



# San Jose Chamber Music Society

PO BOX 108 SAN JOSE CA 95103-0108

San Jose



www.sjchambermusic.org 408-286-5111

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## San Jose Chamber Music Society 2019-2020 season

We bring the world of chamber music to you:  
**ENSEMBLES FROM: Paris, the U.K., Germany, New York City & the Bay Area!**

- **STRING QUARTETS:** the Calidore, Modigliani, & St. Lawrence
  - **PIANO TRIOS:** the Gould Piano Trio with clarinetist Robert Plane, & the Phaeton Piano Trio
  - **THE BAY AREA'S BEST:**
    - **St. Lawrence String Quartet**
      - **Ensemble San Francisco** with guest artists oboist James Austin Smith and cellist Angela Lee
      - **Jon Nakamatsu** joining the Modigliani for the Brahms Piano Quintet

**Commemorating the 250th ANNIVERSARY of BEETHOVEN's birth in 1770!**  
**String Quartets** Op.130 with Op.133 Grosse Fuge, and Op.131; **Piano Trios** Op.1/#1, & Op.70/#1 *Ghost*, & the first hearing of a newly discovered piano trio movement fragment (which Robert Levin is completing); & **Cello Sonata #2** Op.5/#2.

- **Double helpings of MOZART, MENDELSSOHN & DVOŘÁK** plus BRAHMS, SAINT-SAËNS, RAVEL, STRAVINSKY, & BRITTEN
  - and our first hearings of rediscovered Carl FRÜHLING & of Pulitzer Prize-winner Caroline SHAW!

**6-concert series**  
**NOW** at **San Jose State University Concert Hall** in the School of Music and Dance, in downtown San Jose.

Join us for our **34th Year of live Chamber Music**  
 Classical music for small ensembles – new this year at the San Jose State University Concert Hall!

## Subscribe and Save!

Enjoy the full series –  
**6 Concerts at ~20% off the full price**

**DONATIONS:** Ticket sales cover less than 50% of our concert expenses. Your tax-deductible contribution to the San Jose Chamber Music Society is greatly appreciated. Some employers match employee contributions to non-profit organizations. Please check with your company and follow their instructions. Thank you for your patronage and support.

**GRANTS:** SJCMS is supported in part by a Local Arts Grant from Silicon Valley Creates, by a grant from the Ann & Gordon Getty Foundation, and by a Cultural Affairs grant from the City of San José. We welcome grant and business donations and referrals.

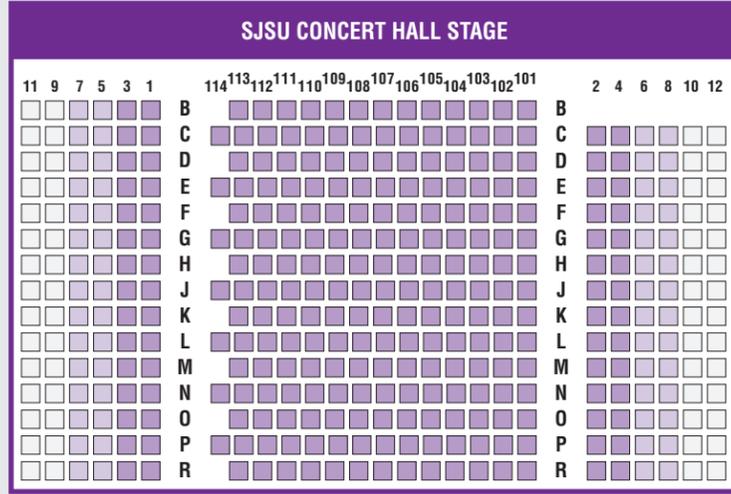


**VOLUNTEERS:** Our volunteers make each concert happen by helping in many ways—including ushering, marketing, refreshments, and artist hospitality. Would you like to join this team? To tell us your interests, just phone our voicemail at 408-286-5111.

**GIFT CERTIFICATES/GROUP PRICES** are available. Contact us to arrange.

**For Tickets & Information**  
 408-286-5111  
 SJCMS  
 P.O. Box 108  
 San Jose, CA 95103-0108  
 sjcms@sjchambermusic.org  
 www.sjchambermusic.org

All programs are subject to change.



■ "A" Reserved □ "B" Reserved □ "C" Reserved

Website subscription sales begin September 1, 2019.  
 Single tickets go on sale September 25, 2019.

### OUR MISSIONS:

**To present** chamber music concerts in an ideal setting performed by top ensembles from the Bay Area, across America, and around the world.

