

William Ransom

Yinzi Kong

Helen Hwaya Kim

David Couchreon

Julie Coucheron

Elizabeth Pridgen

Jessica Wu

Khari Joyner

Charae Krueger

Beer & G-Strings
Musical Fireworks

Sunday, May 22, 2022

Courtyard by Marriott, Amelia Island | 2700-1 Atlantic Ave | Fernandina Beach, FL

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About AICMF

The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is nationally recognized as one of the foremost music events of its kind.

The Festival is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



All venues for Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival in-person concerts are handicap accessible.

PROGRAM

May 22, 2022

Piano Quintet in A Major Op. 81

1. Allegro ma non tanto

David Coucheron, violin | Helen Hwaya Kim, violin

Yinzi Kong, viola | Charae Krueger, cello | Julie Coucheron, piano

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK

(1841 - 1904)

The Swan

Charae Krueger, cello | Julie Coucheron, piano

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS

(1835 - 1921)

La Vida Breve

MANUEL DE FALLA

(1876 - 1946)

Das Dreiblatt

WILHELM FRIEDEMANN BACH

Elizabeth Pridgen, piano | Julie Coucheron, piano | William Ransom, piano

(1710 - 1784)

Piano Trio in G Minor

3. Finale, Presto

David Coucheron, violin | Khari Joyner, cello | Julie Coucheron, piano

BEDŘICH SMETANA

(1824 - 1884)

INTERMISSION

Winter from the '4 Seasons Of Buenos Aires'

Helen Hwaya Kim, violin | Charae Krueger, cello | Elizabeth Pridgen, piano

ASTOR PIAZZOLLA

(1921 - 1992)

Summer in G Minor from the Four Seasons

Allegro non molto

Adagio

Presto

David Coucheron, violin | Helen Hwaya Kim, violin | Jessica Wu, violin

Yinzi Kong, viola | Charae Krueger, cello | Julie Coucheron, piano

ANTONIO VIVALDI

(1678 - 1741)

Adagio

David Coucheron, violin | Helen Hwaya Kim, violin | Jessica Wu, violin

Yinzi Kong, viola | Charae Krueger, cello | Julie Coucheron, organ (on the clavino)

TOMASO ALBINONI

(1671 - 1751)

Csárdás

David Coucheron, violin | Helen Hwaya Kim, violin

Jessica Wu, violin | Yinzi Kong, viola | Charae Krueger, cello | Khari Joyner, cello

Julie Coucheron, piano | William Ransom, piano | Elizabeth Pridgen, piano

VITTORIO MONTI

(1868 - 1922)

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Julie Coucheron, piano



Pianist Julie Coucheron, who started playing the piano at age four, has established an international career winning prizes in Italy, Germany and the U.S. She has worked with such musicians as Lazar Berman, Claude Frank, Emanuel Ax, Vladimir Feltsman, John O’ Connor and Chistopher O’Riley. Ms. Coucheron has toured Europe, the U.S., South America and Asia, playing in many great halls, including Verizon Hall, Wigmore Hall, the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall.

Ms. Coucheron has performed at the Oslo Chamber Music Festival, Bergen International Music Festival and at La Jolla Summer Fest. She is artistic director for the Fjord Cadenza Festival in Norway and a founding member of the Kon Tiki Classical music Fest in Oslo, Norway.

Ms. Coucheron has released two recordings with her brother, violinist David, who is concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. She is also an Artist-in-Residence in Piano at Kennesaw State University School of Music.

David Coucheron, violin



Violinist David Coucheron joined the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra as Concertmaster in September 2010. At the time, he was the youngest concertmaster among any major U.S. orchestra.

An active recording artist, recordings with sister and pianist Julie Coucheron include “David and Julie” (Naxos/Mudi) and “Debut” (Naxos). He is also the featured soloist on the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra’s recording of Vaughan Williams’ *The Lark Ascending*, which was released on ASO Media in Fall 2014.

Coucheron began playing the violin at age three. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree from The Curtis Institute of Music, his Master of Music from The Juilliard School and his Master of Musical Performance from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, studying with teachers including Igor Ozim, Aaron Rosand, Lewis Kaplan and David Takeno. Coucheron plays a 1725 Stradivarius, on kind loan from Anders Sveaas Charitable Trust.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS *(continued)*

Khari Joyner, cello



Described by the New York Classical Review as “one of the most exciting young musicians on the classical scene”, Khari Joyner has a following both nationally and abroad as a versatile soloist, chamber musician, and ambassador for the arts. He has made numerous guest appearances with orchestras and ensembles across the world, including two recent performances of both Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto in A Minor and Tchaikovsky’s Rocooco Variations with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, which received rave reviews. In addition, he has given many cello masterclasses and lectures at notable institutions, most recently at Stetson University and Oberlin Conservatory. Joyner also received the 2017-2018 career grant from the Leonore Annenberg Fellowship Fund, which nominates and endows a select number of gifted artists with generous funding to further their careers. Joyner has also performed for Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, the latter for which he gave a private performance in the Oval Office. A passionate advocate for the music of the 21st century, Joyner has collaborated and given performances of works by major composers such as Tyshawn Sorey, Carman Moore, Kaija Saariaho, Magnus Lindberg,

