



FOR THE RECORD

AN UPDATE FROM CEDILLE RECORDS | SPRING 2020



To our valued customers, donors, artists, and partners,

We are, fortunately, able to continue our work on many future albums even though our physical office is temporarily closed and some of our upcoming recording activity has been postponed. We are sharing our Spring newsletter electronically to keep you apprised of our recent activities and upcoming releases. Thanks to you, for over 30 years, Cedille has had the honor of recording and promoting the work of Chicago's finest classical music performers and composers. **Thank you for your support. Stay safe and healthy!**

COMPETITION SHOWCASES YOUNG TALENT

In a city brimming with musical talent, how do young artists make a name for themselves? Cedille Records is answering that question with its first-ever Emerging Artist Competition, aimed at exciting young musicians across Chicago ready to achieve a major career milestone: recording their first professionally produced, commercially released album. Renowned artists and ensembles such as Anthony McGill, Eighth Blackbird, the Pacifica Quartet, and Rachel Barton Pine's Trio Settecento reached new heights of national and international recognition after beginning their recording careers in Chicago with Cedille Records. As Cedille recording artist and Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient Matthew Lipman notes,

the competition (originally planned for late-May, it will be rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic): the vocal trio Artemisia; violinists Claire Bourg, Maya Anjali Buchanan, and Karisa Chiu; cellist Johannes Gray; pianist Clare Longendyke; harpsichordist Andrew Rosenblum; and saxophonist Julian Velasco. Up to five finalists will be selected to perform in the final round the following day, after which one winner and one honorable mention will be selected. Both rounds of the competition will be open to the public. Cedille founder and President Jim Ginsburg, violinist and Cedille recording artist Rachel Barton Pine will be among the panel of prominent Chicago musicians and music industry professionals who will adjudicate the semifinal and final rounds.

"RECORDINGS ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR YOUNG ARTISTS' CAREERS BECAUSE IT GIVES AN ARTIST A CHANCE TO REALLY SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT TO A WIDER AUDIENCE."

—MATTHEW LIPMAN

The Competition winner will join their ranks as a Cedille debut recording artist and share their talent with the world. In celebration of the label's 30th anniversary and funded by the Zell Family Foundation, the competition received more than 35 applications involving over 50 musicians. Eight semifinalists have been selected to perform live in the final rounds of

From the Grammys to local "Best of" lists, our albums showcase the vibrant performers, innovative programming, new repertoire, and hard-working community that make Chicago a special place for classical music. The Emerging Artist Competition is sure to be an exciting addition to this legacy.

CEDILLE'S PRESIDENT JOINS LABEL ARTISTS AT THE GRAMMYS



Jim with *Winged Creatures* composer, Michael Abels

Chicago classical artists were well represented at this year's Grammy Awards. In December, Cedille garnered its 18th nomination when its founder, Jim Ginsburg, was nominated for Producer of the Year, Classical. The artists featured on the albums produced during the eligibility period included Rachel Barton Pine, the Chicago Sinfonietta and conductor Mei-Ann Chen, Alex Klein, Anthony and Demarre McGill with the CYSO conducted by Allen Tinkham, Jory Vinikour with the Chicago Philharmonic conducted by Scott Speck, and the Black Oak Ensemble.

Also nominated were Cedille artists Third Coast Percussion and Nathalie Joachim, formerly of Eighth Blackbird. Third Coast was nominated for Best Chamber Music / Small Ensemble Performance for its album on Philip Glass's label, including a world premiere commission by Glass. Nathalie was nominated in the World Music category for her album with Chicago's Spektral Quartet, *Fanm d'Ayiti*, featuring works she wrote and sings, inspired by her Haitian grandmother.

CEDILLE ARTISTS MEMORIALIZE THEIR ARTISTIC INTERPRETATIONS

“ALL OF US WANT TO . . . ENGRAV[E] OUR IDEAS ABOUT DIFFERENT PIECES OF MUSIC.”

—JORY VINIKOUR

Cedille recording artists are outstanding performers and composers with innovative ideas about repertoire and programming. Our albums and recording projects are proposed and driven by our musicians and their experiences, interests, and expertise. Simply put, we believe that artists perform their best when they are playing the music they are most passionate about. In addition to presenting cutting-edge new music and historically underrepresented works and composers, several of our artists will shine new light on beloved standard repertoire from classical music's preeminent composers in 2020.

Twice Grammy-nominated harpsichordist Jory Vinikour will visit French baroque master François Couperin's *Ordres Nos. 6, 7, and 8* on *L'Unique — Harpsichord Music of François Couperin* (April). Also an active advocate of new music for the harpsichord, Vinikour combines his energized interpretation, signature lyricism, and custom instrument to breathe new life into music of the early-18th century.

