



For Immediate Release

**MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION ANNOUNCES 2022-23 INTERNATIONAL SEASON
40th ANNIVERSARY GUEST ARTISTS & PROGRAMMING
FEATURING COMMISSIONED WORLD PREMIERE BY SHINJI ESHIMA;
HONORARY SEASON CHAIRS MIRÓ QUARTET TO GIVE BAY AREA PREMIERE OF
HOME BY KEVIN PUTS; FREDERICA VON STADE TO DEBUT WITH FAURÉ QUARTETT;
PREMIERES BY CURTIS ON TOUR ARTISTS IDA KAVAFIAN & PETER WILEY, AND
SCOTLAND’S MAXWELL QUARTET; DEBUT OF THE HEATH QUARTET, AND RETURN OF
TRIO CON BRIO COPENHAGEN & ALEXANDER STRING QUARTET**

musicatkohl.org

Burlingame, CA (June 20, 2022) — **Music at Kohl Mansion** (MAKM) will launch its 40th anniversary season October 16 with an extraordinary roster of international guest artists on eight Sunday nights through May 7, 2023 in the intimate and warm acoustic of the historic Great Hall at Kohl Mansion. The season will be distinguished by the world premiere of critically acclaimed Bay Area composer **Shinji Eshima’s** commissioned chamber work entitled, *Hymn for Her*, a lively quintet for piano, marimba, clarinet, cello, and double bass.

Highlights of the season include double debuts of the Berlin-based **Fauré Quartett** in concert with special guest star, renowned mezzo-soprano **Frederica von Stade**; the **Miró Quartet**, 40th Anniversary Season Honorary Chairs, who will give the Bay Area premiere of *Home* by Pulitzer Prize-winning **Kevin Puts**; the debut of **Curtis on Tour** with violinist **Ida Kavafian** and cellist **Peter Wiley** with the Bay Area’s first hearing of **Richard Danielpour’s** *A Shattered Vessel*; and the live debut of the magnetic **Maxwell Quartet** from Scotland with the West Coast premiere of “Work Songs” inspired by the Scottish jute and textile industries in Dundee and the Hebridean Isles.

Joining the celebratory season will be the MAKM debut of England’s acclaimed **Heath Quartet**; and return engagements of Denmark’s popular **Trio con Brio Copenhagen** and San Francisco’s own highly revered **Alexander String Quartet**, an ensemble also celebrating its 40th anniversary.

MAKM Executive Director and Producer **Patricia Kristof Moy** said: “Each concert of our 40th Season holds special meaning as we reunite our loyal audiences with beloved ensembles from our glorious

past, and introduce long-awaited international artists for their live MAKM debuts. For this Ruby Anniversary, I am especially proud to announce the world premiere of *Hymn for Her* by esteemed composer Shinji Eshima, an homage to our four decades of magnificent music-making. Complementing this commissioned work, our cherished Miró Quartet - Honorary Chairs for this season – will return with Kevin Puts' seminal piece for our time entitled *Home*. Together, we will explore the many ways that music provides a sense of home, both here and around the world.”

Honorary Season Chairs, the Miró Quartet said, “For the past 25 years, Music at Kohl Mansion has had a special relationship with the Miró Quartet, hosting us both in performing some of the most memorable concerts of our career and in teaching masterclasses for the young artists who will become our future in classical music. We are proud and grateful to have been a small part of the great MAKM legacy that has unfolded over the last four decades, and we wish for many more years of music to come!”

2022-23 Season Guest Artists and Programming

THE HEATH QUARTET* (Great Britain)

Sunday, October 16, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Haydn: String Quartet in F minor, Op. 20, No. 5

Fanny Mendelssohn: String Quartet in E-flat Major

Schubert: String Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D. 810, *Death and the Maiden*

Sara Wolstenholme and Marije Johnston, violin; Gary Pomeroy, viola; Christopher Murray, cello

The dynamic and charismatic Heath Quartet is one of the most exciting British chamber ensembles of today, as they build a reputation for their upbeat and integrated sound. Their recording of Sir Michael Tippett's string quartets (Wigmore Live) received widespread acclaim and won the 2016 Gramophone Chamber Disk of the Year. A subsequent, critically acclaimed release on Harmonia Mundi of Tchaikovsky's Quartets Nos. 1 and 3 was selected as Disk of the Week by both *The Sunday Times* and BBC Radio 3. The Quartet's complete Bartók cycle (recorded live at the Wigmore Hall) was released by Harmonia Mundi (June 2017). Champions of contemporary music, the Quartet has worked with numerous leading composers including Hans Abrahamsen, Louis Andriessen, Brett Dean, Anthony Gilbert, Sofia Gubaidulina, Steven Mackey, and John Musto.

