

Music@Menlo

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL AND INSTITUTE



2017 ANNUAL REPORT



"...the Bay Area's entry in the global derby of Greatest Summer Music Festivals."

—SAN FRANCISCO CLASSICAL VOICE



Mission

The mission of Music@Menlo is to engage and sustain an audience for chamber music that is programmed, presented, and performed at the highest level of artistic excellence and to provide deserving young musicians with comprehensive, festival-based educational opportunities.

Overview

Celebrating its fifteenth season in 2017, Music@Menlo is an internationally acclaimed summer festival and institute combining world-class chamber music performances, unparalleled audience engagement, intensive training for preprofessional musicians, and a variety of activities which have broadened and enhanced the chamber music community of the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

Music@Menlo was founded on the conviction that deep engagement with great music opens doors to inspiration and enlightenment. Such engagement generates connections with cultures across ages and continents and cultivates fluency in new and diverse creative languages. It enhances our understanding of Western history, intensifies the enjoyment of well-known works, and increases the appetite for less-familiar music.

2017 Festival Summary

For its fifteenth anniversary, Music@Menlo focused on an instrument whose evolution constitutes one of music's richest stories: the violin. From the innovative composer-performers of the Baroque period to the pioneers of expression in the twentieth century, Music@Menlo's 2017 season celebrated the synergies between immortal composers and great violinists.

Through concerts, Institute activities including master classes and Café Conversations, and extended offerings including AudioNotes, thirty-six professional musicians, four artist-faculty members, eleven preprofessional

musicians, twenty-nine Young Performers, twenty-one interns, and thousands of audience members enjoyed exploring the flourishing of the violin in Western classical music.

2017 Festival Activities

MAIN-STAGE EVENTS

Thematically Organized Chamber Music Concert Programs —

In 2017, Music@Menlo explored the development of the violin and its music through a total of eleven performances of seven different Concert Programs. Audiences enjoyed performances of early works by lesser-known composers such as Uccellini and Vitali alongside Baroque masterpieces by household names like Bach and Vivaldi. The festival then journeyed through the Classical era with carefully crafted programs including works by Haydn, Beethoven, and their contemporaries, followed by those of nineteenth-century giants of chamber music such as Mendelssohn and Brahms. The flourishing of a new, ever-more virtuosic style of violin playing at the opening of the twentieth century was illustrated in the final Concert Programs, which explored pieces by Kreisler and the distinct national styles of Dohnányi and Enescu.

Carte Blanche Concerts — Music@Menlo's signature recital series, Carte Blanche Concerts are unique performances curated and performed by some of classical music's most renowned recitalists and chamber musicians. This year's series of Carte Blanche Concerts began with the acclaimed young violinist Sean Lee, joined by pianist Peter Dugan, performing a gargantuan feat of musical stamina: the complete Paganini caprices. The Escher String Quartet then returned for the second Carte Blanche, followed by a solo recital by Yura Lee, who performed an astounding array of unaccompanied works. The penultimate Carte Blanche

“When Music@Menlo starts its summer season, the question isn't whether to go but how to see it all.”

—MERCURY NEWS

Concert showcased violinist Danbi Um embodying the tradition of the Romantic style, accompanied by pianist Orion Weiss and joined onstage by violinist Paul Huang. The series closed with violinist Ben Beilman performing “A Tribute to Fritz Kreisler,” accompanied by pianist Hyeyeon Park, which included a host of Kreisler’s most famous pieces.

Encounter Series — Encounters, Music@Menlo’s series of multimedia symposia led by classical music’s most renowned authorities, add an integral dimension to the Music@Menlo experience. The 2017 festival’s five Encounters explored diverse facets of the violin’s history. Opening with a talk by Escher String Quartet violinist Aaron Boyd exploring the birth of the violin in Northern Italy, the series continued with musicologist Christopher H. Gibbs looking at the emergence of the Classical style. Violinist Soovin Kim gave a fascinating talk on the life and musicianship of Niccolò Paganini, followed by Ray Iwazumi’s tour of the nineteenth-century Expressionist movement. The 2017 Encounter series concluded with a look at “The Violin Today,” led by *Performance Today* host Fred Child.



