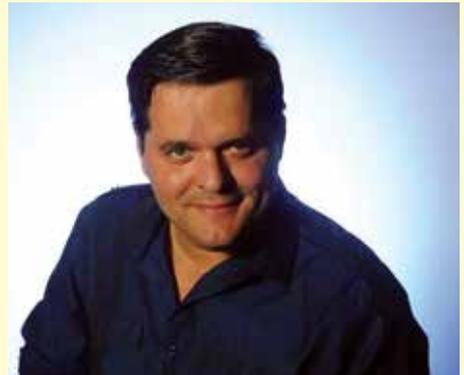


Boris Allakhverdyan, clarinet

The program also includes Latin Grammy Award winner Yalil Guerra's *Clave para Cuerdas y Percusión*, an effervescent work that evokes the rhythms and harmonies of his native Cuba. Inspired by 16th Century Italian architecture, our program closes with Karl Jenkins' suite for strings, *Palladio*.



Richard Danielpour, composer



Yalil Guerra, composer

DECEMBER 9 at 8pm



Yi-Huan Zhao, violin

■ TELEMANN: *Ouverture des nations anciens et modernes*

VIVALDI: "Winter" from *The Four Seasons*

CPE BACH: *Magnificat*

The Chamber Orchestra sets the scene for this popular concert with "Winter" from Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. The music draws inspiration from a sonnet that describes weather uncommon in Southern California: "shivering, frozen amid the frosty snow..."

The program continues with equally descriptive music from an equally prolific composer, Georg Philipp Telemann. A more cosmopolitan contem-



Yi-Huan Zhao, violin

porary of JS Bach, Telemann paints lively musical pictures of Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark.

The Choir and Soloists of St. Matthew's Parish join the orchestra to present Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach's *Magnificat*. Oldest son of JS Bach and godson of Telemann, CPE Bach composed this youthful work in 1749. Fittingly, some of the music demonstrates the influence of his father, while much of the piece anticipates Haydn and Mozart. It is an exciting way to end the concert and begin the holiday season.



CPE Bach, composer

FEBRUARY 10 at 8pm

David Kaplan, *piano*



- BRAHMS: *Fantasies, op. 116*
- COUPERIN: “Unmeasured” Preludes
- JANACEK: *Sonata for Piano (1905)*
- CASARRUBIOS: *World Premiere*

We're pleased to welcome pianist **David Kaplan** to the Music Guild. Hailed by critics as “excellent and adventurous” and possessing “grace and fire” at the keyboard, Mr. Kaplan has performed solo recitals and joined forces with orchestras in some of the most prestigious venues in the world.

The title of his program, “Quasi una Fantasia,” borrows Beethoven’s own title for the *Moonlight* sonata and will feature music of Couperin,

Janacek’s *Sonata for Piano (1905)*, Brahms’s *Fantasies, op. 116*, and a world premiere by composer and cellist **Andrea Casarrubios**.

A graduate of UCLA and Yale University, Kaplan currently serves as Assistant Professor of Piano at UCLA while maintaining a rigorous touring schedule.



Andrea Casarrubios, composer

MARCH 24 at 8pm

The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthews

Inna Faliks, piano

- BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major
- MENDELSSOHN: Overture in C major
- GRAINGER: *Molly on the Shore*
- DELIUS: Two Pieces for Small Orchestra

We're pleased to open this concert with the Overture in C major by Fanny Mendelssohn. Although the social strictures of her time prevented her from pursuing a professional career, she composed more than 450 works in numerous genres and served as a tireless advocate for her younger brother Felix and other women composers, including Clara Schumann.



Fanny Mendelssohn, composer



Inna Faliks, piano

In a nod to the changing seasons, the orchestra performs Frederick Delius' *Two Pieces for Small Orchestra*. As miniature tone poems, *On hearing the first cuckoo in spring* and *Summer night on the river*, call to mind myriad images of those seasons.

Percy Grainger is best known for his treatment of folksongs from the British Isles that are staples of the literature for wind ensembles. Written as a birthday present for his mother, *Molly on the Shore* continues to be a favorite in this and other incarnations.

"A concert pianist of the highest order," **Inna Faliks** makes a long-awaited return to the Music Guild to perform the Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, by Ludwig van Beethoven. Premiered in 1808 by the composer, it was the last time Beethoven appeared as a soloist,

APRIL 28 at 8pm

Choral Arts Initiative Concert

Guest Ensemble to be announced January 1, 2023



Because of advertising restrictions placed on the Music Guild by a large Los Angeles presenter, we are not able to announce the identity of our 2023 Choral Arts Initiative ensemble until after Christmas 2022. Rest assured, you will want to save the date for what will

be an extraordinary – and no doubt sold out – evening with one of the most in-demand male choral ensembles on the international stage. Their programs always feature a great mix of choral classics, spirituals, folksongs and a few choice picks from Broadway and the pop world.

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JUNE 2 at 8pm

Season Finale

Tyler Hunt, steel drum

The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthew's

The Choir and Soloists of St. Matthew's Parish

- MOZART: *Vesperae solennes de confessore*
- PROKOFIEV: *Sinfonietta*
- DE SILVA: *Hermitage* (World Premiere – Music Guild commission)

Combining classical forms with his unique harmonic approach, Sergei Prokofiev remains one of the most intriguing composers of the 20th century. His *Sinfonietta* was his youthful attempt “to create a transparent piece for small orchestra.” The style he mastered in the *Sinfonietta* blossomed fully in the familiar Classical Symphony and other later works.



Sergei Prokofiev, composer



Tyler Hunt, steel drum

Los Angeles-based composer Dante De Silva makes his St. Matthew's Music Guild debut with *Hermitage*, an exciting piece that combines the distinctive timbre of the steel drum with the classical orchestra.

The Choir and Soloists of St. Matthew's Parish take the stage to present one of Mozart's most treasured sacred works, *Vesperae solennes de confessore*. Written for an evening performance in the beautifully rococo confines of the Salzburg cathedral, Mozart created a work of great exuberance and sublime beauty. It was his final sacred work while in the employ of his nemesis, Archbishop Hieronymus von Colloredo, before departing for Vienna and greater renown.

The Music Guild's Outreach To The Community



The Chamber Orchestra's Phil Feather and Dwayne Milburn at Bread and Roses Café

St. Matthew's Music Guild has a long and impressive record of community outreach that extends back almost to the founding of the organization.

Our mission statement makes it clear that a primary goal of the Music Guild is to perform concerts throughout the Los Angeles area and to ensure that individuals who wish to hear live classical music but lack the resources or mobility to attend professionally presented concerts will have that opportunity.

Over the past two years and despite Covid-19, the Music Guild has maintained its relationship with several outreach partners and formed new relationships in anticipation of an even greater presence in the community. Thanks to generous funding from the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture – matched dollar for dollar by subscribers – and the I.N. and Susanna H. Van Nuys Foundation, we look forward to doing even more. Our current partners include S.P.Y. (Safe Place for Youth), Bread and



Afternoon Concert at LA Family Housing's "Arroyo" shelter for women

Roses Café (which provides daily meals for the homeless) and LA Family Housing (providing permanent, temporary and transitional housing for the homeless).

If you would like more information regarding the Music Guild's outreach efforts, please contact the Music Guild office:

info@MusicGuildOnline.org

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2022-2023 Concert Season



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