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONCERT

Sunday, November 13, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Shinji Eshima: *Hymn for Her*, 40th Anniversary Commission and World Premiere

Ernst Bacon: Excerpt from Piano Trio No. 2 (1st MAKM Commission premiered Feb. 1987)

David Carlson: Excerpt from Sonata for Cello and Piano (2nd MAKM Commission premiered Jan. 1993)

Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49

Karen Hutchinson, piano; Haruka Fujii, marimba; José Granero, clarinet; Roy Malan, violin; Emil Miland, cello; Charles Chandler, double bass

Composer **Shinji Eshima** said, “Within the crown of chamber music in the Bay Area, Music at Kohl Mansion has long been its brightest jewel. Music at Kohl Mansion provides exactly the intimacy and setting that is the very definition of what chamber music is all about. I have never been so surprised as when Patricia Kristof Moy contacted me and asked if I would compose a new work for them. That this would be for their 40th anniversary, and I would be their 4th commission, following on the heels of Ernst Bacon, David Carlson, and Jake Heggie, well, this was extremely daunting. But it is also the honor of a lifetime.”

Music at Kohl Mansion was founded 40 years ago by **Liz Dossa** in association with then-principal at Mercy High School, Burlingame, **Amy Bayley, R.S.M.** Over the years, Music at Kohl Mansion has commissioned musical works from Ernst Bacon with his Piano Trio No. 2 (1987); David Carlson’s Sonata for Cello and Piano (1993); and Jake Heggie’s *Intonations: Songs from the Violins of Hope* (2020). The commissioning of Japanese-American composer Shinji Eshima for the 2022-23 season marks the fourth.

Born in Berkeley, Eshima is a graduate of Stanford University and The Juilliard School of Music, and is a double-bassist with the San Francisco Ballet and Opera Orchestras. His instrument is the Plumerel bass (1843) featured in the painting by Degas, “The Orchestra of the Opera.” He is on the faculty at San Francisco State University and San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Eshima has composed for a variety of venues including theater, documentary film, chamber music, opera and the San Francisco Zen Center. For San Francisco Ballet, he has created three highly acclaimed musical scores including *RAKU*, a work now in the Joffrey Ballet repertory.

MIRÓ QUARTET (Austin, TX)

Sunday, December 4, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Haydn: String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 64, No. 3

Kevin Puts: “Home” for String Quartet

Beethoven: String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131

Daniel Ching and William Fedkenheuer, violin; John Largess, viola; Joshua Gindele, cello

One of America’s most celebrated and dedicated string quartets, the Miró Quartet has been labeled by *The New Yorker* as “furiously committed” and noted by the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* for its “exceptional tonal focus and interpretive intensity.” Founded in 1995, the Quartet has performed throughout the world on the most prestigious concert stages, earning accolades from critics and audiences alike. They have championed the music of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts for more than a decade, and in the 2019-20 season they premiered a new string quartet entitled *Home*, by the composer for the Miró’s 25th anniversary. In their 2021-22 season, the Miró premiered *Microfictions* written for them by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw with performances in Carnegie Hall, Houston, La Jolla and Hong Kong. The Miró is also partnering with soprano Karen Slack in a new program exploring the works of Florence Price and Margaret Bonds with concerts scheduled for the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Shriver Hall, Music Toronto, the Phoenix Chamber Music Society, and Chamber Music Northwest.

MAXWELL QUARTET* (Scotland)

Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Purcell: Fantasias, selections

Eleanor Alberga: String Quartet No. 2

Trad. Scottish/Maxwell Quartet "Work Songs" (Bay Area Premiere)

Brahms: String Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 67

Colin Scobie and George Smith, violin; Elliott Perks, viola; Duncan Strachan, cello

The Maxwell is firmly regarded as one of Britain's finest young string quartets with a strong connection to their folk music heritage. Special to this concert will be the premiere of new compositions based on songs associated with the Scottish jute and tweed industries in Dundee and the Hebridean Isles. The Maxwell Quartet, formed in 2010 in Glasgow, Scotland, is now an internationally prizewinning string quartet (2017 Trondheim International Chamber Music Competition) with performances hailed by the *New York Times* as "eloquent performers ... they bring the same sense of charisma and adventure to their performing ... the sound of traditional fiddle carried over beautifully into fresh readings of Haydn and Beethoven." The ensemble holds distinguished guest faculty positions at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow and the Music at Paxton Festival in the Scottish Borders.

TRIO CON BRIO COPENHAGEN (Denmark)

Sunday, February 5, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Haydn: Piano Trio No. 44 in E Major, Op. 86, No. 2, Hob. XV:28

Arensky: Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 32

Schubert: Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 100, D. 929

Jens Elvekjaer, piano; Soo-Jin Hong, violin; Soo-Kyung Hong, cello

Recognized as one of the world's finest piano ensembles, the Trio con Brio Copenhagen's multifaceted members are not only touring performing artists, but also esteemed recording artists, artistic directors and educators. The Trio appears regularly at the world's leading venues and concert series, including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Wigmore Hall, Berlin's Pierre Boulez-Saal, the Concertgebouw, and all of the leading concert halls across Denmark. Trio con Brio (Lively with Spirit) is a recipient of the Carl Nielsen and Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen Award, one of Denmark's most prestigious prizes. Founded at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna in 1999, the Trio is now based in Copenhagen and is recognized for its exceptional musicianship, fresh approach to the core repertoire, adventurous programming and a commitment to bringing music to young people through their highly creative concerts. International critical acclaim for the Trio includes "One of the greatest performances of chamber music I've ever encountered..." (*American Record Guide*) and "... a superb, greatly gift chamber group" (*Gramophone*).

