

YOUTH ORCHESTRA *of* CENTRAL JERSEY

presents

Midori



Tuesday June 1, 2021

7:00pm Livestream Virtual Concert



Learn more at yocj.org





Midori performs with YOCJ

Tuesday, June 1, 2021 | 7:00pm

Partita No. 3 in E Major for Solo Violin, BWV 1006
Preludio

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Panel Discussion

Midori, Soloist

Derek Bermel, Composer

Nell Flanders, YOCJ Conductor

Trevor New, Producer/Sound Designer

Phillip Pugh, YOCJ Artistic Director

Clara Kim, Coordinator

Larisa Epps, YOCJ Executive Director

Spring Cadenzas (2021)

Derek Bermel
(b. 1967)

I. fields, mountains

II. wake, butterfly

III. unknown spring

In Spring 2020, Midori contacted me about writing a concerto that she could perform remotely with youth orchestras and also live in subsequent seasons. During the winter of the pandemic it felt uplifting to compose music imbued with hope and energy. The piece takes the form of interlocking cadenzas, played without pause, in which Midori leads the orchestra through a series of musical episodes. The movement titles are derived from translations of Basho's delicate, poignant haikus. - Derek Bermel



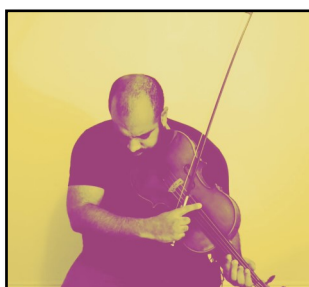
Midori is a visionary artist, activist and educator who explores and builds connections between music and the human experience and breaks with traditional boundaries which makes her one of the most outstanding violinists of our time. As a leading concert violinist for over 35 years, Midori regularly transfixes audiences around the world, bringing together graceful precision and intimate expression. She has performed with, among others, the London, Chicago, and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras, the Sinfonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, the Berlin and Vienna Philharmonics, and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. She has collaborated with such outstanding musicians as Claudio Abbado, Emanuel Ax, Leonard Bernstein, Constantinos Carydis, Christoph Eschenbach, Daniel Harding, Paavo Järvi, Mariss Jansons, Yo-Yo Ma, Susanna Mälkki, Joana Mallwitz, Antonello Manacorda, Zubin Mehta, Donald Runnicles, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, and Omer Meir Wellber. Midori's latest recording with the Festival Strings Lucerne of Beethoven's Violin Concerto and two Romances was released in October 2020 by Warner Classics. Her diverse discography by Sony Classical, Ondine

and Onyx includes recordings of Bloch, Janáček and Shostakovich and a Grammy Award-winning recording of Hindemith's Violin Concerto with Christoph Eschenbach conducting the NDR Symphony Orchestra as well as Bach's Sonatas and Partitas for Solo Violin filmed at Köthen Castle, which was also recorded for DVD (Accentus). In 2021 she will be honored at the 43rd annual Kennedy Center Honors by the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in recognition of lifetime artistic achievement. Midori is deeply committed to furthering humanitarian and educational goals. She has founded and manages several non-profit organizations, including Midori & Friends, which provides music programs for New York City youth and communities, and MUSIC SHARING, a Japan-based foundation that brings both western classical and Japanese music traditions into young lives by presenting programs in schools, institutions, and hospitals. In recognition of such commitments, she serves as a United Nations Messenger of Peace. Midori was born in Osaka in 1971 and began her violin studies with her mother, Setsu Goto at an early age. In 1982, conductor Zubin Mehta invited the then 11-year-old Midori to perform with the New York Philharmonic in the orchestra's annual New Year's Eve concert, where the foundation was laid for her following career. Midori plays the 1734 Guarnerius del Gesù 'ex-Huberman'. She uses four bows – two by Dominique Peccatte, one by François Peccatte and one by Paul Siefried.



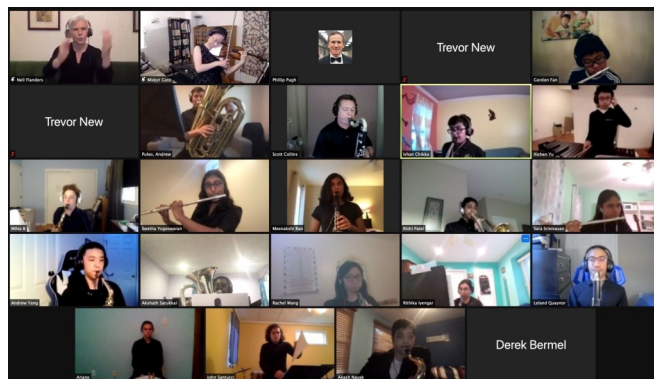
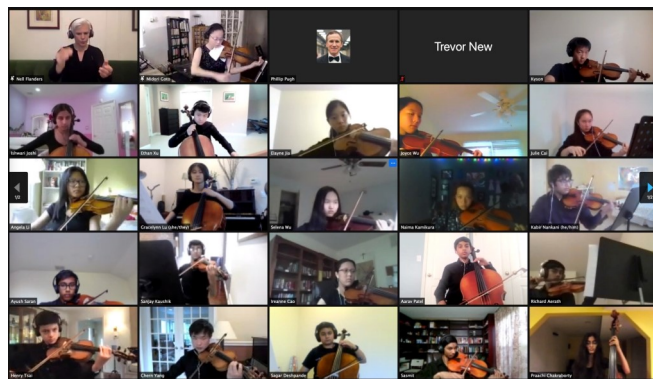
Composer and clarinetist **Derek Bermel** has been internationally recognized for his creativity, theatricality, and virtuosity. He has received the Alpert Award in the Arts, Rome Prize, Guggenheim and Fulbright Fellowships, the Trailblazer Award from the American Music Center, and the Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Recordings of Bermel's "unambiguously luscious" music (The New York Times), with the composer as clarinet soloist, have received two Grammy nominations: Migrations (Naxos, 2020) and Voices (BMOP, 2010). His newly recorded orchestral work A Shout, a Whisper, and a Trace, was cited as best of the year by The New York Times critic Anthony Tommasini for its "dizzying melting pot of folklike rhythms, droning tunes and pungent modernist harmonies, spiked with bursts of wailing jazz." Bermel recently joined forces with