International Program — Eleven students, with an average age of twenty-five, participated in the International Program. They came to the Institute from prestigious educational institutions including the Cleveland Institute of Music, Curtis Institute of Music, the Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, New England Conservatory, Northwestern University, and the Schulich School of Music at McGill University. All International Program participants attended the Institute at no cost, through generous support provided by contributions to the Ann S. Bowers Young Artist Fund.

Young Performers Program — Twenty-nine students, with an average age of fifteen (five of whom were from the San Francisco Bay Area) participated in the Young Performers Program. Through special funding from the Tenth-Anniversary Campaign, seventeen students from outside the Bay Area were provided housing at the nearby Crowne Plaza Palo Alto Hotel. Eighteen Young Performer families were awarded full or partial need-based financial support and/or merit-based scholarships from the Ann S. Bowers Young Artist Fund.

Concerts by Chamber Music Institute Participants — This year, Institute students performed in three Koret Young Performers Concerts and thirteen Prelude Performances, all of which were free and open to the public.

ARTS MANAGEMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Twenty-one college students and recent college graduates participated in the 2017 Arts Management Internship Program. Interns were trained in all aspects of arts administration including development, event planning and catering, marketing and merchandising, operations, patron services, production, and student services. The interns work side by side with the festival’s staff as highly visible members of the Music@Menlo team. The internship program is supported in part by the David B. and Edward C. Goodstein Foundation.

CHAMBER MUSIC INSTITUTE

Forty conservatory-level performers and promising young musicians, ages ten to twenty-nine, participated in the 2017 International Program and Young Performers Program of the Chamber Music Institute. The Institute offers an intensive program where gifted students have unparalleled opportunities to hone their musical skills through daily ensemble coachings and master classes. They attend festival concerts and lectures, interact with large festival audiences, and receive ongoing professional mentoring.

Coaches and Artist-Faculty — The Institute provides students with sustained contact with leading musicians and musicologists. Most artists on the festival’s roster of main-stage performers instruct and collaborate with students in coaching sessions, master classes, and other activities.





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Chamber Music Institute Concerts: Koret Young Performers Concerts and Prelude Performances (FREE) — Sixteen afternoon and early evening concerts (three Koret Young Performers Concerts and thirteen Prelude Performances), performed by the Chamber Music Institute participants, provided ideal points of access to chamber music for families, young listeners, and the broader community, with a total combined attendance of over 3,700 across three different venues.

Café Conversations (FREE) — Music@Menlo’s 2017 series of discussions led by festival artists and special guests began with Escher String Quartet violinist Aaron Boyd’s in-depth look at the life and work of violinist Fritz Kreisler. Violinist, Juilliard School professor, author, and musicologist Ray Iwazumi then gave a talk titled *Digging Ysaÿe’s Performance Ideas* before the series closed with luthier Samuel Zygmuntowicz giving an insider’s look at his craft.

Master Classes (FREE) — The festival’s artist-faculty led twelve public master classes in 2017. Master classes were also live-streamed during the festival and are available on both Music@Menlo’s website and its Livestream channel.

Visual Artist — Each season, Music@Menlo invites a distinguished contemporary visual artist to exhibit a selection of works during the festival and showcases the artist’s work in the festival’s publications. In 2017, Florentine artisan paper craftsman Enrico Giannini’s work was featured in the season’s promotional materials, including the brochure, program book, and season poster, as well as on note cards and the Music@Menlo website. In addition, attendees enjoyed an exhibition of photographer Lilian Finckel’s images of both Enrico Giannini’s workshop in Florence and the workshop of luthier Samuel Zygmuntowicz in New York.

Volunteer Team — Ninety-five Music@Menlo volunteers assisted with housing festival artists, students, and administrators, ushering at festival programs, and hosting events, as well as customer relations and other festival operations.

Travel Programs — Music@Menlo’s travel programs offer patrons incomparable insider access to some of the most significant historical and cultural landmarks around the world while they enjoy a musical listening experience like no other. In September 2017, Music@Menlo traveled to Northern Italy on a specially curated musical tour featuring the Stradivari Festival in Cremona and opera at La Scala, private guided tours of sites including the Museo del Violino, the Last Supper of Leonardo, the Villa Medici Giulini, and workshops of major violin makers. The trip also featured excursions to Cremona, Parma, and Lake Como and exclusive private concerts given by Music@Menlo festival artists violinist Paul Huang and violist Paul Neubauer alongside Artistic Directors David Finckel and Wu Han.