FAURÉ PIANO QUARTETT* (Berlin)

with guest artist, mezzo-soprano FREDERICA VON STADE*

Sunday, March 12, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Fauré, new arrangement by Zakarias Grafilo: *Clair de Lune, Les Berceaux, Notre Amour, Mandoline*

Dvořák: Piano Quartet No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 87, B. 162

Brahms: Piano Quartet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 26

Dirk Mommertz, piano; Erika Geldsetzer, violin; Sascha Frömbling, viola; Konstantin Heidrich, cello

Celebrating its 27th anniversary, the Fauré Quartett has established itself as one of the world's premier piano quartets, visionary in its approach and highly regarded for its experiments and insights into undiscovered repertoire. The ensemble has distinguished itself with groundbreaking recordings of music by Mozart, Brahms, Mahler, R. Strauss along with popular songs by Peter Gabriel and Steely Dan, and the first-ever recording in a rare transcription of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Of their performance, the *Toronto Star* wrote, "The communication between the four performers was as beautiful to watch as their music was satisfying to hear. This quartet thinks and breathes as one, focused on a singular, clear vision for their music making." Award-winning opera, concert and recording star extraordinaire, Frederica von Stade joins the Fauré Quartett for her MAKM debut in a performance of four romantic songs by Gabriel Fauré, newly arranged by Zakarias Grafilo.

CURTIS ON TOUR WITH IDA KAVAFIAN & PETER WILEY* (Philadelphia, PA)

Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Richard Danielpour: *A Shattered Vessel* (Bay Area Premiere)

Schubert: String Quintet in C Major, Op. 163, D. 956

Ida Kavafian, violin; Peter Wiley, cello; additional musicians from Curtis to be announced

Violinist Ida Kavafian and cellist Peter Wiley, world renowned soloists, chamber musicians and esteemed faculty members of Philadelphia's prestigious Curtis Institute of Music, lead a quintet of string players (to be announced) in Franz Schubert's masterful String Quintet in C Major, D. 956 paired with award-winning Curtis-composer Richard Danielpour's, *A Shattered Vessel*. Co-commissioned by Ida Kavafian in 2019, the new work was composed as a companion to be played alongside the Schubert.

ALEXANDER STRING QUARTET (San Francisco)

Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Mozart: Viola Quintet in B-flat Major, K. 174 with **Paul Yarbrough** (ASQ violist emeritus)

Kodaly: String Quartet No. 2, Op. 10

Brahms: String Sextet No. 1 in B-flat Major, Op. 18 (w/**Paul Yarbrough, viola** and **Eric Gaenslen, cello**)

Zakarias Grafilo and Frederick Lifszit, violin; David Samuel, viola; Sandy Wilson, cello

The Alexander String Quartet, celebrating their 40th anniversary, has performed in the major music capitals of five continents, securing its standing among the world's premier ensembles, and a major artistic presence in its home base of San Francisco, serving since 1989 as Ensemble in Residence of San Francisco Performances and Directors of The Morrison Chamber Music Center Instructional Program at San Francisco State University. They have established themselves as important advocates of new music commissioning dozens of works from composers including Jake Heggie, Cindy Cox, Augusta Read Thomas, Robert Greenberg, Cesar Cano, Tarik O'Regan, Paul Siskind, and Pulitzer Prize-winner Wayne Peterson. Samuel Carl Adams' new "Quintet with Pillars" was premiered and has been widely performed across the U.S. by the Alexander with pianist Joyce Yang. Their distinguished

discography of Mozart, Shostakovich, Beethoven, Dvořák and Mahler songs now includes a veritable Brahms compendium with a recording of the three string quartets, plus a newly re-recorded Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2, transcribed by Zakarias Grafilo.

Season subscription tickets for the full eight-concert series are \$380 (adult), \$362 (senior), \$170 (age 30 and below); season subscription tickets for the seven-concert series, not including the Alexander String Quartet, are \$330 (adult), \$315 (senior), \$150 (age 30 and below). To purchase a season subscription, visit musicatkohl.org or call the Music at Kohl Mansion Box Office at (650) 762-1130.

All programs, artists and COVID-19 health and safety protocols are subject to change. Music at Kohl Mansion is located at 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame.

MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION: Inspired by the belief that the arts strengthen communities, Music at Kohl Mansion presents world-class chamber music concerts in the historic Kohl Mansion and music education in public schools on the San Francisco Peninsula. Outreach programs provide access to interactive musical experiences for diverse populations of all ages. Located on the Mercy High School campus in Burlingame, California, the Kohl Mansion is a jewel-like setting for fine music. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, this 1914 landmark features a gracious setting in the Elizabethan style Great Hall for intimate music on a grand scale.

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***MAKM live concert debut**

NB. Fauré Quartett appeared virtually in concert, November 2020

NB. Maxwell Quartet appeared virtually in concert, June 2021

Current as of June 17, 2022