**To enrich** our audience experience through pre-concert talks, post-concert Q&As, program notes, and meet-the-composer opportunities.

**To educate** students in chamber music by presenting outreach by some of our ensembles for San Jose public schools, and by arranging performer residency activities for San Jose State University music students.

**To support** chamber music in our region by publicizing other nearby chamber music concerts, by cooperating in marketing with fellow presenters, and by presenting joint programs with The Ira E. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies, San José State University.

### OUR 34-YEAR HISTORY – a Story to Celebrate!

In 1986 Lawrence Bryan and friends founded SJCMS so that South Bay audiences could enjoy a quality professional chamber music concert series here in San Jose. All concerts were presented in the rotunda of the nearby First Unitarian Church until 1993, when our audience outgrew the church's capacity. From 1994 until the Spring of 2019, all of our concerts were held in the delightful 318-seat Trianon Theatre. Unfortunately, this Spring the Trianon Theatre was sold and is no longer operating as a musical performance venue. After an extensive search for a new home, the SJCMS Board of Directors decided to relocate our concerts just a few blocks away to the Concert Hall at the San Jose State University School of Music and Dance. We hope that you, our loyal audience, will follow us to our new home.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: ~20% discount	Qty	A	B	C	TOTAL
6 Concert Series: Regular		\$250	\$216	\$178	\$
Senior 65+		\$235	\$202	\$163	\$

Student tickets (25 & under, w/ID) \$15 - in Section "C" can be ordered on our website starting September 25, 2019.

SINGLE Ticket Prices	Qty	A	B	C	TOTAL
Regular		\$52	\$45	\$37	
Senior 65+		\$49	\$42	\$34	

Indicate concert choices and number ordered:

10/20/19 Calidore String Quartet				\$
*11/9/19 Modigliani Qrt/Jon Nakamatsu				\$
*1/25/20 Gould Piano Trio/Robert Plane				\$
2/16/20 Phaeton Piano Trio				\$
3/22/20 St. Lawrence String Quartet				\$
4/26/20 Ens. San Francisco & Guests				\$

\* Note: Saturday 7:30pm start

Visit [www.sjchambermusic.org](http://www.sjchambermusic.org) to place your order, or:

Mail orders along with your payment to:	Total for tickets	\$
SJCMS P.O. Box 108 San Jose, CA 95103-0108	Thank you for your tax-deductible donation	\$
	<b>Total Enclosed</b>	<b>\$</b>

# San Jose Chamber Music Society 2019-2020 season – our 34th! 6 Subscription Concerts

## OUR NEW VENUE

Although we are saddened to be leaving the Trianon Theatre, we are glad that our audience will still be able to enjoy our concerts at the **San Jose State University Concert Hall** in the **Music Building** in the center of the SJSU campus. It has fine acoustics, comfortable seating and good accessibility. For renewing subscribers, your new seats will be as close as possible to your previous ones at the Trianon.



### TIME, LOCATION & PARKING

Our Sunday evening concerts will start at 7:00 pm with a pre-concert talk starting at 6:15 pm. The two **Saturday evening concerts will start at 7:30 pm** with pre-concert talks starting at 6:45 pm. When the artists can do so, they will participate in a question and answer session after the concert.

The **SJSU Music Building** is at the center of the Downtown San Jose campus—with closest access from the University's South Parking Garage on S. 7th St. at San Salvador. You may also use the North Garage at 9th St. and San Fernando. The weekend parking fee of \$5 per day applies. For our concerts we are offering all ticket holders free parking for our concerts in the University parking garages. Details will be sent with your tickets and by email.

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 (please include for SJCMS news and alerts)

Please send me concert information and reminders.

Donor name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (for listing in concert programs)

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 (matching funds - please include matching grant form)

Check enclosed (preferred)  Interested in volunteering  
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7:00 PM – SUN. OCTOBER 20, 2019

### Calidore String Quartet (New York City)

Plays Ravel, Pulitzer Prize-winner Caroline Shaw - and Beethoven!



Ryan Meehan, violin; Estelle Choi, cello; Jeffrey Myers, violin; Jeremy Berry, viola

**Program:** RAVEL String Quartet in F Major (1903); Caroline SHAW (b.1983) *Three Essays: Nimrod, Echo, & Ruby* (2016-18); BEETHOVEN String Quartet #13 in B-Flat Major, Op.130 (1825) & Grosse Fuge (Great Fugue) Op.133 (1825). Pre-concert talk 6:15pm, Dr. Erica Buurman.