“Like visiting Rome and experiencing Caravaggio in the flesh, I am consistently astonished when I hear live performances presented by Music@Menlo.”

—SAN FRANCISCO CLASSICAL VOICE

AudioNotes — These yearly preconcert listener guides featured musical examples and interviews with performers from the 2017 festival and were offered on CD and as downloadable MP3 files.

Music@Menlo LIVE CDs — Recordings of the 2017 season, engineered and produced by Grammy Award-winning recording producer Da-Hong Seetoo, are scheduled for release in January 2018. Music@Menlo’s entire catalogue of LIVE recordings are also offered online through Amazon, iTunes, and Spotify.

Festival Video Webcasts — Thirty-one events were live-streamed, including Prelude Performances, Koret Young Performers Concerts, and other festival educational content. Over 1,100 hours were watched, with nearly 6,000 views to date, an increase over last year of over 40 percent. Nine feature videos were produced, and Facebook views of our videos totaled over 44,000 during the festival.

Video Project — An in-residence videography team produced videos featuring all facets of festival happenings, including excerpts of concerts, portraits of artist-faculty, student experiences in the Chamber Music Institute, and interviews with musicians. A video to promote Music@Menlo’s Arts Management Internship Program was also produced in conjunction with the David B. and Edward C. Goodstein Foundation.

Radio Distribution — Through a partnership with American Public Media, audiences can hear Music@Menlo performances on nearly 300 radio stations internationally, which reach more than 1.4 million listeners each week.

Winter Activities

2016–2017 WINTER SERIES

The Winter Series presented three concerts in its seventh year, with an especially diverse program featuring solo piano, string quartet, and a clarinet, strings, and piano ensemble. The series opened on December 8 with a highly ambitious journey through J. S. Bach’s Six Partitas for Keyboard, performed by Russian pianist Konstantin Lifschitz. This was followed in January by a concert by the Pacifica Quartet, which performed a daring program of Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Ravel. The *San Mateo Daily Journal* reported, “This was a real connoisseur’s concert, something to delight anyone who enjoys chamber music.”

The final Winter Series concert of the season featured the world premiere of a Music@Menlo commission by composer Andy Akiho, performed by clarinetist David Shifrin, pianist Wu Qian, violinist Alexander Sitkovetsky, and cellist Danjulo Ishizaka. The musicians also performed Maurice Ravel’s Piano Trio in a minor and Olivier Messiaen’s iconic *Quartet for the End of Time*.

WINTER RESIDENCY AT MENLO SCHOOL

In 2017, the thirteenth annual Winter Residency Program at Menlo School brought a select group of the festival’s Chamber Music Institute alumni back to campus to engage with Menlo School faculty and students in a series of unique programs including seven classroom presentations and two assembly performances. These programs reached nearly the entire Menlo School student body of more than eight hundred students from grades 6–12 all over a five-day period.

The Winter Residency musicians also gave four community outreach performances in different venues and the annual Chamber Music Institute Benefit Concert, which raises awareness of and funds for the Chamber Music Institute.



“Clearly, this fest has talent to burn...”

—ARTSSF



Music@Menlo 2017 in Numbers

- Music@Menlo's total audience numbers surpassed 13,200, including 4,963 audience members for paid festival events, more than 6,300 attendees at free concerts and educational events, 956 audience members for the Winter Series, and 926 Menlo School Winter Residency participants and attendees.
- Annual Fund donor participation totaled 267 in 2017; 20 percent of these donors were first-time contributors.
- In 2017, 37 percent of ticket-buying households were first-time ticket buyers out of a total of 349 households.

“Menlo pushes you to the limit and forces you to deliver, but by the end, it is so fulfilling and rewarding. After Menlo, it feels like we can do anything!”

