

20 Music@Menlo

CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL AND INSTITUTE

2022/23 FOCUS RESIDENCIES



DECEMBER 2-3, 2022

MARCH 25-26, 2023

TICKETS ON SALE NOW: musicatmenlo.org | 650-331-0202



WHAT ARE FOCUS RESIDENCIES?

Music@Menlo's Focus Residencies take audiences on a captivating artistic journey, delving deep into a specific musical topic. Inspired by the summer festival's immersive thematic programming and learning opportunities, each Residency features an intimate "Behind the Music" discussion and a concert showcasing the works explored.

Music@Menlo:

FOCUS



TICKETS FROM ONLY \$10!

Choose your seats online at musicatmenlo.org, or call Music@Menlo Patron Services at 650-331-0202 (10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday).



Two-time Grammy nominee **Tara Helen O'Connor** is the recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and an Artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. She regularly appears at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Music@Menlo, Chamber Music Festival of the Bluegrass, Spoleto Festival USA, Mainly Mozart Festival, the Banff Centre, Manchester Music Festival, and Bravo! Vail. O'Connor is the Co-Artistic Director of the Music From Angel Fire Festival in New Mexico. She is a member of the woodwind quintet Windscape and the legendary Bach Aria Group, as well as a founding member of the Naumburg Award-winning New Millennium Ensemble. O'Connor is a faculty member of Bard College and Manhattan School of Music.

2022/23 ARTIST-CURATORS



Swiss-born American pianist **Gilles Vonsattel** is the recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant, Andrew Wolf Chamber Music Award, as well as winner of the Naumburg and Geneva competitions. He has performed as soloist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, and San Francisco Symphony and has given recitals at Ravinia, Tokyo's Musashino Hall, Wigmore Hall, Bravo! Vail, Chamber Music Northwest, and Music@Menlo. An Artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Vonsattel has premiered numerous works both in the United States and Europe and has worked closely with notable composers including Jörg Widmann, Heinz Holliger, and George Benjamin. He currently serves as a faculty member at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



DEC 2-3, 2022

THE END/SO BEAUTIFUL AND FREE
WITH GILLES VONSATTEL

Acclaimed pianist Gilles Vonsattel explores the profound inspiration and impact that musical “endings” can offer, from the closing notes of a piece to the final composition in a series. As Gilles says, “The title refers to the extraordinary way Beethoven chooses to end his piano sonatas – a kind of celestial evaporation. I’ve always loved the famous Doors song *The End*, and there is something I found oddly similar in spirit between these two pieces of music.”

BEHIND THE MUSIC

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022, 7:30 P.M.

Martin Family Hall, Menlo School

Focusing on the legacy of J.S. Bach and the composer’s final work, *The Art of Fugue*, Gilles will guide audiences through intricate polyphony and groundbreaking musical inventions. The residency also delves into other musical conclusions inspired by Bach, including Shostakovich’s titanic Fugue in D minor – the last of his 24 Preludes and Fugues – and Beethoven’s final piano sonata, the Opus 111.



CONCERT PROGRAM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022, 4:00 P.M.

Spieker Center for the Arts, Menlo School

Beethoven's last works were deeply impacted by his renewed examinations of J.S. Bach's music, and the concert program begins with selections from *The Art of Fugue*. We then proceed to the music of two great admirers and proponents of Bach: Shostakovich and Mendelssohn, with tonal relationships connecting every piece.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685–1750)

Selections from *The Art of Fugue*, BWV 1080 (ca. 1742–1750)

DMITRY SHOSTAKOVICH (1906–1975)

Selections from 24 Preludes and Fugues, op. 87 (1950–1951)

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809–1847)

Variations sérieuses in D minor, op. 54 (1841)

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Prelude in C major from *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book I* (1722)

Prelude in C minor from *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book I* (1722)

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770–1827)

Piano Sonata no. 32 in C minor, op. 111 (1822)

Gilles Vonsattel, *piano*

MAR 25–26, 2023

WINTER JOURNEY

WITH TARA HELEN O'CONNOR AND FRIENDS

The *Winter Journey* Residency—and the movie with which it begins—take their inspiration from writer Martin Goldsmith's book, *The Inextinguishable Symphony*. In this acclaimed work, Goldsmith recounts the remarkable, true story of his parents Günther Goldschmidt and Rosemarie Gumpert Goldschmidt. During the Nazi regime, the Goldschmidts were members of the *Jüdischer Kulturbund*, an all-Jewish orchestra maintained as a propaganda tool. Their participation in this group ultimately helped save their lives in Nazi Germany. Goldsmith's book inspired the making of the film *Winter Journey*, which will be screened on the first afternoon of the residency.

BEHIND THE MUSIC

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023, 1:00 P.M.

Martin Family Hall, Menlo School

Hailed as “a masterpiece” by European critics and “phenomenal” by the *Hollywood Insider*, *Winter Journey* is a fascinating film exploration of a little-known aspect of musical life in Nazi Germany. Dealing with themes of guilt, Jewish identity, and father-son relationships, *Winter Journey* is moving proof of William Faulkner's observation that “the past is never dead; it isn't even past.” The film features Bruno Ganz in his last-ever screen appearance and is directed by Martin Goldsmith, who unearths his parents' story of musical community and survival in Nazi Germany.

Followed by a Q&A with Martin Goldsmith and Tara Helen O'Connor.



CONCERT PROGRAM

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023, 4:00 P.M.

Spieker Center for the Arts, Menlo School

This program includes works by composers who were silenced as victims of the Holocaust, as well as works performed by the *Jüdischer Kulturbund*.

LEO SMIT (1900–1943)

Sextet for Piano and Wind Quintet (1933)

PAVEL HAAS (1899–1944)

Suite for Oboe and Piano, op. 17 (1939)

ERWIN SCHULHOFF (1894–1942)

Divertissement for Oboe, Clarinet, and Bassoon (1927)

GIDEON KLEIN (1919–1945)

Wiegenlied (Lullaby) for Flute and Piano (1943)

LUDWIG THUILLE (1861–1907)

Sextet in B-flat major for Piano and Wind Quintet, op. 6 (1888)

Shai Wosner, *piano*

Tara Helen O'Connor, *flute*

James Austin Smith, *oboe*

Alan R. Kay, *clarinet*

Marc Goldberg, *bassoon*

David Byrd-Marrow, *horn*

Martin Goldsmith, *writer*

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