**Music:** Ravel's Quartet won Debussy's admiration, and innovates within its classic form. • Caroline Shaw composed *Three Essays* for the Calidore. Shaw's work mixes old and new sounds, and her *Three Essays* (the *Washington Post* reported) "kept a roomful of people on the edge of their seats, rapt throughout." • Beethoven's late quartets explore new worlds of sound. Stravinsky called the Great Fugue finale for Op.130 "the most perfect miracle in music... contemporary forever".

**Artists:** Praised for its "deep reserves of virtuosity and impressive dramatic instinct" (*NY Times*) and for its balance of "intellect and expression" (*LA Times*), the **Calidore Quartet's** impressive accolades include a 2018 Avery Fisher Career Grant, the 2017 Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Award, and named BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artists.

7:00 PM – SUN. FEBRUARY 16, 2020

### Introducing the Phaeton Piano Trio (Weimar, Germany)

Playing newly-discovered Beethoven & his "Ghost" - & Mendelssohn!



Florian Uhlig, piano; Friedemann Eichhorn, violin; Peter Hörr, cello

**Program:** BEETHOVEN first performance of unfinished movement of Piano Trio in F Minor unv10 (1816); & BEETHOVEN Piano Trio in D Major, Op.70/#1 *Ghost* (1808); MENDELSSOHN Piano Trio #1 in D Minor, Op.49. Pre-concert talk 6:15pm, Roger Emanuels.

**Music:** The Phaeton Trio treats us to a newly discovered piano trio fragment by Beethoven, plus his *Ghost* Trio—named for its ominous middle movement. The *Ghost* shows Beethoven's ability to work up pattern themes interestingly and expansively, and to convey deeply evocative moods. • Mendelssohn's D Minor Trio was an immediate and lasting success—"the master trio of the age." (Robert Schumann).

**Artists:** Introducing the **Phaeton Trio** whose artists have each toured major stages worldwide as soloists for 20+ years. They formed in 2016 to perform and record treasured trios, with a 2018 Mendelssohn CD. "Watch out for [violinist] *Friedemann Eichhorn*." (*The Strad*); "Peter Hörr is a fantastic cellist." (*The Guardian*); [pianist] "Florian Uhlig plays in masterful fashion." (*Suddeutsche Zeitung*).

NEW TIME

7:30 PM – SAT. NOVEMBER 9, 2019

### Modigliani Quartet (Paris) with pianist Jon Nakamatsu

Mozart, Stravinsky, Mendelssohn – Brahms Piano Quintet with Jon!



Amaury Coeytaux, violin; Loïc Rio, violin; Laurent Marfaing, viola; François Kieffer, cello

Jon Nakamatsu piano

**Program:** MOZART String Quartet #19 in C Major, K.465 *Dissonance* (1785); STRAVINSKY Three Pieces for String Quartet (1914); MENDELSSOHN Capriccio for String Quartet in E Minor, Op.81/#3 (1843-47); BRAHMS Piano Quintet in F Minor, Op.34 (1864). Pre-concert talk 6:45pm, Kai Christiansen.

**Music:** After its dissonant introduction, Mozart's Quartet radiates beneficence and consonance. • Stravinsky's composing for string quartet is novel and revolutionary, as he was in other genres. • Mendelssohn's Capriccio starts as an Andante—then bursts out as a high-speed passionate fugue. • Brahms' Piano Quintet—composed at age 31—with its impetuosity and brooding mood, is epic and masterful.

**Artists:** The Paris-based, world-touring **Quatuor Modigliani** celebrate 15 years playing top venues and series. Their eight CDs on Mirare label have all won prizes and critical acclaim. "The best evening of string quartet playing at HMA in 20 years." (*Lee Eiseman, Director, Harvard Musical Association*) • Local favorite **Jon Nakamatsu** wins unanimous praise worldwide as a true aristocrat of the keyboard.

7:00 PM – SUN. MARCH 22, 2020

### St. Lawrence String Quartet (Palo Alto)

Playing Saint-Saëns Quartet Op.112 & Beethoven C# Minor Op.131!



Christopher Costanza, cello; Lesley Robertson, viola; Owen Dalby, violin; Geoff Nuttall, violin

**Program:** SAINT-SAËNS String Quartet #1 in E Minor, Op.112 (1899); BEETHOVEN String Quartet #14 in C# Minor, Op.131 (1825-26). Pre-concert talk 6:15pm, Dr. Erica Buurman.