—KEVIN AHFAT, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM
ARTIST 2017

Music@Menlo through the Years

- 311 Chamber Music Institute participants have been immersed in a rigorous exploration of chamber music under the tutelage of the Institute's esteemed artist-faculty, including 156 International Program artists and 155 Young Performers Program participants.
- Over 300 artists have come to Music@Menlo from all over the world to perform in the main-stage concerts, give multimedia Encounter lectures, coach in the Chamber Music Institute, and work with Menlo School students in the annual Winter Residency.
- 275 interns have gained real-world experience from the industry-leading Arts Management Internship Program.
- Since 2003, 98 CDs have been released on the Music@Menlo LIVE label.
- The annual operating budget has increased from \$445,600 in 2003 to \$2.1 million in 2017.
- The festival produces over 50 public events each year, reaching over 13,000 students, musicians, and audience members, with total free program attendance exceeding 6,000 annually.





2017 Financial Highlights

- \$1,118,980 in individual contributions to the Annual Fund
- \$227,000 in foundation grants
- \$26,000 in corporate sponsorships
- \$277,106 in total ticket sales

Statement of Activities (Operating)

	2017 Actual	2016 Actual
INCOME		
Earned Income	\$421,468	\$435,853
Contributed Income	\$1,721,980	\$1,664,921
Total Income	\$2,143,448	\$2,100,774
EXPENSES		
Programs	\$1,569,808	\$1,495,994
Administration/General	\$214,594	\$220,786
Fundraising	\$358,454	\$374,783
Total Expenses	\$2,142,856	\$2,091,563
Net Income	\$592	\$9,211

Statement of Financial Position

	9/30/17	9/30/16
ASSETS		
Cash	\$316,835	\$577,130
Short-Term Investments	\$2,267,607	\$2,241,854
Receivables	\$171,158	\$210,771
Prepaid Expenses	\$24,664	\$21,831
Fixed Assets, net	\$47,680	\$48,008
Total Assets	\$2,827,944	\$3,099,594
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$13,205	\$15,663
Deferred Revenue	\$32,300	\$13,178
Other Accrued Liabilities	\$305,994	\$207,014
Total Liabilities	\$351,499	\$235,855
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$1,286,387	\$1,342,295
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$1,190,058	\$1,521,444
Total Net Assets	\$2,476,445	\$2,863,739
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,827,944	\$3,099,594

2017 Annual Fund

Music@Menlo is grateful to the following individuals and organizations, whose support of the Annual Fund makes the Institute, Festival, and Winter Series possible.

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(\$100,000+)

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Music@Menlo is grateful to the
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Menlo School

Music@Menlo would like to extend
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Mike & Allyson Ely
Scott & Carolyn Feamster
Suzanne Field & Nicholas Smith
David Finckel & Wu Han
Joan & Allan Fisch
Earl & Joy Fry
Betsy & David Fryberger
Karen & Ned Gilhuly
Laura & Peter Haas
Adele M. Hayutin
Jewish Family and Children's Services

Kris Klint
Margy & Art Lim, in memory of
Myrna Robinson, Don DeJongh,
and Pat Blankenburg
Mary Lorey
Carol & Mac MacCorkle
Lawrence Markosian &
Deborah Baldwin
Gladys & Larry Marks
Drs. Michael & Jane Marmor/
Marmor Foundation
Brian P. McCune
Carol & Doug Melamed
Nancy & DuBose Montgomery
George* & Holde Muller
Music@Menlo Chamber Music
Institute Faculty Members,
2010–2012
Linda & Stuart Nelson, in honor of
David Finckel and Wu Han
Rebecca & John Nelson
Shela & Kumar Patel
Anne Peck
Bill & Paula Powar
Robert & Diane Reid
Laurose & Burton Richter
Barry & Janet Robbins
Annie E. Rohan
Barry Rosenbaum &
Eriko Matsumoto
Gordon Russell & Dr. Bettina McAdoo
Schwab Charitable Fund
Bill & Joan Silver
Jim & Mary Smith
Abe & Marian Sofaer
Edward & Kathy Sweeney
Vivian Sweeney
Ellen & Mike Turbow
Joe & Anne Welsh
Peter & Georgia Windhorst
Elizabeth Wright
Frank Yang