August will see pianist Jorge Federico Osorio release an all-French program featuring his imaginative take on works by Debussy, Ravel, Chabrier, Fauré, and Rameau. As performed by “one of the more elegant and accomplished pianists on the planet” (*Los Angeles Times*), this release will be a vital and enjoyable addition to any listener's collection. The Dover Quartet will release the first of three installments of the complete string quartets of Beethoven to celebrate the legendary composer's 250th Anniversary year (September). In a field nearly saturated with Beethoven recordings, the Dover Quartet offers a fresh and energized perspective from one of the world's most rapidly rising chamber groups. Lauded for their previous Cedille albums *Voices of Defiance* and *Tribute — Dover Quartet Plays Mozart*, the Dovers' recorded Beethoven cycle is sure to solidify their place as “the young American String Quartet of the moment” (*The New Yorker*).

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS



“The passion this label has for production, coupled with a true openness to the ideas of their artists ... [It's] a true partnership, which seems to be a rarity in the industry.”

—CAMDEN SHAW, CELLO
DOVER QUARTET

Help Cedille Records record, produce, and promote recordings like the Dover Quartet's upcoming Beethoven Cycle.

Donate online at
CEDILLERECORDS.ORG

A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES: HOW CEDILLE WORKS

Every album Cedille releases begins as an idea from Chicago's exciting community of classical musicians. Soloists, chamber groups, orchestras, and composers submit proposals for personally meaningful recording projects that offer an interesting perspective on important, new, unusual, or seldom-recorded classical repertoire. Because Cedille operates largely on donations, our evaluation process is based on the artistic integrity of the project rather than its potential for sales revenue. This means that we are invested in the artist's vision from the very beginning.

Once a project is selected, a release date is chosen and a budget is created. Recording projects can cost up to \$70,000 (or over \$100,000 for orchestral projects). We release up to ten albums annually and maintain a budget and release schedule that extends several years into the future.

The artists are involved in every aspect of the recording. Sessions can take place over a few days in a single venue or may span weeks or months in a wide variety of venues depending on the needs of the musicians and repertoire. Artists listen to takes with the producer and engineer for balance, clarity, and interpretation before the project moves to post-production. The engineer splices takes together based on the



Behind the scenes with Pacifica Quartet at *Souvenirs of Spain & Italy* recording session

producer's editing plan, mixes the sound, removes extraneous noises, and makes other adjustments to ensure the highest possible audio quality. The artists and producer (and composer(s) where applicable) listen again to the completed edit/mix to ensure that the final product adheres to the artists' ideal vision. Composer Stacy Garrop says about Cedille's production process, “I feel like this is a chance

for me to say this is the way I envisioned the piece. And I feel like for me as a composer, that's really important. If these recordings weren't out there my career would not be where it is today.”

The post-production process also includes a talented team of graphic designers, writers, and Cedille staff that create the CD packaging, album booklet, and program notes with great attention to detail. The artists review each of these visual components, unifying all aspects of their project into a whole.

Cedille invests in the promotion of each release as part of our mission to further the careers of Chicago's finest musicians. Albums are promoted in print, online, on the radio, and on social media. Footage from recording sessions is used to create compelling video trailers, and artists are interviewed about their projects on Cedille's *Classical Chicago* podcast, among other features on our website.

Our releases are a culmination of artist-driven passion, state-of-the-art recording practices, and expert attention to detail. Because of our unique approach, Cedille recordings are true reflections of artists' visions.

2020 RELEASES



JIN YIN
CIVITAS ENSEMBLE

JANUARY 24, 2020



L'UNIQUE — HARPSICHORD
MUSIC OF FRANÇOIS COUPERIN
JORY VINIKOUR

APRIL 2020



SINGING IN THE DEAD
OF NIGHT
EIGHTH BLACKBIRD

JUNE 2020



CONTEMPORARY VOICES
PACIFICA QUARTET

JULY 2020



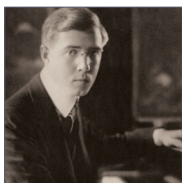
THE FRENCH ALBUM
JORGE FEDERICO OSORIO

AUGUST 2020



BEETHOVEN CYCLE PART I
THE OPUS 18 QUARTETS
DOVER QUARTET

SEPTEMBER 2020



IRONICS: THE SYMPHONIC
JAZZ OF LEO SOWERBY
UIC JAZZ ENSEMBLE

OCTOBER 2020



BACH & BEYOND, PART 3
JENNIFER KOH

NOVEMBER 2020

SAVE THE DATE

Soirée Cedille

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 4PM

Reception • Concert • Dinner

Venue SIX10 at the Spertus Institute • Chicago, Illinois

PERFORMANCE BY

Dover Quartet

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?



Alex Klein, Cedille Artist

“RECORDINGS ARE FOREVER — THEY ARE A MEMENTO OF THAT PARTICULAR TIME IN PERFORMERS’ CAREERS, IN THEIR LIVES, AND BEYOND THEIR LIVES.”