**Music:** Saint-Saëns' late Romantic Quartet Op.121—his first, at the ripe age of 64—is hailed as a powerful and original masterwork of French quartet literature. Its magnificent 2nd movement is a tremendous tour de force. • Beethoven said that of his 16 quartets the C-Sharp Minor Op.131 was his favorite. Wagner poetically extolled its epic greatness. Many consider this 40-minute work the greatest quartet ever written, and exemplary of Beethoven's profound and expansive late Quartets.

**Artists:** "Modern", "dramatic", "superb", "wickedly attentive", "with a hint of rock 'n roll energy" are a few ways critics describe the **St. Lawrence String Quartet**. With two EMI Grammy-nominations, and celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019, the SLSQ galvanizes listeners minds and emotions both on tour and at Stanford as resident ensemble since 1998. "...precision, warmth and an electricity of playing..." (*New York Times*).

NEW TIME

7:30 PM – SAT. JANUARY 25, 2020

### Gould Piano Trio with Robert Plane clarinet (all U.K.)

Return with Beethoven's Opus 1 #1 - & Frühling & Dvořák trios!



Benjamin Frith, piano; Lucy Gould, violin; Richard Lester, cello

Robert Plane clarinet

**Program:** BEETHOVEN Piano Trio #1 in E-Flat Major, Op.1/#1 (1793-95); Carl FRÜHLING (1868-1937) Clarinet Trio in A Minor, Op.40 (1925); DVOŘÁK Piano Trio #3 in F Minor, Op.65 (1883). Pre-concert talk 6:45pm, Roger Emanuels.

**Music:** Haydn approved of Beethoven's witty, vivacious first published piano trio and its mastery of high-Classical style. Beethoven elevated the trio form through tonal manipulations and by adding a Scherzo. • The musical language of Austrian pianist/teacher Carl Frühling's clarinet trio is "Brahmsian" Romantic. • Dvořák's magnificent third trio combines Viennese Classicism with his own Romantic and Slavic sensibilities.

**Artists:** The **Gould Trio**—28 years strong—is long recognized as one of the most outstanding piano trios (*The Washington Post* likened it to the Beaux Arts Trio). Together with celebrated clarinetist **Robert Plane** ("an eloquent and expressive voice" – *The Times of London*), they're praised for rediscovering unduly neglected repertoire (e.g. Frühling's trio). Their impressive discography includes Beethoven's trios. "Pure Gould...trio playing at its best." (*The Strad*).

7:00 PM – SUN. APRIL 26, 2020

### Ensemble San Francisco with Guest Artists

oboiist James Austin Smith and cellist Angela Lee



Rebecca Jackson, violin

Elizabeth Schumann, piano

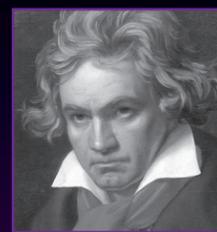
James Austin Smith oboe

Angela Lee cello

**Program:** Benjamin BRITTEN Phantasy Quartet for oboe & string trio in F Minor, Op.2 (1932); MOZART Oboe Quartet in F Major, K.370 (1781); BEETHOVEN Sonata for cello & piano #2 in G Minor, Op.5/#2 (1796); DVOŘÁK Piano Quartet #2 in E-Flat Major, Op.87 (1889). Pre-concert talk 6:15pm, Kai Christiansen.

**Music:** Britten gives engaging voice to the high, clear oboe timbre in his Phantasy. • Mozart wrote the concerto-like Quartet to showcase a virtuoso oboist's prowess. • Beethoven's Op.5 gave to cello sonatas density of material and duets of equal and independent parts. • Dvořák's Piano Quartet #2 clearly reflects the classical form and procedures of his mentor Brahms, and his own innate "Schubertian" lyricism and exquisite harmonies.

**Artists:** Top Bay Area musicians founded **Ensemble San Francisco** in 2013 to do main-stage performances and to bring chamber music to children, youth and elders. "A *bip, unstuffy, and malleable group of high-quality chamber musicians*" raves the *SF Classical Voice*. "...an amazing amount of talent!" (*examiner.com*). • NY City-based Oboist **James Austin Smith's** performances are "virtuosic", "dazzling" and "brilliant" (*New York Times*).



1770 - 1827

This season we celebrate **Beethoven's 250th Anniversary!**

CHAMBER MUSIC...

virtuosity  
delights

taps and evokes  
emotions...

intimate

cooperation

inspires

variety  
community

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