\$100–\$999

Anonymous (3)
Matthew & Marcia Allen
Alan & Corinne Barkin
Millie & Paul Berg
Mark Berger & Candace DeLeo
Melanie Bieder & Dave Wills
John & Lu Bingham
Bill Blankenburg
Jocelyn & Jerome Blum
Joan Brodovsky
Marda Buchholz
Louise Carlson & Richard Larrabee
Malkah & Donald* Carothers
Hazel Cheilek
Dr. Denise Chevalier
Sandra & Chris Chong
Robert & Ann Chun
Alison Clark
Betsy & Nick* Clinch
Neal & Janet Coberly
Norm & Susan Colb
Jacqueline M. & Robert H. Cowden

Anne Dauer
Gordon & Carolyn Davidson
Miriam DeJongh
Edma Dumanian
Leonard & Margaret Edwards
Thomas & Ellen Ehrlich
Alan M. Eisner
Sherrie & Wallace Epstein
Maria & George Erdi
Michael Feldman
Tom & Nancy Fiene
Bruce & Marilyn Fogel
Lawrence & Leah Friedman
Lulu & Larry Frye, in honor of
Eff & Patty Martin
Rose Green
Edie & Gabe Groner
Jerome Guillen
Helen & Gary* Harmon
Elsa & Raymond Heald
Erin L. Hurson
The Jewish Community Federation
and Endowment Fund
Melissa Johnson
Andrea G. Julian
Meredith Kaplan
Dr. Ronald & Tobye Kaye
Yeuen Kim & Tony Lee
Susan & Knud Knudsen
Hilda Korner
Mimi & Alex Kugushev
Daniel Lazare
Joan & Philip Leighton
Lois & Paul Levine
Raymond Linkerman &
Carol Eisenberg
Drs. John & Penny Loeb
David E. Lorey, in memory of
Jim Lorey
Susie MacLean
Frank Mainzer & Lonnie Zwerin
Robert March & Lisa Lawrence
Valerie J. Marshall
Sally Mentzer, in memory of
Myrna Robinson and
Lois Crozier Hogle
Ellen Mezzera
Bill Miller & Ida Houby
In memory of Lois Miller
Thomas & Cassandra Moore
Peter & Liz Neumann
Neela Patel
Lynn & Oliver Pieron
David & Virginia Pollard
Ann Ratcliffe
Hana Rosenbaum
Sid & Susan Rosenberg
Elizabeth Salzer
Birgit & Daniel Schettler
Elaine & Thomas Schneider
Gerry & Coco Schoenwald
Nancy G. Schrier
Armand A. Schwartz Jr.
Steven E. Shladover
Judy & Lee Shulman
Edgar Simons
Alice Sklar

Betty Swanson
Barbara Tam
Golda Tatz
Isaac Thompson
Jana & Mark Tuschman
Jack & Margrit Vanderryn
Dr. George & Bay Westlake
Sallie & Jay Whaley
Lyn & Greg Wilbur
Bryant & Daphne Wong
Ronald & Alice Wong

Gifts under \$100

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Susan Berman
Veronica Breuer
Marjorie Cassingham
Constance Crawford
David Fox & Kathy Wosika
Sandra Gifford
Andrew Goldstein
Laura Green
Barbara Gullion & Franck Avril
Jennifer Hartzell & Donn R. Martin
Margaret Harvey
Mark Heising
Abe Klein
Hiroko Komatsu
Amy Laden
Marcia Lowell Leonhardt
Carol & Harry Louchheim
Ben Mathes
James E. McKeown
Janet McLaughlin
Michael Mizrahi, in honor of
Ann Bowers
Merla Murdock
Joan Norton
Rossannah & Alan Reeves
Shirley Reith
Nancy & Norm Rossen
Ed & Linda Selden
Helena & John Shackleton
Charlotte Siegel
Alice Smith
Denali St. Amand
Misa & Tatsuyuki Takada
Margaret Wunderlich
Chris Ziegler

Matching Gifts

The Abbott Fund Matching
Grant Plan
Chevron
The William and Flora Hewlett
Foundation
IBM Matching Grants Program
Microsoft Matching Grants Program

* = Deceased

2017 Music@Menlo Intern and Chamber Music Institute Alumni Updates

Jeff Baker (Production/Stage Crew Intern '17) has started a new position as Patron Services Assistant at the New West Symphony.