among many others. An active chamber musician and one of the founding members of the Altezza Piano Trio, Joyner also has given performances as a guest at the Ritz Chamber Players, Chamber Music Society of Central Virginia, Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival, Fontainebleau Music Festival, and on WQXR as a part of the Midday Masterpieces series. A graduate of Juilliard’s prestigious Doctor of Musical Arts program, he continues to serve as Teaching Assistant to his former teacher Joel Krosnick, and also pursued a mathematics concentration in an exchange program with Columbia University, while studying in Juilliard’s Accelerated BM/MM program. Joyner has also collaborated with choreographers and actors, and was even considered for the role of the young Nathaniel Ayers as part of the Hollywood film *The Soloist*.

Helen Hwaya Kim, violin



Helen Hwaya Kim made her orchestral debut with the Calgary Philharmonic at the age of six and has gone on to become a respected and sought-after artist. She appeared as a soloist with the Boston Pops at Boston’s Symphony Hall, as well as with the Milwaukee and Atlanta Symphony Orchestras.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS *(continued)*

Yinzi Kong, viola

Ms. Kim earned her Bachelor and master's degree from the Juilliard School, where her teachers included Cho-Liang Lin and Dorothy DeLay. While at Juilliard, she served as Concertmaster of the Juilliard Orchestra and was the winner of the Juilliard Concerto Competition at both the pre-college and college levels. She is the recipient of more than 100 national and international awards. She won the prestigious Artists International Competition in New York and, as a result, gave debut recitals at Carnegie Weill Hall and the Aspen Summer Music Festival.

Ms. Kim has toured extensively throughout Canada and the United States, including performances at Alice Tully Hall and the Santa Fe and La Jolla International Music Festivals, where she performed with Cho-Liang Lin, Gary Hoffman, Andre Previn, and the Orion String Quartet. She performed Bach's Double violin concerto with Hilary Hahn at the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival.

Ms. Kim currently resides in Atlanta, Georgia, where she served as Assistant and Associate Concertmaster for the Atlanta Symphony for three seasons. She is the Assistant Concertmaster of the Atlanta Opera Orchestra and serves as Professor of Violin and Chair of the String Department at Kennesaw State University.



Violist Yinzi Kong, born and raised in Shanghai China, is a founding member of the internationally acclaimed Vega String Quartet.

Miss Kong started her musical training at age five and gave her first public performances at seven.

After moving to the United States in 1995, Miss Kong received a bachelor's degree from the Harid Conservatory in Florida and a master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music.

Since winning several top prizes at the Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition in France, the Carmel String Quartet Competition and the Coleman Competition in the US with the Vega, Miss Kong has enjoyed a versatile career in both solo and chamber music performance and teaching. She has performed in major concert halls all over the world including the stages of Carnegie Hall, and her live performances have been heard on NPR's Performance Today (USA), the National Radio of China, Shanghai TV, Radio France, France Musiques, and the National Radio of the Czech Republic. Miss Kong has also collaborated with some finest musicians of our time including Elliot Fisk, William Preucil, David Shifrin, Richard Stoltzman, Charles Wadsworth, and Sarah Chang among others.

Ms. Kong currently resides in Atlanta, where the Vega Quartet are full-time Artists-in-Residence at Emory University.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS *(continued)*

Charae Krueger, cello



Cellist Charae Krueger is Principal Cellist for the Atlanta Opera Orchestra and the Atlanta Ballet Orchestra. She is Lecturer and Artist in Residence in Cello at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, having been a faculty member since 2006. Ms. Krueger is an avid chamber musician and is a member of the Summit Piano Trio and the Serafin Ensemble. She is a regular featured artist at the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival in North Carolina, the Grand Teton Music Festival in Wyoming and at Serafin Summer Music. Her solo and chamber music recitals have been featured on NPR's Performance Today, WABE Radio Atlanta and WGBH Radio Boston. She plays frequently with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Charleston Symphony. Ms. Krueger also enjoys recording studio work and has played on albums of Bruce Springsteen, Faith Hill and Natalie Cole.

Ms. Krueger received her early cello training in Canada at the Regina Conservatory of Music. She went on to study at Brandon University and received her Bachelor of Music Performance degree from New England Conservatory in Boston. She also holds an Artist Diploma from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge MA. She continued her training during the summers at the Banff Centre in Canada and did quartet

training with the Juilliard Quartet at the summer program at the Juilliard School. Ms. Krueger was also a participant in the New York String Orchestra Seminar under the direction of Alexander Schneider with concerts at Carnegie Hall. She was a founding member of the award-winning Arden String Quartet, with national and international appearances at Merkin Hall in NYC, Brown and Hofstra Universities as well as radio programs throughout the US East Coast.

Elizabeth Pridgen, piano



Pianist Elizabeth Pridgen is a distinguished soloist and chamber musician, who has performed in concerts at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall, Merkin Hall, the Tilles Center on Long Island, Spivey Hall in Atlanta, and the "Rising Stars Series" at the Ravinia Festival. Ms. Pridgen has also performed at Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, and the Kosciuszko Foundation, and in recitals in London, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Washington D.C., Miami, San Francisco, and throughout the Southeast and Caribbean.