—ALEX KLEIN

Recordings are the musical legacy of Cedille’s artists. With your support, they can be part of your legacy too. For all composers and performers, legacy is an important consideration. Their body of work, represented by concert performances, recordings, interpretations of extant repertoire and support of new commissions, and often genre-defying collaborations, define their legacy and contribution to music history. When Alex Klein, an internationally renowned oboist, was diagnosed with focal dystonia, legacy became an immediate concern. A neurological disorder that causes the muscles of the hand to contract involuntarily, focal dystonia is especially devastating for musicians. With the shadow of this condition hanging over his music career, Klein contacted Cedille with plans to document his interpretations of important oboe music with a series of recordings.

The Martin D. Ginsburg Society, named for Cedille’s first Board Chair, honors Marty and others who have elected to include Cedille Records in their plans and leave a legacy to Cedille.

Cedille Records creates a personal relationship with the musicians we record: over 180 distinct artists and ensembles, and growing. Cedille Records has released some 200 recordings since our founding 30 years ago, including the world-premiere recordings of over 300 works (modern and historical). Your gift will further these efforts.

To this day, all Cedille recordings — even our very first — remain available. Cedille never removes recordings from its catalog. Ever. Our mission is to promote and preserve the work of our artists, and it’s crucial to them that their professionally produced albums remain always accessible. As oboist Alex Klein has remarked, “I’m forever grateful to Cedille Records for the CDs that we have already done... and perhaps for others in future.”

To receive more information about the Martin D. Ginsburg Society and how you can support Cedille now and beyond your lifetime, call Julie Polanski at (773) 989-2518 or email julie@cedillerecords.org.

SILENCED VOICES MAINTAINS MOMENTUM WITH THE RELEASE OF NEW COMPANION VIDEOS

Chicago's Black Oak Ensemble made its recording debut in July 2019 with *Silenced Voices*, an album featuring six 20th-century Jewish composers who, save for one, perished in concentration camps across Europe during World War II. Inspired by manuscripts of string trios discovered by violinist Desirée Ruhstrat and cellist David Cunliffe while traveling in Hungary, the album gives new voice to composers who were brutally silenced.

This summer release has found new winter momentum around the globe. In addition to landing spots on multiple "Best of" lists, London's *The Times*, Australia's *Limelight Magazine*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *The Strad* magazine have praised both the ensemble's playing and the quality of the featured compositions. The *Tribune's* Howard Reich highlighted Gideon Klein's Trio for Violin, Viola & Cello as an especially noteworthy masterpiece. Penned at the Theresienstadt concentration camp, it appears to be the last piece Klein ever wrote before he was sent to Auschwitz and later Fürstengrube in Poland, where he died in January 1945. Also noteworthy is the world premiere recording of Géza Frid's Trio à cordes, Op. 1. Frid, who fled Budapest for the Netherlands and fought in the

Dutch resistance, is the only composer on the album who survived the atrocities of the war. The members of Black Oak Ensemble, which also includes violist Aurélien Fort Penderzoli, commemorated the composers on *Silenced Voices* with a performance at the Theresienstadt camp and memorial (also known as Terezin) this past summer. The concert was filmed and a selection will be distributed by Cedille Records on Apple Music as music video features, available to all who subscribe to the music streaming platform this spring.

Footage will also be used to create an educational video that will broaden the reach of the composers and their music.

Video content has extraordinary benefits for classical musicians. In addition to showcasing excerpts of their recorded music, artists get the chance to tell viewers directly why they believe the music is important and what it means to them. Poignant visuals, such as performing in Theresienstadt, further emphasize the context and emotionality of the music

in a way that may not be immediately apparent through audio alone. In recent years, Cedille has invested in video trailers to communicate what is unique about each release, including three videos for *Silenced Voices*. Recording this live performance captured a moving tribute to creative lives lost. Its distribution along with the album will ensure that their voices are silent no more. *Silenced Voices* was generously underwritten by Eva Lichtenberg and Arnold Tobin. Additional promotional support was provided by Sybil Shainwald.

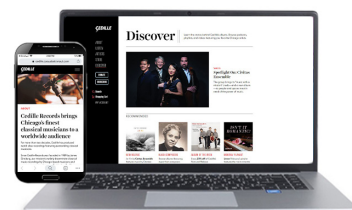


Black Oak Ensemble performing at the Terezin House of Culture, July 2019



**ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT
THANK YOU!**

**CHECK OUT
CEDILLE'S
NEW
WEBSITE!**



Cedille Records has redesigned from the ground up, refreshing the look and feel of the site, creating easier web navigation, and making it easier for you to discover and support the artistry of Chicago's finest classical music performers and composers.

VISIT US AT **CEDILLERECORDS.ORG**

FOR MORE CEDILLE UPDATES FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Cedille Chicago, NFP is dedicated to bringing Chicago's finest classical musicians to a worldwide audience by recording, distributing, and promoting their work. Through its high-quality recordings on the Cedille Records label, Cedille furthers the careers of outstanding Chicago classical performers and composers as they present innovative programs featuring the music about which they are most passionate.

Cedille Chicago, NFP is governed by its Board of Directors
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