In July 2017, **Autumn Baldwin** (Patron and Donor Stewardship Intern '16) joined the staff of the Charleston Symphony as Development Associate.

Melanie Hublard Hershman (Production/Stage Crew Intern '15) has started a new position at Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute as an Associate in Education Administration.

In January 2017, **Jiwon Kang** (Student Liaison Intern '09 and Operations Intern '10) started working at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center as Touring Coordinator.

Ryan McGavin (Operations Intern '17) is now Operations Manager at the Modesto Symphony Orchestra.

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center announced the appointment of three International Program alumni to the CMS Two program beginning in the 2018–19 season. Violinists **Francisco Fullana** (2016) and **Alexi Kenney** (2013) and cellist **David Requiro** (2005) were chosen from an international pool of applicants and will participate in numerous performances, events, and recordings over the next three years.

Violinist **Stella Chen** (International Program '16) tied for Second Prize at the 2017 Tibor Varga International Violin Competition Sion Valais in Sion, Switzerland. Stella also was awarded the Tibor Varga Prize for best interpretation of the original compulsory piece.

Cellist **Yves Dharamraj** (International Program '06) continues to maintain a busy performing career, and this past summer, he marked the fifth anniversary of New Docta International Music Festival in Córdoba, Argentina, where he serves as Coexecutive and Coartistic Director. In September 2017, the festival's performances included appearances by pianist **Philip Edward Fisher**, a 2004 participant in the International Program.

Violinist **Francisco Fullana** (International Program '16) had a packed summer with concerts at Music in the Vineyards in Napa Valley and at Concordia ChamberFest in Pennsylvania. He also joined forces with a formidable group of musicians to raise funds for Puerto Rico hurricane relief in a special performance at Le Poisson Rouge in New York City.

In August 2017, violinist **Petteri Iivonen** (International Program '15) was named First Concertmaster of the Finnish

National Opera. As a member of the Sibelius Piano Trio, he was nominated for a Latin Grammy in the Contemporary Classical Composition category for the trio's recording of *Nene* by composer Diego Schissi.

Cellist **Coleman Itzkoff** (Young Performers Program '08 and International Program '16) won the Grand Prize in the 2017 Classics Artists Alive Young Artists Auditions in October 2017.

Violinist **Alexi Kenney** (International Program '13) was Guest Concertmaster of the Pittsburgh Symphony while on tour in Europe in September 2017.

Violinist **Andrew Lee** (Young Performers Program '13 and '14) was Concertmaster of the National Youth Orchestra in 2017.

Cellist **Ian Maloney** (Young Performers Program '15–'17) participated in a music video with violinist Joshua Bell, which was released by Boston-based *From the Top* in September 2017. Ian says, "One of the coolest things about filming with Joshua Bell was being at his house. Who would have ever thought that a thirteen-year-old cellist would get to jam on a Beatles tune with the world's most famous violinist!"

Violinist **Michelle Ross** (International Program '10) released her debut album, *Discovering Bach: Complete Violin Sonatas and Partitas of J. S. Bach*, in March 2017.

Cellist **Ella van Poucke** (Young Performers Program '06–'08) was awarded the Grachtenfestival Prize (Netherlands) in August 2017. She will be Artist-in-Residence at the festival in 2018 and looks forward to creating exciting new projects.

In March 2017, violinist **Stephen Waarts** (Young Performers Program '06–'09 and International Program '16) was awarded a prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant. Established by the late Avery Fisher, the Career Grants are designed to give professional assistance and recognition to talented young musicians.

Violist **Chieh-Fan (Jay) Yiu** (International Program '12) performed in the critically acclaimed *Van Gogh's Ear*, a production by Eve Wolf presented by the Ensemble for the Romantic Century at the Pershing Square Signature Center in New York City. In September 2017, Jay also appeared at the Lisker Music Foundation Concert Series at Nichols Concert Hall in Evanston, Illinois, along with cellist **Yves Dharamraj** (International Program '06).



Music@Menlo

David Finckel and Wu Han, Artistic Directors

Edward P. Sweeney, Executive Director

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