celebrated author Sandra Cisneros to adapt her renowned coming-of-age novel, The House on Mango Street, for the operatic stage. The opera is Bermel's latest entry in a series of works telling lesser heard American epic tales, including his Migration Series, based on the paintings of the same name by Jacob Lawrence. He has also collaborated with author and librettist Wendy S. Walters to create Golden Motors and The Good Life, two dramatic works depicting life and loss in American industrial cities. Bermel's commissions have included works for the Pittsburgh, National, Boston, Saint Louis, New Jersey, and Pacific Symphonies, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, eighth blackbird, the Guarneri String Quartet, the JACK Quartet, Copland House, Asko/Schönberg (Netherlands), Figura (Denmark), and the Koussevitzky and Fromm Foundations. His many collaborators include hip-hop artist Yasiin Bey (Mos Def), writer Wendy S. Walters, playwright Will Eno, installation artists Sook-Jin Jo and Shimon Attie, and choreographer S. Ama Wray. Bermel brings his "brilliant," "rhythmically fluid, rich-hued" (New York Times) clarinet playing to concerto and chamber repertoire. He was soloist alongside Wynton Marsalis in his own Migration Series and has performed his clarinet concerto, Voices, with dozens of orchestras worldwide, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the BBC Orchestra. Artistic Director of the American Composers Orchestra, Bermel is also curator of the Gamper Festival at the Bowdoin International Music Festival. He recently enjoyed a four-year tenure as artist-in-residence at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and a year as Composer in Residence with the Seattle Symphony. He mentors composers through ACO's Jazz Composers Orchestra Institute and Earshot, and directs the Copland House's CULTIVATE emerging composers program.



Trevor New is a classically trained and self-taught Electro Acoustic Violist based in Brooklyn who is known for creating and performing intuitive and scored soundscapes that evoke a cinematic journey. He is a performer, composer, sound designer, engineer/producer and educator working with leading artists, composers and developers of music technology. Trevor is driven by the exploration of diverse music formats: found sounds, live looping, modular synthesis, digital processing methods, film, orchestra. His passion is creating new music that explores contrasting styles, timbres and performance approaches hence a devotion to Electro Acoustic Viola blended with classical elements. As Immersive performances continue to rapidly emerge Trevor is actively at the forefront both as an artist, musician, mentor and technologist.

YOCJ String Orchestra & Wind Ensemble



Violin I

Angela Li
Selena Wu
Kabir Nankani
Ireanne Cao
Sanjay Kaushik
Chern Yang

Violin II

Henry Tsai
Julie Cai
Joyce Wu
Kyson Zhou
Darby Ko
Richard Aerath

Viola

Elayne Jia
Naima Kamikura
Ayush Saran
Sasmit Munagala

Cello

Ishwari Joshi
Ethan Xu
Gracelynn Lu
Aarav Patel
Sagar Deshpande

Double Bass

Sruti Bapatla
Praachi Chakraborty

Flute

Sara Srinivasan
Swetha Yogeswaran
Gordan Fan

Oboe

Rachel Wang

Clarinet

Rithika Iyengar
Meenakshi Rao

Bass Clarinet

Leland Quaynor
Mr. Scott Collins

Alto Saxophone

Ishan Chikka
Andrew Yang

Tenor Saxophone

Miles Birnbaum
Akash Nayak

Trombone

Rishi Patel

Euphonium

Akshath Sarukkai

Tuba

Andrew Puleo

Percussion

John Santucci
Ariane Adcroft
Harry Fan



Dr. Nell Flanders brings her varied experiences as a professional conductor, violinist, and educator to her work as assistant conductor of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, with whom she has conducted ballet, popular classics, and holiday concerts. Dr. Flanders is deeply committed to educating the next generation of musicians and music lovers. She currently conducts the Precollege Symphony Orchestra at the Manhattan School of Music, where she also teaches conducting and violin. Previous positions include directing the Symphonic Wind Ensemble at The Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College and teaching at the University of Maryland – Baltimore County, Utah State University, and the University of Chicago. Her passion for cross-cultural exchange has led to frequent trips to Panama to conduct and teach.

Dr. Flanders enjoys performing many styles of music including blues, tango, period instrument baroque, and contemporary, and she is committed to broadening the range of musical styles played in an orchestral setting. Dr. Flanders recently completed a doctoral degree in orchestral conducting as a student of Marin Alsop at the Peabody Conservatory. She also holds degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory and Mannes College – The New School. Dr. Flanders joined the staff of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2020.

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Dr. Jordan Smith | Saxophone Program Director & Recruitment Coordinator
Scott Collins | Woodwind Choir Director
Sandy Olson | Flute Ensemble Director
Chris Colaneri | Percussion Ensemble Director
Barbara Witmer | Symphonic Woodwinds Coach
Dr. Nell Flanders | Symphonic Orchestra Director

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A Special Thank You...

...goes out to everyone who has made the
Midori Orchestra Residency Program possible!