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS *(continued)*

In 2014 she was appointed Artistic Director of the Atlanta Chamber Players, one of the leading chamber ensembles in the United States. Ms. Pridgen performs regularly at festivals, including the Rome Chamber Music Festival in Rome, Italy, the Strings Music Festival in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival and the Aspen Music Festival. An avid chamber musician, she has collaborated with artists such as Elmar Oliveira, Robert McDuffie, Yo-Yo Ma, Lynn Harrell, Hilary Hahn, Sarah Chang and Anne Akiko Meyers.

William Ransom, piano



Pianist, Artistic Director, Master teacher, editor and judge for international competitions, William Ransom regularly appears in recital, as soloist with orchestras, and as a chamber musician in Eastern and Western Europe, Japan, Korea, South America, Mexico, Canada, and throughout the United States. He has performed in New York's Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Town Hall, and Merkin Hall; in Orchestra Halls in Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Atlanta; at the National Gallery in

Washington D.C.; and in Philadelphia, Boston, Miami, and Dallas.

Ransom commissioned and premiered several major works by composer Stephen Paulus including his "Concerto for Piano and Wind Ensemble", and he was also the featured pianist performing music by Dwight Andrews used in August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway hit, *The Piano Lesson*, as well as the Hallmark Hall of Fame movie based on the same play.

Born in Boston, Ransom began his musical studies at an early age. He was a scholarship student of William Masselos at The Juilliard School in New York (BM and MM), and he also worked with Theodore Lettvin at the University of Michigan (DMA) and Madame Gaby Casadesus at the Ravel Academy in France.

Ransom is currently the Mary L. Emerson Professor of Piano at Emory University in Atlanta. He is founder and Artistic Director of the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta collaborates with such artists as cellists Yo-Yo Ma and Steven Isserlis; clarinetist Richard Stoltzman; members of the Juilliard, Tokyo, Cleveland, St. Petersburg, American, Ariel, Parker, Vega, Borromeo, Lark, Cavani and Muir String Quartets; violinists William Preucil, Elmar Oliviera, Tim Fain, and Robert McDuffie; guitarist Eliot Fisk, and members of the Empire Brass Quintet, the Eroica Trio and the percussion group Nexus among many other classical musicians. He has also worked with jazz great Dave Brubeck and American masters Chris Thile and Mark O'Connor.

In the summers, Ransom is Artistic Director of the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS *(continued)*

Music Festival in North Carolina and for ten years was also an artist-faculty member of the Kamisaibara Pianists Camp in Japan. In 2016 he was named Artistic Director of the Juneau Jazz & Classics Festival and also one of Musical America Worldwide's "30 Musical Innovators".

Jessica Shuang Wu, violin



As a founding member of the Vega String Quartet, Quartet-in-Residence at Emory University, Jessica Shuang Wu has performed extensively throughout North America, Asia, and Europe and has been broadcast on NPR's Performance Today (USA), Radio France, the National Radio of China, The National Radio of the Czech Republic, and Shanghai TV.

Her concert appearances include the Vega Quartet's critically acclaimed Lincoln Center debut and "a Triumphant L.A. Debut" (Los Angeles Times); performances at the Weill and Zankel Recital Halls, and Issac Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall; Harvard Club in New York; Museum d'Orsay of Paris; Highlands Festival in North Carolina; Aspen Music festival; La Jolla Concert Series, and many others.

Born in Shanghai, China, Ms. Wu began her violin studies at the age of five and made her solo debut with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of twelve. At age nine, she joined the Shanghai Conservatory and started playing chamber music at the age of thirteen.

In 1998, Ms. Wu and the Vega String Quartet won the first prize at the Coleman International Chamber Ensemble Competition and first prize at the Carmel International Chamber Music Competition. The following year, the Vega String Quartet was awarded four out of total six prizes from the 1999 Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition in France, including the International Music Critics' prize. The quartet has released a CD under Naxos Records Inc., on Twentieth-Century American Music.

Ms. Wu appears regularly in chamber music concerts with many of today's leading artists such as Richard Stoltzman, William Preucil, Sarah Chang, Robert McDuffie, Charles Wadsworth, Elliot Fisk, Christopher O'Reily, and the Eroica Trio.



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We all are looking forward to our next AICMF Season.

Christopher Rex Spring Institute

The primary purpose of the Institute is to be a premier training and mentoring program which also provides performance opportunities. Two outstanding college quartets will receive intensive, private coaching by the members of the Dover Quartet. **The Institute will culminate in a public concert at the Historic Nassau County Courthouse on the final day of the program at 5:00 PM Saturday, June 4.**

Our 21st season will feature the following talented artists:

Latimer Quartet from the Curtis Institute of Music
Meraki Quartet from Rice University

The Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival no longer requires concert attendees and volunteers to wear facial masks during upcoming events, but they are recommended.

**Times and venues are subject to change. For tickets and more information please visit www.aicmf.org*